

This edition of the Phoenix prepared for the parent(s) of:

The Phoenix



Issue: Final **The Meadowhead School Newsletter** July 2013

Goodbye Ms James

After 24 years at Meadowhead School, and as Headteacher since 1997 (last century!), Ms James has taken the difficult decision to retire this summer.

Under her clear and determined leadership with her own unique style Meadowhead School has gone from strength to strength with high standards and high achievement.



She led the school in the difficult conditions of the old buildings, took the major lead in planning the new buildings and was especially proud to see Meadowhead re-establish a successful Sixth Form for the benefit of the students and families in the community.

Ms James has always been committed to promoting high aspirations and encouraging all students to take every opportunity to enjoy their school life and achieve their potential. She has always believed in real quality education delivered with integrity, and is a passionate believer in equal opportunities, always challenging unfairness and discrimination.

A lot of people have benefitted from advice and support from Ms James, and if she is not impressed, many pupils (and staff) have received the benefit of her straight talking and honest opinion! What is certain, over 24 years Ms James has had a massive impact on Meadowhead School and everyone associated with it and we will all miss her hugely.

Thanks for everything Ms James. Have a long and happy retirement!!



Goodbye Ms James



I have had the privilege of working closely with Ms James on HR and staffing issues for several years and have observed her not only strive to provide our students with innovative opportunities to enhance their learning

but also to provide developmental opportunities for our teaching and support staff enabling them to also reach their full potential.

The demands on a Headteacher are many and varied and we have all been blessed to have had such an outstanding leader for so long. I have personally learned a great deal from her as she has generously shared her wit, wisdom and the wealth of her extensive experience. I know I share the feelings of many members of staff who have appreciated the career opportunities she has provided.

I wish Ms James health and happiness for the future. I will miss her hugely both professionally and personally. She has of course lots of exciting plans - nothing new there, she claims to be retiring – don't believe a word of it!

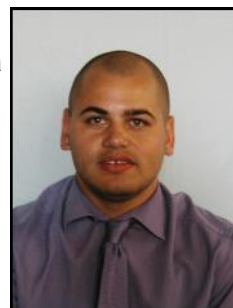
Ms Rodgers (9yrs)

Ms James is Meadowhead School. Like a stick of Blackpool Rock if you chopped her in half it would say Meadowhead School. She has worked tirelessly for the benefit of all students. Over the years (as in the life of any Head teacher) she has had to navigate through good times and bad. She has handled both with dignity and sensitivity.

Ms Milton (32yrs)

Having been brought up in the same working class area of Sheffield, I have always regarded Ms James as a source of inspiration towards what can be achieved with hard work, confidence and sheer determination. I also had to cross the city to start my post 16 education and therefore I was really pleased when we commenced post 16 education at Meadowhead, I know this would not have happened without Ms James' leadership.

Mr Stephenson (12yrs)



Having been at Meadowhead as a pupil and then as a teacher, I have seen our school in many incarnations and perspectives. Meadowhead is a very special school with wonderful pupils and dedicated staff. It has been my honour to have worked with outstanding colleagues including those who taught me as a pupil and I have learnt a great deal from their wisdom, advice, guidance and counsel.

Meadowhead has grown from strength to strength and pupils speak fondly about it and recall good times and a period of learning. Parents are very supportive and look upon it with affection and gratitude.

This does not happen overnight, or adhering to what is "trendy" at the time, but happens over time and through hard work and perseverance, and of course sound leadership.

All the best Ms James and thank you for your hard work and true love of our special school.

Mrs Bamforth (15 years)

Farewell from Ms James

I've been Headteacher of Meadowhead School for 16 years and I have always been proud to say so. This is such a fantastic school and the pupils who attend here represent their communities extremely well. There have been the odd 'moments' of course, but generally I've always found it to be a pleasure to work in such a positive place.

The vast majority of students, parents and staff have been supportive, loyal, friendly and hard-working and we have all seen the results of that team effort, not only in terms of exam results but also the atmosphere around the place. There are almost 2000 people on site throughout the day but as you walk around the building that number seems far less. It is really impressive to see everyone working and getting along together and that is the hallmark of a truly excellent school.

Over the years I've been at Meadowhead – and I arrived as Deputy to Mr Cook in 1989, some things have changed tremendously, some things have changed a little; the one element which has never changed has been the pleasure which being involved with young people brings. Whether the bright and eager diminutive Year 7s or the hormonally challenged Y11s, each child is a fascinating glimpse into the future and I've always enjoyed watching that progression from child to young adulthood.

I have always tried to ensure that I pass on the legacy of showing respect for all and I have a folder full of thank you letters and cards, sometimes from the most unlikely sources, telling me how much our children are a credit to their school and to their families. This high standard of behaviour, from all of us, is crucial to the success of the school and we all need to fight hard to maintain it.

I have no worries about the future of Meadowhead. I know that I am leaving it in very safe hands. I have worked with Mr Fowler for 24 years and I'm absolutely certain that he will take the school from strength to strength. I also know he can rely on your support and friendship.

I want to thank everyone who has contributed to making my time here so interesting and rewarding. The only activity which tops it has been my role as grandmother, and with my third granddaughter expected in September, I will hope to keep very busy with young people for many years to come. My career may be coming to an end but my interest in Meadowhead school will never end. I wish you all the very best for your future and look forward to hearing about your inevitable successes.

Cath James

We would like to congratulate you on your extremely successful time at Meadowhead. Your dedication and hard work has shaped Meadowhead into a school we can all be proud. We wish you all the best for the future

Chloe Taylor (Deputy Head Girl) & Jake Rodger (Head Boy)

We would like to congratulate you Ms James for being our head for 16 years. Your dedication has been an inspiration to us all and we will remember you with respect and gratitude.

Jack Davis 10J & Jonathan Edwards 10K

I have really enjoyed my time at Meadowhead so far. I am grateful to Ms James for giving me such a wonderful experience at Meadowhead School

Nathan Green 8L

Meadowhead Community Learning Trust Choir goes 'Musicals'!

Our Meadowhead Community Learning Trust (MCLT) hosted their 3rd annual choral concert on 18th and 19th March. The Trust partners' school choirs from Meadowhead, Abbey Lane, Bradway, Greenhill, Lower Meadow, Norton Free, and Woodseats Schools took part in the joint musical celebration which was also supported by our Meadowhead Community Learning Trust business partners.

This year we adopted a "Musicals" theme including songs from a host of well-loved musicals such as 'The Sound of Music', 'Singing in the Rain', 'Oliver', 'Billy Elliot', 'Hairspray' amongst others.

152 pupils aged 7 to 18 performed on a specially built stage to sing both individually as school ensembles, with a wonderful finale of songs from 'The Lion King' as a full Trust choir.

Once again Steve Roberts, of BBC's "Sing Live" conducted and compered our concert with much humour and charisma. In conjunction with our music co-ordinators in each of our 7 participating schools, Steve worked hard to help the choirs put together an uplifting ensemble of our joint songs, which were thoroughly enjoyed by the packed audience of parents, pupils, staff, and governors.

All funds raised from this event will go towards supporting future Trust projects which aim to raise literacy and numeracy levels of all young people aged 3-19 in the community. Last year's funding supported some valuable joint school projects such as our annual Y6 Summer School, Pupil Mentor Scheme, Journalistic Challenge and a 6 week Maths Fun project at Lower Meadow Primary.

We would like to thank all of our students and staff from all of the schools in the Trust community for their hard work and dedication over the past 6 months. We now look forward to next year's collaboration.

