

Meadowhead School A Language College

International Times



**International
School Award**
2010-2013

British Airways Flag Award: Soaring Higher

Following our students' success last year with the Y10 German British Airways Flag Award, Mrs Greaves trained to become an accredited tester for Spanish so that she could take a brave group of students through the taxing process, in addition to another group of German students taught and examined by Mr Merritt. Once again, all 10 students passed the exam with "flying" colours and the hope is that next year, we can carry out the course and exams in three languages.

A huge "well-done" to all 10 candidates who completed the course and exams this year: Rachel Darrall, Josh Deakin, Natalie Parker, Katie Unwin and Sophie Wigfall for German and Della Hancock, Grace Keeling, Lucy Kitching, Maisie Mountcastle and Jenna Stocks for Spanish. This extra qualification proves their commitment to language learning and improves their language knowledge, exam skills and career prospects! Congratulations, "muchas gracias" and "vielen Dank" for all your hard work!

Meadowhead scoops International School Award status for the 3rd time!

Having first been accredited in 2004 as an 'International school', we have continued to develop our International work under the British council scheme over the last 6 years. The scheme requires re-accreditation via a portfolio of evidence every 3 years to retain our ISA status. This is therefore the 3rd time we have been awarded this fantastic accolade in recognition of our achievements in embedding Internationalism into our whole school curriculum. In a recent message from the British council ISA team, they expressed their 'sincere congratulations for all your inspiring international work'. We are extremely proud of our achievement and will continue to develop our global curriculum links and international dimension to benefit both staff and students in the future.

Business Language Champions' business success!

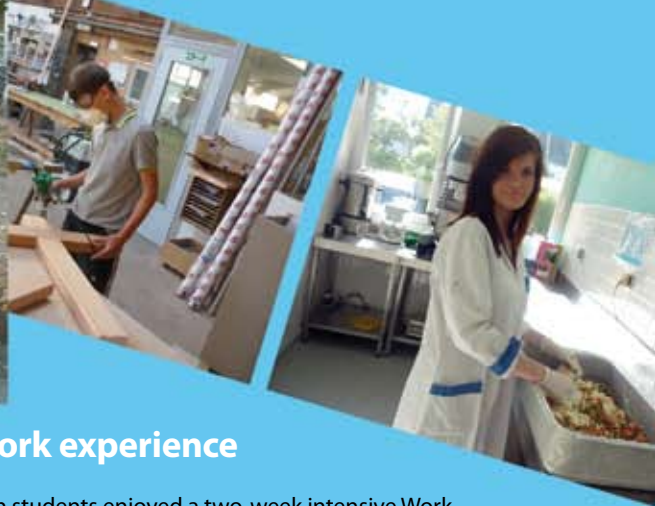
This year, with assistance from our business partner Gripple Ltd, our Y9 BLC group of talented linguists combined languages with enterprise to set up their own business called 'Coastering 2 success'. They designed, printed and sold coasters with the greeting 'CHEERS' in 8 languages as well as other bespoke designs to order. After various visits to Gripple to design marketing e-shots to help sell their product to Gripple's overseas customers (as well as in the local community), the team entered the citywide enterprise competition, The BiG Challenge. After 6 months of trading and beating off over 200 other teams, they scooped a finalist's prize "of £100 each in shopping vouchers plus trophy" for one of the most highly commended teams of the year!





New French Exchange with Montaigu!

This year 24 Y9/10 students braved our first Meadowhead French exchange programme with our partner school in Montaigu situated in the North West of France. Students experienced life in a French school, visited Nantes & the coast of Le Croisic and even taught some English to French Primary pupils. All our students returned home with exciting stories to tell, involving fishing, eating lobster, oysters and scallops, and even milking cows! They have all made lasting friendships with their host families and greatly improved their knowledge of French language and culture thanks to the exchange experience which is fantastic in its first year!



New French Vocational work experience

For the first time ever, ten Y10 NVQ French students enjoyed a two-week intensive Work Experience Visit to Angers, France in July. They had a fantastic time, working in various roles in the carpentry, catering, and administration sectors. The group stayed with the 'Compagnons du devoir' and were therefore fully immersed in a typically French lifestyle for the full 2 weeks. In the afternoons and at weekends the group took part in cultural visits such as a viewing of the Chateau d'Angers, and a great day at the beach in La Baule. The whole visit was a great success and our students gained a lot both professionally and also personally in addition to improving their French language skills. Well done to them all for their maturity and professionalism!