Mrs Weale & Mrs Silverwood





Spanish Exchange to Zaragoza



At the end of the Easter holidays a group of 24 Y8, Y9 & Y10 students flew out to Zaragoza on the second leg of the Comenius Spanish Exchange, to visit their Spanish partners in Spain. Both schools had already commenced the work that involved comparing/contrasting their national identities, schools, cities and cultures when the Spanish students from Fundación San Valero came over to Sheffield in October 2012. Meadowhead students were looking forward to seeing them all again, exploring the fabulous city of Zaragoza, and continuing their joint project work entitled "Welcome to my Ident-city".

The programme of cultural activities was amazing! They went to both Barcelona and Madrid. They visited the Madrid Royal Palace, The Camp Nou Football Stadium, Parc Güell, Zaragoza Bullring, Alfajeria Moorish Castle and the Port Aventura Theme Park. The days and the evenings were action packed. Meadowhead students spent time at the San Valero School sampling lessons & delivering powerpoint presentations in Spanish to the Spanish classes about 'Mi Ciudad & Mi identidad'.

Ms Renshaw & Mrs Silverwood



"I enjoyed seeing Zaragoza, the sites and the beautiful landscape of the city"



"I really enjoyed visiting important places in Spain, I loved making new Spanish friends and having a taste of their culture"

"I enjoyed seeing how other people in Spain live and how it is different from our lives."



"My Spanish has improved a lot; I know a lot more phrases and responses for a conversation"



Comenius Project: Legends across Europe

Finland - England Exchange



Sunday 15th November, nine students, four Y9s and five *mature* Y13s set off into the unknown, a dangerous wilderness of snow and trees where bears lurk in the shadows. Or maybe that was just our mothers being paranoid and 'understandably worried'. This exchange to Klaukkala, Finland was the second part of the Comenius project, Legends across Europe. A project where schools in Finland, England and Spain all take part in the same project and collaborate with the intention of learning about international legends and how our world has changed. It was a meeting of cultures, an experience that taught us all a little something about ourselves. Not just another school trip.

One of the Spanish students attempted to sum Finland up in three words: cold, rain and snow. Were all Finnish people sauna champions with pet reindeer and Santa Claus on speed dial?

The more time we spent there, the more we realised that Finland couldn't be summarised in three simple words. The lingering impression of Finland is not the saunas in the bathroom, the different ways of greeting such as a raise of an eyebrow or a simple *Moi* (hi) without any small talk, or Santa Claus (he is seen as a celebrity in the eyes of all Finnish natives). The lingering word is generosity; the generosity of the Comenius project to fund the experience as well as the generosity shown to us by our host families and partners. We made friends for life that have taught us much about legends and more importantly broadening our horizons to accommodate different cultures and viewpoints in our global world.



The first day at school was a real eye opener. The Finnish school was for gifted pupils and they all respected the building and its occupants; there was no graffiti on walls or desks, and there was no mud tracked through the school as students had to take their shoes off when they first entered the building and wear fluffy socks (which was something we all enjoyed).



We had a tour of beautiful and interesting Helsinki, somewhere we would all consider visiting again. Then, the two best words in school trip history... free time. We went round two shopping centres, not malls thank you very much, and then went bowling before we all met up at the pizza buffet. Good times.

The rest of the week was filled with both work and fun. We had movie nights, played horror crazy golf (scariest than it sounds), went ice skating, and most importantly went shopping. The Moomin shop was a particular hit, but €13 for a pair of socks? I think not.

Our Finnish and Spanish partners arrived in England at the start of March. We spent the first two days in Whitby, one of the settings for Bram Stoker's Dracula. We gave tours around the town, pointing out various vampire related landmarks and exploring the ruined abbey. Mr Chips' fish and chips restaurant welcomed us all for tea, although it wasn't to the taste of many Finnish students. Much to everyone's delight we all embarked on an evening ghost walk around Whitby even though in typical British style, it was absolutely freezing. Not much of a shock to the Finnish students but obviously one to the Spanish! The next day saw us visiting Robin Hood's Bay where we spent the majority of the time in a quaint tea shop and exploring the sights.



The rest of the week was a mix of rehearsals for the visiting students, trips to Sheffield, Meadowhall and meeting the Lord Mayor. The last night saw the Y9 students, the Finnish and Spanish students put on a performance for all our families about the international legends we had learnt about. The performance was incredible; can you imagine performing in another language, in another country in front of people you've never met before?

The entire project spanned over two years with students from our school visiting both Spain and Finland, and with each student racking up over 3000 air miles on average. As amazing as the experience was, we are very grateful to the European Council for funding the Comenius project and allowing this to happen. We also say a huge thank you to Mrs Aitken, Mrs Silverwood, and Ms Pollard for organising it all and putting in so much effort. What a way to end our seven years at Meadowhead.

Catherine Oxley, Heather Wood, Hannah Markay, Hannah Calow & Porsche McLaughlan Y13

"The trip to Finland was one of the most interesting things I have ever done in my life. We all stayed in our partner's house for five days and had a fabulous time. During the five days we were there, we went spent time in school with our partners, went shopping and sight-seeing in Helsinki, tried ice-skating, had a traditional Finnish-style Christmas party in the woods and met Santa Claus. We also learnt about many villains from Finland and Spain. Jodie, Ella, Lucy and I performed a scene from Oliver Twist. We had been practising for many weeks and we all had a lot of fun doing it. On March 3rd, our exchange partners from Finland and Spain came for a return visit to Sheffield. We went to Whitby and learnt about the legend of Dracula. We spent the remainder of the week showing our partners around Sheffield and rehearsing for our performance on the Thursday. Our performance was made up of three of the Legends across Europe we had learned about. The three stories chosen were Robin Hood performed by the Spanish students, Jimena Blázquez, performed by the Finnish and the tale of Vainomoinen, Joukahainen and Aina, from the epic Finnish novel Kalevala, performed by Meadowhead students. The evening was a tremendous success. It was brilliant to see how confidently our visitors performed in English and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance! We were all very sad when we had to say goodbye to our exchange partners. It was an amazing experience to learn about the different cultures, experience their schools and lifestyles. I hope to stay in touch with all my new friends and hope to see them all again soon."

Rose Wittenberg Y9

Meadowhead Headteachers

Interviewed by Maddie Swannage Y9 & Lewis Currie Y9

Interview with Ms James

How long have you worked at Meadowhead School?

24 years, started in Sept 1989 as a Deputy Head and then as Headteacher in 1997

What did you do before that?

Worked as an Education Officer for Sheffield Council

Was an Assistant Head and a Head of Department and Head of Year

Why did you become a teacher?

I enjoyed pretending to teach my younger sisters and I'm bossy.

What is the most enjoyable part of your job?

Working with fascinating young people. Having a role in people's lives is excellent.

Who has influenced you the most in your career?

Mr Ken Cook who was the previous Headmaster and now present governor. Also the good and bad teachers I had as a child, because they all influence you in some way.

What have been your highlights in time of teaching?

The new building is one highlight of my time at Meadowhead I'm also proud that we now have a 6th Form.

What have been your low points in your career?

I felt the last OFSTED was unfair. I don't mind being criticised but that wasn't right.

I always worry if I have to permanently exclude a pupil and it is never pleasant to get rid of a member of staff who isn't right for the job.

What are your plans for the next five years?

I am taking a gap year. I am going to the USA and will be getting a third granddaughter.

What has been the most difficult part of your job?

Leaving!



Interview with Mr Fowler

How long have you worked at Meadowhead School?

25 years.

What did you do before that?

I taught at Rowlinson school for 7 years, and I also taught in a school on the Isle of Dogs in London for 3 years.

Why did you become a teacher?

Because I really enjoyed my time at school, and I see myself a challenge to do even better for pupils that I taught.

What is the most enjoyable part of your job?

Seeing pupils and staff succeeding, and I like to see pupils growing and bettering themselves.

Who has influenced you the most in your career?

Ms James, I have worked with her for 24 years.

What have been your highlights in time of teaching?

Becoming Head of Maths in the new Meadowhead school. Helping in the designing of the new building. Also, establishing getting the sixth-form back after many years. And finally, of course, becoming the new head teacher of Meadowhead school in 2013.

What have been your low points in your career?

Working as a young teacher in London with little experience in what was a challenging environment and working within the constraints of the old two buildings of Meadowhead school prior to the current new building in 2007.

What has been the most difficult part of your job?

The challenge of getting everybody to pull in the same direction, and communicating to everybody as it is such a big school. Also keeping up to date with changes from outside that have a direct effect on the school.

What are your plans for the next five years?

My primary objective is to make Meadowhead school an outstanding school. I would like people in our area to keep being proud of the school and to ensure all the pupils feel part of the school community. In addition, we plan to open a new purpose built sixth-form building.



Farewell—Johanna

Thanks to our 'International School' status and a successful bid to the British Council last term, we were granted a 'Comenius Assistant'. The role of the assistant was to share their language, culture and add to the European dimension whilst supporting teaching across a variety of subjects.

Since we were taking part in another European project involving schools in Finland and Spain, we asked for a Finnish student to come to work with us to assist with this project in particular.

Johanna arrived on a very cold evening in January (not as cold as her hometown of Helsinki!). She quickly fitted into the Meadowhead way of life, and truly immersed herself into all aspects of British culture and that of Sheffield. Johanna worked in the Languages department to deliver taster sessions about the Finnish Language. She supported classes in Citizenship, Ethics and Geography working with classes on topics related to Europe and different cultures. Since she was trained in special needs teaching, she supported many classes in our LDD department and worked on a one to one basis with some individual students who required extra English support in their lessons.

Johanna has been a fantastic support and we wish her all the best in her future career!

Jo Silverwood

*"Moi! Having the opportunity to work at Meadowhead was an amazing experience for me! I learnt a lot and I really enjoyed every part of it! Even though I arrived to England with quite a short notice my stay just flew by, I felt really warmly welcomed, so a big thanks to everyone for making me feel at home. Special thanks to Mrs Silverwood, Ms Pollard, Mrs Aitken and everyone at 'The Bridge!' Greetings from Finland and I hope everyone has a great summer!
"Kiitos ja näkemiin!" (Thank you and goodbye, hope to see you again!)*

Johanna Riihimaki.



'She was a good teacher. She was good at teaching us some of the Finnish language and we learnt a lot. We learnt lots of facts about Finland.'
Keaton Scothern

'She was very interesting because she had a lot of things to say. She was very kind and nice. I learnt about their culture Finland has lots of snow so when it snowed here it might have reminded Johanna of home. I learnt some of the language and the words sounded quite funny because they're different to ours. Johanna knows how to have a good laugh.'
Sophie Green

'I think having Johanna in our lessons was good because she was really helpful and she made us laugh.'
Brendon Deighton

'Her lessons were fun. We got to learn about Finland but we also got to bring in some things about our own hobbies and things we liked so we could show her what we do in England. We compared our country to hers. I thought this was fun.'
Tara Ashton

FUTURE AMBITIONS – SUMMER 2013



We at Meadowhead School have one sole purpose – to enable young people the opportunities to pursue their dreams and achieve their ambitions. We pride ourselves on a rich and diverse curriculum presenting pupils pathways that will enable them to one day access a bright and fulfilling future.

As we are all too aware the economy is constantly changing and we want to help prepare our pupils even further by giving them opportunities to experience the real world of work.

To complement the traditional curriculum therefore we aim to enrich the lives of all Meadowhead citizens and during this year lots of developments have been undertaken.

BUSINESS LINKS

In March 29 business professionals representing 23 local business partners volunteered their time generously to conduct 340 mock interviews over 2 days for our Y10 students. Feedback from students and employers was extremely positive once again! All agreed that this is a valuable experience to help our students to improve their employability skills and prepare themselves for the ever competitive job market in this tough economic climate. Some of these partners had already contributed to our WoWW and have offered work experience placements in July. We also look forward to working on some more exciting work related projects with them and our existing Trust partners over the coming months. We would like to thank all our contributors from the following organisations who took part :



MASTER CUTLER NHS AMBASSADOR SCHEME

Last autumn we recruited 20 of our Y10 students who embarked upon this exciting scheme to work with the NHS teaching hospitals and 40 other students from Forge Valley and Firth Park to gain valuable life skills, work experience, and a greater understanding of the wide variety of careers that the NHS has to offer.

All 20 students ran a stand at the Y10 parents evening in May to raise awareness about their roles and to start preparing an assembly presentation to launch the scheme to our current Y9 students in June. Students continue to attend monthly twilight sessions at the hospital to work on their skills and specific real life challenges faced by the NHS. They look forward to their 2 week work placements in June-July.

We are also delighted to announce that we will be recruiting another 15 student ambassadors from Y9 to take part next year in this NHS scheme, and we will embark upon a brand new scheme for another group of 15 students interested in a career in retail, so watch out for the recruitment process Y9 students!



WORK EXPERIENCE

We are pleased that after a lot of hard work, ALL 340 Y10 students have succeeded in their quest to obtain a work experience placement (with a lot of help from parents and staff in many cases!) and will attend their work placements from **Monday 1st to Friday 5th July** ... More details to follow on the success stories and photos of students out in the real world of work next term!

Work Experience is a fantastic opportunity to build on real life experiences that helps to enrich a young person's CV and support them in their future applications and interviews. **Watch this space for new opportunities for Post 16 students to gain work experience with some of our key employers between October-April – or contact our team now if you would like any support with finding suitable work experience for the summer holidays.**

CAREERS TALKS

We believe that pupils can be inspired by the right speaker presenting their vocation to a group of pupils. We are delighted that the following career talks have been held after school from 3:00 to 4:00 this term:

- Veterinary Nursing and working with animals – Rosy Dillon – Ex-veterinary nurse
- How to set up and run your own successful business – Alex Gwynne (ex-student entrepreneur and MD of AG Papertoys)



CAREERS ADVICE

Sheffield Interactive is a free to Meadowhead pupils, online interface that provides every young person with impartial careers information and advice 24-7.

THE REGISTRATION PROCESS

STEP 1 – Type in... www.sheffieldinteractive.com



STEP 2 – Click 'register' and fill in your details creating a user account and password the same as your school login to make it easier to remember. The registration code is **36684** when prompted.

STEP 3 – You may now choose a question or peruse the destinations and the system will select the most relevant and useful resources for you to use, HOWEVER, I suggest heading to U-Explore and registering there first – it is full of great interactive notes and ideas to improve your knowledge of **CEIAG (Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance)**

For further support and advice visit the team in the Work Related Office near the LRC.

CAN YOU HELP?

AND FINALLY... Would you be able to participate?

We are always looking for new ideas and projects to help young people into the world of work. Perhaps you or your company/organisation can offer time, resources or competitions to challenge, motivate and inspire young people.

We would love to hear from you. Many thanks,

Mark Cocken
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£1451.91 raised for charity!



It has been fantastic to see the way Y7 students this year have enthusiastically supported an ethics project to support charity work. They chose an issue they were particularly concerned about, researched it and developed their own project to address it. Some people chose to raise awareness; others to raise money and some volunteered. Some fantastic events were put on by the students. One form, for example, raised money for Angelman's Syndrome. They worked together as a class to organise a Fun Day at the Carlton Social Club. They advertised the day, sold products they had made, gave up a day of their holiday and raised a lot of money. Other students volunteered at animals shelters; baked and sold buns; held jumble sales; washed cars; did sponsored events, such as sponsored silence and bike rides. Altogether, £1451 was raised for charity. Many thanks to all the young people, parents and teachers who made this a great success!