Other language trips & exchanges offered

- Y7 German Christmas market
- Y7 Study visit to Boulogne
- Y7-Y11 Chinese New Year Parade
- Y8-11 Russian Theatre/Circus Visits
- Y9 Study visit to Rhineland
- Y10 German Exchange to Koblenz
- Y10 Study visit to Moscow
- Y11 Spanish intensive weekend (Derbyshire)

Cross-curricular Belgian Battlefields study visit

In February, 44 Y9/10 students and 5 teachers followed in the footsteps of British soldiers almost 100 years earlier on our first ever joint French and History study visit to the battlefields of Ypres. Students learnt about this important piece of our History and practised their French at the same time.



3rd successful Spanish exchange with Zaragoza!

10 GCSE Spanish students survived our extra long Spanish exchange with San Valero school in Zaragoza, when our stay was extended by 5 days thanks to the Volcanic ash cloud in April! Students enjoyed various activities for 12 days, such as lessons in a Spanish secondary school, primary school teaching, cultural visits to the Monasterio de Piedra national park, city centre tour, and the aquarium.

Despite the initial stress of having our flights cancelled, the volcanic ash disruption enabled our students to enjoy extra quality time with their new partners, and in the end they didn't want to leave at all!



Y8/9 Study visit to Isla, Spain.

In May 38 students enjoyed our bi-annual Spanish study visit to the North of Spain. Students sampled some of the Spanish delicacies like 'chocolate con churros' and 'calamares' as well as visits to local cultural places of interest such as Comillas, Santander and Carbácono wildlife park. They visited the Noja markets and experienced a lesson in Flamenco at a local dancing school in Santoña. A fantástico time was had by all!



International Day 2010!

In July, 330 Y9 students enjoyed a vast array of Internationally themed activities and workshops on our annual collapsed timetable International day. Students were immersed in cultures from around the world in workshops led by teachers and talented visiting artists.

Activities ranged from African drumming, Street Art & Indian textiles, Zumba dancing, Spanish tapas, German/French cafes, World cup football, Martial Arts, Japanese Haiku poetry, Chinese Calligraphy and Italian tasters. Our famous visiting African dance troupe SIYAYA performed a fabulous grande finale for the whole year group to end the day in style, earning them a well deserved standing ovation for yet another mesmerising performance!



Sri Lankan partner school link goes from strength to strength!

In October, our Headteacher & Deputy Head embarked upon our 4th reciprocal teacher exchange visit to our partner school in Balapitiya, thanks to our Global schools project grant courtesy of the British councils Department for International Development. They taught some English and Maths and met with the minister of education to discuss exciting teacher training ideas for both our schools' teachers in the future. We now look forward to hosting 2 Sri Lankan teachers in September on their return visit.

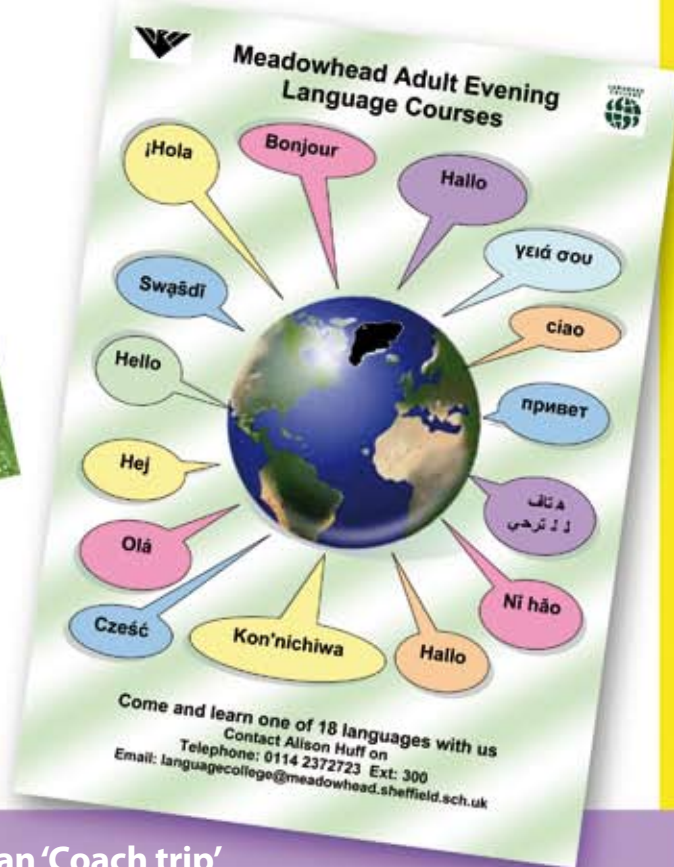
Meadowhead joins Sheffield twinning with Chengdu!