Mr Lawrenson

Ethics & Literature Celebration

Year 8 Ethics students have worked in pairs to produce a Novella. They were asked to include specific themes of Love, Hope and Belief as well as questioning different religious and secular beliefs. Some of the best work will be showcased in an anthology which will be made available in the LRC.

A speech bubble containing the text "one day, i'd like to write a novel." in a casual, handwritten-style font.

"one day, i'd like to write a novel."

AS Textile Design Exhibition 2013

The AS Textile Design course culminated in an exhibition of students' work in the Rosling in May. An installation was set up to represent a room in Haddon Hall from which 50% of their work was based. Textiles outcomes included vessels based on the structure and surfaces of the Hall, a worn-out and threadbare chair depicting the re-upholstery at Haddon, a crinoline inspired by stained glass windows and Dorothy Vernon's love-letter box. The majority of these AS students are continuing their studies to A2 Level.

Mrs Goodrum





French Exchange 2012-2013

On Wednesday 15th March 2013, 16 year 9 students and 1 year 10 student left for France to carry out the return leg of the French Exchange. They headed for the beautiful picturesque town of Montaignu in the West of France. After a smooth flight and short bus journey to the partner school, the students were greeted by their partners whom they had already met last October. Eager to catch up, the students were immediately whisked off by their host families to enjoy the sunny afternoon.

Our students enjoyed a variety of activities whilst in France and visited the beautiful cultural city of Nantes, took part in French lessons, taught basic English to primary pupils, competed in an exciting town trail and had a fun day out at the futuristic theme park of 'Futuroscope' accompanied by their French partners. Within a week, our students were very much part of the French day-to-day life and all too soon it was time to leave France and make the journey back to Sheffield.

On the last day, a party was organised for us at the French school. The French parents were full of praise for our students as they had fitted into their families so well.

They were all impressed with their manners, enthusiasm and open-mindedness. The students were very sad to leave and many tears were shed. However, this is by no means the end of the exchange as all of our students want to repeat the experience and keep in contact with their new friends overseas by visiting them in the summer.

A very big thank you to all the students for their impeccable behaviour, their willingness to try out their French and their gratitude shown to us for taking them to France! I could not have wished for a better group!

Merci

Mme Legrée



THE BIG CHALLENGE 2013

I am delighted to announce that Meadowhead dominated the evening and scooped more awards than any other school at this year's Big Challenge award ceremony at the end of March. Our fantastic teams in Y9-Y10 won 4 major prizes as follows:

Multi-app team (Adam Waterhouse & Freddie Cowen) scooped the new 'Olympic Legacy Award' for their Mobile phone app business developing SWFC quiz apps. (We are assured that a SUFC app is also in development for Blades fans too!)



Key2unlock (Harvey Morton & Gabe Parr) took the prize for 'Best website content' for their fantastic website related to their business which sells keyring, handmade greeting cards and framed caricatures.

Ripplefx (Emily Heaviside, Emily Austin, James Hall & Charmaine Pounder) Won the impressive 'Made in Sheffield' award for their amazing jewellery made from aluminium can ring-pulls.



Garden Delights (Reece Unwin & James Sibley) won the 1st prize in KS3 overall!

What a fantastic result and congratulations to our fabulous entrepreneurs! A great night was had by all.

I would like to congratulate all teams for their efforts this year. You have all come a long way and no doubt learnt a lot about entrepreneurship and how to run a business in the process.

The following have received special certificates and prizes in assemblies.

Y8: Print Charming, Dapper Wrapperz

Y9: MultiApp, RippleFX, Garden Delights, Emotishirts

Y10 : Key2unlock, Greenbeans, Crafty Crew, Paperchains, Personal Prints

Y13: Parkinc

So that's it for another year.....until September when the Big Challenge 2014 will be launched in an assembly and our Dragons' Den doors will be open once more! Are you up for the challenge next year? Think you could be the next Lord Sugar? Then get ready with some new ideas over summer and you could be one of our winners next year!

But that's not all on the enterprise front this term.....As a direct result of our success in the interim stages of the competition, some of our enterprising students have also been invited on a special trip to Nando's in June – not just for a free meal ticket, but for a special opportunity to learn more about how Nando's run their successful business and what makes excellent customer service from the Managing Director at the restaurant on Ecclesall Road! More news and photos to follow next term.

Mrs Silverwood



This year saw the launch of 'Linguist of the Month'. Every month, the Language Faculty have elected a student who has shown excellent progress and effort in their Language lessons. A student was chosen in all three languages - French, German and Spanish - and every month a different year group was targeted.



The students received a certificate and a Meadowhall voucher as a thank you for their efforts.

This award has been kindly sponsored by Gripplé Ltd, one of our most pro-active Trust Business partners who truly value the importance of language skills in the workplace, and have a truly multilingual workforce speaking an amazing 15 languages between them! These are: Spanish, Italian, Polish, Dutch, German, Russian, French, Portuguese, Mirandese, Italian, Serbian, Bosnian, Croatian and Urdu. Plus English of course for those for whom English is not their first language!

Internal Sales Manager, Emma Hibbert added "With over 80% of our sales being exported, Gripplé offices in the US, France and India, and employment of residents in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, South Africa, Mexico and the US, not to mention partners and customers in over 80 countries worldwide, the Gripplé group of companies fully recognises the fundamental importance of both speaking the local language and immersing itself in the local culture wherever possible".

Many thanks from the Languages Faculty to the students and to Gripplé for their continued support.

Miss Legrée

A Cleaner for 37 years!



Brenda Webster initially started work as a cleaner at Jordanthorpe School in 1976, which became Meadowhead School in 1988. She has worked at the school for a total of 37 years.

Brenda has been a conscientious, committed worker. She was always quite a character and said exactly what she thought of things. She loved having 'banter' with the staff and lots of staff enjoyed her company whilst she cleaned their offices.

Brenda retired at Easter. We presented her with a huge bouquet of flowers when she left; she was really touched by them and said, "I have thoroughly enjoyed working at Jordanthorpe and Meadowhead schools. I started in the South building of Jordanthorpe in 1976 with Mr Burke the caretaker as my boss. He was strict but fair. Although it was nice coming into a brand new building in 2007, I still look back with affection at the 'good old days' in the South building. We definitely worked closer together and were more of a family than a team. I will miss you all."

We will all miss Brenda for her sharpness, humour and wit. Happy retirement Brenda!

Mrs Bowker

Meadowhead School over 25 years

Whenever I mention the size of Meadowhead School to ex-colleagues and friends, they always respond with 'that's huge'. However, I have discovered that a big school doesn't mean 'lost students'; it means 'lots of opportunities'. A big school doesn't mean 'teachers don't know the students'; it means 'a strong pastoral system and a wide range of support available'. A big school doesn't mean 'long walks between lessons'; it means 'excellent facilities in a well-designed, purpose built building.'

Mrs Sims (1yr)

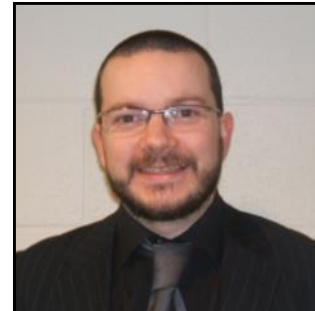


Walking into the Rosling on my interview for the first time felt just right. The sun shining, trees and tremendous artwork on display made me want to teach here even more. I have been pleasantly surprised at how quick I became a part of the school team and have stood looking over the Rosling often with a real sense of home. I love teaching here, the students and teachers have so much quality and energy. I am very proud to be part of Meadowhead's next 25 years.

Mr Steadman-South (1yr)

I joined Meadowhead in 2004 and was immediately bowled over by the warmth and spirit of the building and the staff. I knew I wanted to work at the school as soon as I stepped into the reception area of the former North Building and I witnessed pupils filing silently into the hall under the eagle-eyed scrutiny of Mrs Smith (nee Theyer) for Assembly. Since then the school has enabled me to grow and improve as an educator. I have had responsibilities for whole school literacy, various roles and responsibilities in the English Faculty, I was encouraged to become an Advanced Skills Teacher, I have mentored Newly Qualified Staff and been the Senior Mentor Coordinator for both Initial Teacher Trainees and Graduate Trainees. My current role is by far my most enjoyable and challenging yet, as I endeavour to ensure progression of all Meadowhead students through their education pathways and into their future career choices.

Mr Cocken (9yrs)



I have noticed that these days people don't so much ask me what I do for a living as tell me, "You're a teacher, aren't you?" I take this as a compliment, but personally still wonder how they know? When I tell them I teach 11-16 year olds the general reaction is to blanch and wonder why? I have always known why. They're the best.

Choosing to stay focused in the classroom aspect of teaching life has been an easy decision for me in my career. Meeting the lively minds of the pupils in the secondary school years is the reward and I am sure I will miss most the interesting debates and discussions that have emerged from a vast variety of topics in Religious Education and Ethics over the years.

Students of Meadowhead, it has been a pleasure to teach and to listen to you.

Mrs Henry (17yrs)

Do I enjoy my time at Meadowhead? Well I have worked at Meadowhead (and Jordanthorpe as was) for over 40 years now, that should answer the question.

In my time I have seen many changes, many staff come and go, many many pupils passed through. Sometimes I feel like Mr Chipping (Mr Chips), though I feel it will soon be time for Mr Chipping to retire!

In all that time the staff have always been excellent to work with, there has been a great camaraderie & friendship.

And the pupils, the endless sea of smiling (mostly) faces have, in the main, been polite and well behaved, where would we be without them?

So here's to the next 40 years whoever may be here, I hope they enjoy it as much as I have.

Mr Oldale (41yrs)



Comments from staff

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working at Meadowhead School. I have to be honest though – coming from industry into a school was a bit of a culture shock to say the least! For one, the average age of my 'clients' went down from 40 to about 13 years of age, and moving from a large plush open office to the tiny dusty old broom cupboard I used to call my office in the languages annexe of the old building took some time to adjust to! Nevertheless I soon settled into my role as Language College Manager. I've been very lucky to be able to work with some amazing staff and students over the years, and I wouldn't change this for the world! I am very proud and privileged to be working in such a successful school which is truly comprehensive and never standing still. I look forward to the next 25 years as we go from strength to strength as a new Academy in my new role as Business Development Manager in our Work related team! Onwards and upwards!"



Mrs Silverwood (8yrs)



Over the last 6 ½ years I have worked at Meadowhead as a teaching assistant. Most of my time was spent in the Languages Department helping students learn about culture and different languages. I have had many opportunities over the years to go on trips. I have been to Monaco in France with the then Head of Department Mrs Brown and Ms Maynard, I have even been to Russia with Mrs Smith & Ms Semp, Isla in Spain with Mr Church (showed us his Salsa dancing). I've also sailed down the Rhineland with the current Head of Department Mrs Kelly, Mr Merritt and Mrs Dixon. Every trip has had its own uniqueness.

I would like to thank all my colleagues especially Languages for the help and support they have offered me whilst I have been at Meadowhead and I shall miss them all dearly.
Hasta la vista!

José Fernandez (6yrs)

I have been at Meadowhead School since September 2005 and have been privileged to have been part of many significant changes within the school since this time not least the new building, new school day / timetable structures, Language College, Trust status, Post-16 provision, Academy status, 11-18 status amongst many other things which have all contributed to the success of the school.

As a member of the school community, the vast majority of families have continued to hold the school in high regard and have sought to ensure that their children are a part of the whole provision and learning experience at Meadowhead School.

Meadowhead School has always remained a truly comprehensive school with a wide intake of students from many different backgrounds. Ms James, as the Headteacher, has effectively led the school through all of these changes and has ensured that students' whole learning experiences and outcomes have continually remained at the heart of its core business and practice. We are all thankful for her time as the Headteacher and the contribution that she has made to the success of the school. We all wish her a very happy and productive retirement.

Mr Raju (8yrs)



Meadowhead is a school with wonderful staff and excellent students. I appreciate the opportunities I have been given and it is a pleasure to be part of Meadowhead

Mr Leesley (1yr)

Out & About with the Geography Department

Since the start of the year the Geography department have been out and about investigating a variety of different environments around the UK with students from all years.



Year 7 – The Y7 students have been carried out local fieldwork in the school grounds as part of the weather unit. They have been using weather recording equipment to record the temperature, wind speed and wind direction to see if they vary around the school site.

Year 9 – On a glorious weekend in February 50 Y9 students had the opportunity to visit Thornbridge and were able to take part in a combination of geographical activities, such as orienteering, to help improve their map skills and team building activities. The highlight for many students was the testing high ropes course that required a certain amount of nerve.

Year 10 – Last month the Y10 Geographers dug out their wellies and went splashing around in the river Porter for a day to collect the data for the controlled assessment. It wasn't quite the nice sunny May day that we had hoped for but at least it didn't rain! This meant students were able to collect quality data to analyse back in the classroom.

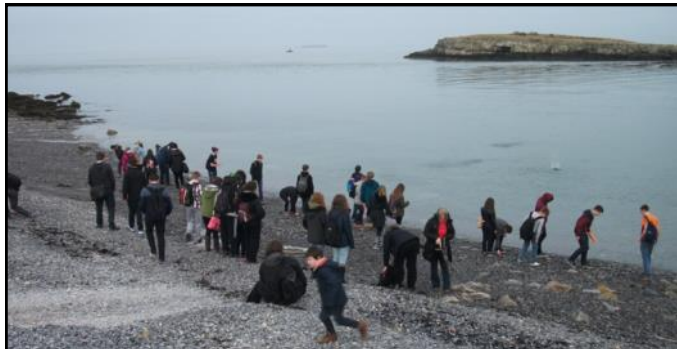


Year 11 – In March 45 Y11 students boarded a coach bound for Llanberis, Snowdonia. It was a packed weekend that started with a beautiful trip to Beddgelert to visit the Sygun Copper mine. The journey itself was spectacular with mirror perfect lakes and snow-capped mountains. Later that morning we visited Electric Mountain in Llanberis. This was a rare opportunity for students to see inside a working power station. In the afternoon there was an examination of coastal erosion in Molfre and coastal transportation & deposition at Benllech. On Sunday we went to Llandudno. First stop was the summit of the Great Orme. The views over Llandudno and the off shore wind turbines weren't the clearest due to the



weather but with some good description and a little imagination we got there! After a jaunty walk down the Great Orme we spent the rest of the morning looking at the coastal defences in Llandudno. Lunch was spent in Llandudno and the weather had picked up enough to sit on the front with a well-deserved ice cream before heading home!

Mrs Cook



Walesby

Early in June came the first ever weekend visit to Walesby Forest Camp. "A fantastic experience" said one student. "Can we go again in Y11" said another. The trip was set up to combine Health, Fitness and Well Being with English and Maths. Students began the venture several weeks ago having to complete a positive report card in English or Maths. Passing this allowed them to unlock the door to the weekend. An array of activities were undertaken from wobble pole to archery; climbing to raft building. The students were a credit to the school working hard in their Maths and English activities and receiving prizes for their positive attitude during the trip. With GCSE exams less than a year away, this type of initiative was aimed at preparing students in the core subject areas with enough time left to further develop and reach their full potential. By combining the educational element with engaging activities, it was hoped that students would embrace the positives of this venture and continue to work hard in Y11. They certainly achieved the first part. Here's looking forward to Y11.....