In May, along with another 10 Sheffield school Heads and LA officials, our Headteacher visited Chengdu to make citywide links with the province and establish a new Chinese partner school as part of the connecting classrooms China programme through the British council. The visit was a huge success for both our school and the city. We look forward to welcoming their Headteacher Mr Wu Lie, in September, and hopefully sending students to visit this fascinating part of China in future years.



French Fun for the Y4s at Bradway School

The Year 4 Class at Bradway School got involved in a variety of different activities in their French lessons with Mrs Hunt (from Meadowhead School) this year. These included songs, stories and games. They also had the opportunity to meet our French Assistant, Marilou, who told them about Christmas in France and also introduced them to the cartoon strip Astérix. However, the activity they enjoyed the most was taking part in a short film of the French version of the story Monkey See Monkey Do; 'Singe qui voit singe qui fait'. The pupils enjoyed learning the story, making their own monkey masks and acting it out in front of the camera. They certainly weren't camera shy!



German 'Coach trip'

Discovering a new language when you're 9 years old isn't so much "just another lesson", rather an exciting opportunity to talk and write in code, to meet new people, sing in a foreign language to hundreds of people and learn about other cultures and traditions. These are just some of the opportunities that Y5B at Abbey Lane Primary School had when Mr Merritt (from Meadowhead School) coached and team-taught with class teacher Mr Boulton. Particular highlights were when the class had the opportunity to talk to and have a presentation given by a German university student and also singing Stille Nacht at Christmas time in front of hundreds of teary parents at the Meadowhead School Talents Evening! The students produced outstanding German work (some of it to rival Year 8 work) to help them next year when they progress to secondary school and have also had their understanding of other languages and cultures compounded. The students have excelled and thoroughly enjoyed the exciting project.

LECT – League for exchange of Commonwealth Teacher visit to Poland

In October half term, our Drama teacher Miss Martin, along with 5 other Sheffield teachers were lucky enough to experience the education system in Poland to bring back new teaching and learning ideas for our own school. The group visited several secondary & primary schools as well as a City culture centre and learnt about how & what students are taught in Poznan.



Happy Retirement Frau Brown!

This summer we said a fond farewell to our Director of Specialism, Jacqui Brown, who has been with us for 37 years which is truly a remarkable achievement. She has taught French and German to pupils at all levels and has inspired many generations of linguists since 1973!

As well as an outstanding classroom practitioner, Mrs Brown has been an amazing Head of Faculty for 16 years. Jacqui was always conscientious, dedicated, a visionary, diplomatic, driven, enthusiastic, innovative, considerate and a wonderful leader and manager of a very large department. We will all miss her dearly and please keep in touch!



Who's who in 2010-11?

- Miss J. Allen**
Language College Manager
French, Spanish, Italian
- Miss A. Grotzki**
Head of Department
German, French
- Miss N. Legrée**
Head of French
French, German, Spanish
- Mr P. Church**
Joint Head of Spanish
French, Spanish
- Mrs K. Cardall**
Joint Head of Spanish
French, German, Spanish
- Mr B. Merritt**
Head of KS3 German
French, German
- Mrs S. Smith**
Head of Lower School
German, Russian
- Mrs P. Lewis**
Teacher & Primary Languages Co-ordinator
French, German
- Miss G. Brabin**
Teacher
French, German, Spanish
- Mrs L. Greaves**
Teacher
German, Spanish
- Miss N. Semp**
Teacher
French, German, Russian
- Mrs H. Hunt**
Teacher
French, Spanish
- Miss R. Renshaw**
Teacher
German, Spanish
- Mrs L. Taylor**
Teacher
French, German, Spanish
- Mr S. Jones**
Teacher
French, German
- Miss A. Cruikshanks**
Teacher
French, German
- Miss A. Leroux**
Teacher
French, Spanish
- Mrs T. Clapham**
Faculty Assistant
- Mr J. Fernandez**
Teaching Assistant
- Miss P. Roque**
French Language Assistant
- Miss C. Mohlenhaskamp**
German Language Assistant
- Miss A. Fernandez**
Spanish Language Assistant



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