Mr Clark



Athletics

With the Athletics season underway Meadowhead again show strong representation in all local competitions.

The Y7 boys, Y8 girls, Y9 girls and boys are all through to the Sheffield Schools Final later this month. A superb achievement.

For Y7 girls in particular Rebecca Ideson and TJ Turner showed excellent performances in the 100m and ball throw respectively. On the boys side Euan McDonald (Long Jump) and the 100m Relay Team were in magnificent form to clinch victory.

Mr Clark



Football

A massive well done to the Y8, Y9 and Y10 football teams.

All three teams successfully won their semi final matches and qualified to the South Yorkshire Finals.

The Y9s won the competition for the 3rd consecutive year. The Y8s, who were also the holders, unfortunately lost in a close fought game as did the Y10s. However what an achievement to have 3 teams all in the South Yorkshire Final. The Y7s reached the quarter final and the Y11s the semi final so it was an fantastic season overall for Meadowhead football.

The Y8 team won the Sheffield league beating Ecclesfield in their last game.

The Y9 team won their 3rd consecutive treble, which gave them an undefeated record in three years across South Yorkshire, playing roughly 75 fixtures – winning all 75. A truly remarkable achievement.

Mr Allen

Race Walking

Jack Leversidge (Y8) recently won his third successive National Race Walking Association Championship, now competing as an under 15 he races over 3 km and has come close to breaking the 16 min barrier on two occasions with a personal best of 16.05.

For the third year he has been selected to represent England in a match against the young athletes of Ireland in the Nihill Shield. He travels to Dublin for this competition at the end of June.

Good luck Jack

Mr Adams



Sports Leaders

This year saw the introduction of 25 Sports Leaders Y8-11. Over the course of the year they have been involved in a variety of activities including coaching in lessons, running activities at break time as well as showcasing the PE department on Open Evenings.

In June several leaders hosted a primary cricket festival. It was a huge success and the leaders were complimented on their efforts by our feeder schools staff and students alike.

Will Butcher

Specialist Sports:

Football
Cricket
Tennis
Hockey

Main Achievements:

Winning the Sheffield & South Yorkshire Schools Cup for Meadowhead in Football
Getting Hockey player of the year

Strengths:

Writing match reports
Leading sporting activities.



Jake Rodgers

Specialist Sports:

Football
Hockey

Main Achievements:

Winning South Yorkshire Cup with Meadowhead

Strengths:

Completing match reports



Adam Geelan

Specialist Sports:

Golf
Football
Basketball

Main Achievements:

Sheffield Schools Cup
Y8 South Yorkshire Schools Cup
Y7 Final SUGC Stableford Tournament

Strengths:

Hard-Working



Harriet Hewson

Specialist Sports:

Trampolining
Rounders
Tennis

Main Achievements:

Competing in Regional Trampolining competitions
Representing the school in Rounders

Strengths

Organised
Being able to performing any task to the best of my ability



Katie Sims

Specialist Sports:

Football
Hockey
Rounders
Athletics

Main Achievements:

Y8 Hockey Player of the Year
Y8 Female Sports Personality of the Year
Y10 Teachers Footballer of the Year

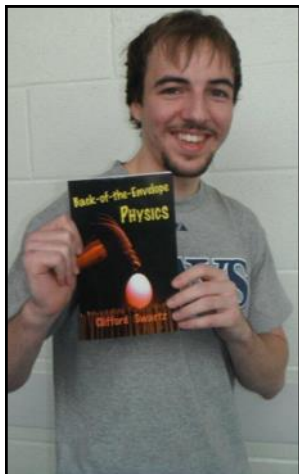
Strengths:

Being able to speaking in front of large groups of people



Meadowhead A-Level Physics Success

Prizes were awarded to Y13 physicists who achieved especially well in their recent exams.



Elliot Blanchard was awarded the top physicist prize, a copy of *Back-of-the-Envelope Physics* for his **A grade** on the Further Mechanics and Classical Fields unit. Elliot plans to read physics at University.

This group are currently working at an 89% A-C pass rate.



Zoe Leach-Leeson was awarded the most improved physicist prize, a copy of *The Manga Guide to the Universe* for scoring an **A grade** on her Particle Physics, Quantum Phenomena and Electricity unit. Zoe plans to read engineering at University

Discover STEM for Girls

In March, eight of our Y11 girls went to the 'Discover STEM for Girls' event at the University of Sheffield. The students took part in fun practical activities to discover real life applications and careers in engineering, science and maths. From building towers with marshmallows and dry spaghetti to discovering the science behind popcorn, the girls were able to apply their scientific knowledge to each of the activities.

The day was an excellent opportunity to give the girls extra confidence in science and maths before their final exams in the summer. But most importantly we got to make and eat candy floss!!

Mrs Dix

'I really enjoyed the day! The best part was definitely making the candyfloss!'
Hannah Smith



Meadowhead Science Photo Competition

This term everybody was invited by the science department to get out their camera and try and grab a great science-related photograph. The judges would like to thank every entrant.

The overall winner was Thomas Lever 8E with this beautiful snowscape.

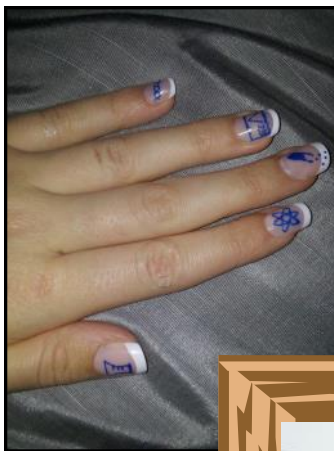
Also highly commended by the judges were the following photographs:

Vicky Seville 13C for her fun science nails

Amy Baxter 7F for her professional looking spiral of sea urchins

Jakob Young 8B for his sunset/ sunrise

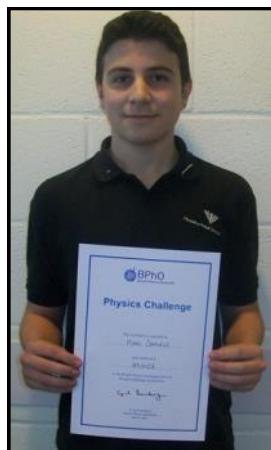
Mr. Nunn 9F for his (he assures me quite accidentally composed) artful snowflake



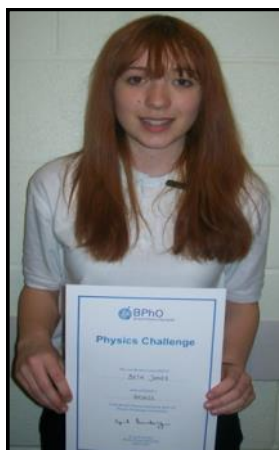


This term a selection of A and A* GCSE physicists were invited to participate in the British Physics Olympiad.

This is a prestigious national competition and the students pictured were awarded a bronze level certificate of achievement.



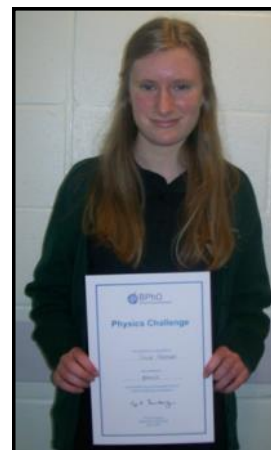
Mark Samuels



Beth Jones



Rachel Furnidge



Chloe Pateman

Meadowhead Adult Language Classes

Invites you to join one of our Adult Community Language Classes

Enrolment Evening: 12th September 2013 – 6 till 7pm

Terms: 2x10 week terms starting from the 26th September

Cost: £70 per term / £120 for 2 terms (saving £20)

Languages: French, German, Italian, Russian & Spanish

Computer Interactive Courses:

Cost: £40 for 10 weeks (during Terms 1 & 2)

Languages: Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Swedish, Thai, Turkish, Urdu.

All classes held on a **Thursday** evening

Contact:

Sue Beres: 0114 2372723 Ext 300
lanugagecollege@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

Andorra Ski Trip 2013

This year Ms Evans, Mr Holland and Mr Bagshawe took a group of 30 students on a ski trip to Andorra. We went for one week to a resort called Arinsal. Instead of going by plane we drove by coach, which was unfortunate as it took 26 hours to get there. However, the journey went faster than expected, we passed time by finding something to do, including card games, sleeping, listening to music, watching films and getting to know each other.

As we started to approach Andorra we decided to stop for breakfast but unluckily McDonalds was closed at 6am in France so we settled for a café breakfast, which was surprisingly very nice. By 2 o'clock that afternoon we finally reached our hotel. Our holiday representative met us and explained what was going to happen from then on.

We dumped our bags and suitcases in the disco room and then headed up to reception to find out who we were sharing rooms with, which we were all very excited about. After this we had spare time of about 4 hours to get washed, unpacked, get the skis and go to have a look around. Surprisingly the sun was shining brightly and we all had our sunglasses on. So far it had been a great start to a great trip.

That evening we all had dinner in the dining room where there was a buffet of all sorts of different foods. Every night there were different foods so we never got bored with our menu. After eating we all headed to our rooms and were asleep by 10:30.

Bright and early at 7am we were awake getting ready for our first day on the slopes. Everyone was very excited to go up in the gondola and get off to our lessons. At 7.45 we had to be at the dining room ready for our breakfast. Here there was churros, meats, scrambled and fried egg, sausages and much much more.

By 9 o'clock we were all up the gondola with our skis and boots on ready to get going. We were introduced to our instructors Nacho, Adolf, Floppy and Zelinda. They helped us a lot and either taught us to ski or brought us up to be great skiers. We spent four hours a day with them and by the time we went back to the hotel we were shattered but we had had a great day.

In the evening there was plenty to do as there was a games room, Wi-Fi to connect to the internet and a village right on our doorstep. Also the adults and our rep organised a few activities for us to participate in such as going bowling in a 5* hotel where we were allowed free non-alcoholic cocktails, on Thursday there was a quiz that was great for letting us bond and on the Friday there was a disco for all the school where Beatrice Evans was a great DJ and kept everyone dancing. The other schools wore fancy dress which made the night even better.

By the end of the week nobody wanted to go home as we had all become so close. We were all very sad to leave as we had had one of the best weeks of our lives. WE WOULD ALL LIKE TO THANK MS EVANS FOR ORGANISING THE AMAZING TRIP AND MR HOLLAND AND MR BAGSHAWE FOR HELPING US ALL OUT.

Jessica Stubbs & Grace Eggleshaw Y10



The **2013** **TALENT** Show

The 2013 Talent Show took place on Thursday 16th May and showcased a wealth of talent from many of our most creative students. Performances came from across a wide range of disciplines including Dance, Drama and Music.

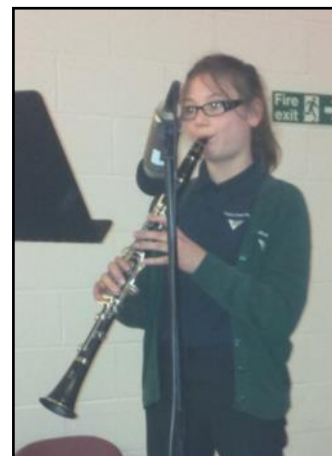
The two dances performed to the music of 'Livin' la Vida Loca' and 'Jive Bunny', were executed with energy and enthusiasm and really captivated the audience. Thirty members of the Y7 Drama Club in their first public performance presented a piece they had devised themselves, 'The Mr Jackson Story'. The performance was confident, polished and well-received. The Y9 drama club also performed a devised piece using narration and physical theatre, based upon a legend from the famous Finnish classic, 'The Kalevela'. The work was produced as part of the Meadowhead International Exchange with schools in Avila, Spain and Klaukkala in Finland.

The music on offer displayed a host of genre and timbre, including group and solo performances. One of our Y8 pupils, Fiona Jiang, delivered a superb performance on the Er - hu, a traditional Chinese instrument. She performed a Chinese piece entitled 'Horse-Racing' which received two rounds of applause from the audience! Adam Ryan also created a stunning improvisation on the drums which clearly demonstrated just how talented a performer he has become. The show also featured a wide range of other instrumentalists on the electric guitar, piano, trumpet and clarinet. The vocalists performed with such expression and feeling that the audience was captivated and on occasion, visibly moved. We also had performances from the Samba band and the Glee Club.

Thank you to all the parents and members of staff who freely gave their time to support this evening, particularly Mr Bragg who did a superb job of introducing each act. A huge thank you must also go to the young people who brought such energy, enthusiasm and commitment to this production.

Mr Wolstenholme





Daci Carpendale

In May this year, the **Y7 Music and Drama Talent competition** took place. Pupils auditioned in their music and drama lessons. The music and drama staff were very impressed with the talent shown and after much discussion selected the following best acts to perform in the final.

Lucy Percival	Annija Balode	Rhian Read
Rebecca Walker	Anna Williamson	Piper Gordon
Rebecca Ideson	Daci Carpendale	Joseph Howard
Charlotte Behan	TJ Turner	Elaine Thornton
Ben Keeler	Lowri Anderson	Anabel Hoare

The judges (*Mrs Smith, Ms Christie, Ms James and Mr Green*) were fantastic and did a great job providing feedback to the pupils after their performances. The judges had a very difficult job deciding the overall winner as all the pupils performed to a very high standard. After much discussion, **Daci Carpendale** was chosen as the winner of the Y7 Music & Drama competition for her amazing performance of "Rolling in the Deep" on the clarinet. She was presented with a winner's plaque and was invited to perform in the whole school talent show in which she again produced a superb performance.

Thanks to everyone that took part and thanks also to the staff that helped support this event. Finally, well done once again to our winner, Daci Carpendale!

Mr Wolstenholme

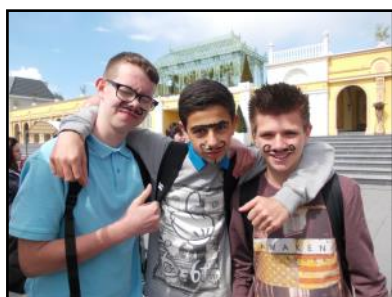


Y9 German Trip to the Rhineland

On Sunday, 19th May 2013, a very excited group of 39 Y9 students and four members of staff set off on the 16 hour coach journey to the beautiful Rhineland in Germany. The journey went smoothly and we arrived in Bad Salzig, a small town by the Rhine.

Our hotel was just a few hundred yards from the Rhine so after unpacking we all went on a town trail to orientate ourselves with the town surroundings and to have a well-deserved ice cream.

After dinner students spent some time on their workbooks practising things they might need to say whilst out and about and filling in their diaries in German. Afterwards we all walked to the local sports ground and played rounders or football – it was good to stretch the legs and get fresh air after being in the coach for 16 hours. This became a regular occurrence every night and everyone joined in and had fun.



On Tuesday we travelled up the Rhine to visit an amazing castle called Marksburg. It was very high on a hillside overlooking the river, the views were amazing and the castle really interesting. It was fantastic to hear the history and imagine what the atmosphere must have been like hundreds of years ago. After a cruise on the river Rhine we continued to a picturesque town called Rudesheim, where students practiced their language skills by asking for food and buying souvenirs. We then went on a gentle ride up a hill on a cable

car, which took us over vineyards to the monument of Germania, before heading back to the hotel for the evening's activities.

Wednesday started off early as we had to travel to Cologne. Our first stop was the cathedral, an amazing piece of architecture that took almost 650 years to build. All students were very brave and climbed up the 509 steps of one of the towers for an amazing view of the city. After some free time for shopping and lunch we headed to the Lindt Schokoladenmuseum, where we learned more about the making of chocolate as well as sampling some and buying lots of presents in the shop. Later that afternoon we went to the Tauris swimming baths with rapids and slides.



On Thursday we headed to Koblenz. In the morning we visited our partner school, the Gymnasium auf der Karthause. We were welcomed and given a tour of the school before spending three lessons in small groups. All students were nervous to start with but soon relaxed and enjoyed meeting German students and being interviewed by them. In the afternoon we continued to the Deutsches Eck (German Corner) where the River Rhine and the Mosel meet. After a walk through the old part of the town, ice-cream sundaes and some time for shopping we went back to the hotel.

Our last day was spent in Phantasialand – an amazing theme park with a variety of

attractions. We were lucky with the weather and everyone was brave and went on the rides (even Mr Bragg!). The day was finished off with some interesting face paints and later the usual games in the evening.

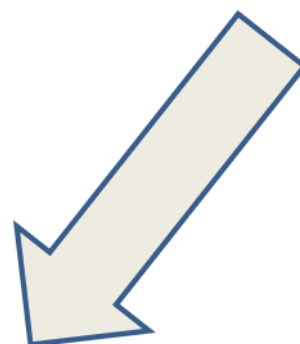
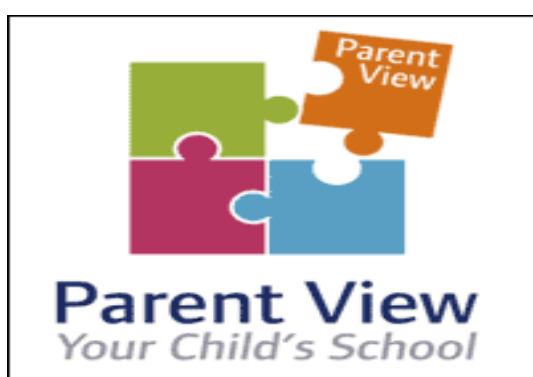
Saturday's journey home was rather a quiet one as students were so exhausted from all the activities. This was a very successful trip and it was a real pleasure to take the 39 students to Germany. They were a credit to the school and their parents and I would like to thank them again for their behaviour!

I would also like to thank Mr. Jones, Mr. Bragg and our FLA Sonja for giving up their time to accompany the students on this educational adventure.

A further massive thank you goes to Mr. Merritt who organised everything but unfortunately was not able to go on the trip this time.



Mrs Kelly



We need all parents to give their views of the school via a quick, easy questionnaire.

Please log onto the school website.

Go to the Parent tab to Parent View.

Enter your e-mail address, confirm you are a parent/carer and complete the questionnaire (12 questions)

Many thanks for your feedback.



Please remember you can view up to date information about your child's progress at school by going to the Parent Portal.

CMJCC

Chatsworth Meadowhead Jubilee charity challenge

The Chatsworth to Meadowhead Charity Celebration Walk took place on Saturday 27th April. Staff, parents and students participated in the 13.5miles (Mrs Clapham even did it on horse back!)
A total of £565 was raised for "Help the Heroes"
Thank you to everyone who took part

Mr Sockett

Clinical Research—Science Students in Action

Meadowhead science students attended this year's Clinical Research Facility open day at the Royal Hallamshire. On Monday 20th May a group of Y10 and Y12 scientists travelled to the hospital with Mrs Dix and Mr Hill. Students toured the labs and talked to staff and researchers to find out how science is used in a working hospital. They practised the techniques involved in separating and analysing blood samples, learnt how centrifuges are used and tried pipetting into aliquots and preparing microscope slides. Students took part in other demos of the tests used in this working research facility and put their practical science skills to good use. The open day was a great experience which linked work done in science lessons to its application in modern medicine. Many thanks to Mr Mason for organising the trip.

Mr Hill

"Learning about the centrifuge was really interesting and extracting the plasma from the fake blood was fun."

Beth Pearson

"We learnt a lot about clinical research and it made me think about doing science in the future."

Chloe Taylor



Every One a Writer

During the Spring term, the Meadowhead Community Learning Trust invited students from Meadowhead, local primary schools and members of the community to submit pieces of creative writing to the first Everyone a Writer Competition. The competition was set up with one simple idea- that anyone, whatever their age and experience can be a writer and we had entrants of all ages – even a great-grandmother.

Writers had a choice of 3 themes, “Childhood Memories”, “Our Sheffield” and “Poetry for Performance” We received over 500 entries from parents, teachers, local residents, and students at Meadowhead, Norton Free, Abbey Lane and Bradway schools. Unfortunately we weren’t able to publish them all and, with the help of the Creative Writing group at Meadowhead School, we chose just over one hundred entries to publish in the “Everyone a Writer 2013 Anthology”.

The selected entrants and their families were then invited to attend a celebration evening at Meadowhead School on Thursday 9th May where some of the entrants read their piece aloud. The evening was presented by Samantha Machin and William Teasdale in Y11, the audience were able to listen to some of the entrants read their piece aloud and the winners were as follows:

Primary School Winner- Minnie Hamilton from Abbey Lane with “Don’t be Naughty”
Y7 Winner- Lucy Percival with “The Teddy Bear’s Silence”
Y8 Winner- Nathan Green with “River”
Y9 Winner- Isabelle Carr with “BeeBee”
Key Stage 4/5 Winner- Caitlin Bryan with “Stuck in the Railings”
Community Winner- Jill Waggs with “Common Inhumanity”
Overall winner was Bethany Jones from Meadowhead School with “I Apologise”.

The project was a great success and a real “buzz” about writing was felt by all those involved. We’d like to thank everyone who entered the competition as well as the members of staff and students that helped to bring this inspiring event together. Already, we are looking forward to next year’s project!

Mr Sheppard, Ms Woodward & Miss Wright



“Creativity is contagious, pass it on!” Albert Einstein

The Summer Art and Technology exhibition by Y11 and Y12 students in the Rosling was one of the best we have ever put on.

The diversity of the creative works covering painting, mixed media, textiles, ceramics, product design, graphics and photography was staggering.

The quality in terms of the skill, craft and depth of ideas expressed and explored showed how essential to our students is a vibrant visual and practical making culture.

The Open Evening was very well attended with live music provided by our talented singers and food provided by our gifted catering students.

This week long showcase will have inspired many students to take up our courses. It is interesting how often they express the reason for doing so as the very different nature of the work we do.

I started this short piece with a quote that emphasises that creativity is not just an activity in the domain of the Arts.

It is a vital part of ourselves as human beings. We are hard wired, if you like, to be creative in all areas of life and its activities. Developing the confidence and skills in students to be creative is one of our core aims.

When someone is told ‘think for yourself’, ‘don’t follow the herd’, ‘use your initiative’, ‘work it out’ or ‘use your imagination’, that person needs to tap into their creative instincts and instincts need to be encouraged, coached and trained.

The works on show this year demonstrate overwhelmingly that our students instincts are exceptional.



Mr Robson



The Phoenix Online

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