

Meadowhead School

A Language College

International Times



Russia 2012

Mrs Smith and Mr Affleck took 20 students from Y10, Y11 and Y12 late in March to Russia

They landed in Moscow and had a wonderful few days in the capital, exploring all the sights; the Kremlin, Red Square, St. Basil's Cathedral and the Moscow State University. In St. Petersburg they visited The Winter Palace, The Church of the Spilled Blood (yes, it really is called that!) Catherine's Palace, Nevsky Prospekt and the Bronze Horseman.

The students were wonderful ambassadors of the school, were great company, polite, enthusiastic, witty and sociable. Mrs Smith would like to thank the pupils for making the trip so memorable, Mr Affleck for his support and the families for providing the necessary funds!

Morocco

Seven intrepid sixth form students spent a week exploring Morocco and helping communities in the High Atlas Mountains. The first half of the week was spent living in the community of Asni, south of Marrakesh.

The team taught English, helped cook local foods, played lots of football (on a hillside pitch!) and played with the children. The second half was spent much higher in the mountains at 2000m in Aroumd. The team cleaned an essential community water tank and improved a large section of mule track. The expedition was concluded in the Souks and Kasbahs of mysterious Marrakesh.....



18 students accompanied by Mrs Aitken, Mrs Bayarri and Mrs Silverwood visited the medieval walled city of Avila. Spanish students hosted the students we took, but also students from Finland as this is a three-way partnership. We shared stories about national legends. The Y8 group performed a dramatic presentation about Robin Hood; the Y12 students researched a national hero and gave a powerpoint presentation to about fifty people. The Y12 students have shared what they have learned about Spanish and Finnish legends in Y8 classrooms, an assembly and through display work.

Comenius International Project





German Exchange to Koblenz

15 students from years 8-12, Mr. Jones and Mrs Cooke took part in this year's exchange with our partner school in Germany. Over there, our students spent the day in the German school, a day in Trier, looked around the zoo in Cologne and went to 'Go-Ape'. Back in England the German students went to York, the centre of Sheffield and the Peak District. In the evening we all went ice skating and bowling. The students were a credit to the school and a big thank you to Mrs Cooke for her time and enthusiasm.



Zaragoza

In March 2012 A group of 15 Year 10 and 5 Year 12 Spanish students went to Zaragoza in Spain for the second leg of the 2011 – 2012 Spanish Meadowhead Exchange.

Both English students and Spanish hosts enjoyed a full programme of activities, including a day trip to Barcelona and a day at an Aquarium and a tour of the city on an open top bus!

It was a successful trip and a fantastic experience for all involved.

French Exchange 2012

For the past four years, Meadowhead has run a French Exchange with their partner school in Montaigu. In October each year, the English students start the exchange by hosting the French pupils. A trip to Alton Towers, meeting the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, and life in a British school are always the highlights of their stay. English students usually return to France in March and visit the beautiful cultural city of Nantes, take part in French lessons, compete in an exciting town trail and have a fun day out to the futuristic theme park of 'Futuroscope.' Many thanks to all those involved this year.

Isla

During the last week of the May the Spanish department took 38 Y8/9 pupils to the beautiful destination of Isla. The hotel was perfectly situated opposite the beach giving pupils the opportunity to relax and play rounders/football after extremely busy days. Throughout the trip pupils visited a nature park, a typical Spanish market and a torture museum. They also learnt the art of Flamenco dancing and tried chocolate con churros. The trip was a huge success and both the pupils' behaviour and attitudes were exemplary.

Other Languages Trips

Y7 Christmas Market Trips
Y7 study trip to Boulogne
Y10-13 Study visit to Berlin

Y7 Trip to Madrid
Y8 study trip to Paris
Y11 Spanish Intensive Weekend



British Airways Flag Award

Following our students' success over the past 2 years with the British Airways Flag another 2 groups of Y11 Spanish and German students spent a gruelling four weeks being taught the elements of the exam and then undertaking the rigorous test by Mrs Greaves and Mr Merritt. All 22 brave students passed the exam with "flying" colours and the hope is that next year; we can carry out the course and exams in French..... oh la la!!

A massive congratulations to all 22 candidates who completed the course and exams this year. This extra qualification proves their commitment to language learning and improves their language knowledge, exam skills and career prospects and will also help them with their GCSE's this year! Congratulations, 'mil gracias' and 'Vielen dank' for all your hard work!



Y9 Annual International Day

In July Y9 students enjoyed an array of multicultural activities on our annual International day. The aim of this exciting day is to immerse students in different cultures from around the world through a wide range of workshops led by teachers and visiting artists.

Normal lessons were abandoned as 340 students participated in an International quiz, Zumba dancing, African Drumming/singing workshops, Arabic, Catalan, Dutch, Italian Japanese & Russian Language Tasters, and a special Olympic themed challenge!

The grand finale was a show by the famous African dance troupe 'The Mighty Zulu Nation' which rounded off the special day with a bang! The show was brilliant and had everyone up on their feet!



London 2012 Trip

Over the weekend of the 16th -18th March, 37 keen Geographers and 4 equally keen members of staff travelled to London with the aim of revising for their GCSE exam. We witnessed history in the making at the Olympic sites in Stratford and Canary Wharf, where urban regeneration is turning the area from one of social deprivation and derelict land into a thriving area ready to host the Olympics, provide jobs for local people and leave a lasting legacy for years to come. The behaviour of the students was excellent and all had a great time



Who's Who in 2012-13?



European Day of Languages 2012

On the 29th September 2012, the Languages Faculty celebrated the European Day of Languages – with a difference! The whole language faculty dressed up, taking inspiration from different European countries. The students really enjoyed guessing which countries the staff had dressed up as and there was a real buzz around the Languages Department on that day (not to mention a few giggles as well!).

Many members of staff had also contributed their favourite foreign words, which were displayed around the school and students enjoyed reading the words (and funny explanations that accompanied them!).

To continue with the theme of the day, students in years 7-9 enjoyed lessons which widened their cultural knowledge of European countries and their languages including activities such as games, songs, quizzes and challenges.

We look forward to repeating the day next year and are already planning our outfits!



Japanese Club

Every Thursday a group of Year 7 pupils met to study the Japanese language and look at various aspects of Japanese culture with Mrs Hunt. Topics we looked at included clothes, colours, animals, countries and nationalities. One of the most popular sessions involved learning how to make sushi with raw tuna! Pupils also watched Japanese 'anime' films and learnt to do origami and to read and write with Hiragana, one of the Japanese alphabets. Several pupils made presentations on an aspect of Japanese culture which particularly interests them. These ranged from Japanese aircraft carriers to Pokémon! Thank you to all who took part!

The 'Jeux Olympiques' in Lower Meadow Primary School

As part of her teaching with the Y5/6 at Lower Meadow Primary School, one of our teachers worked over a number of weeks producing a play about the Olympics completely in French. The students worked really hard and did a great deal of research on different athletes involved in the Olympics. They then performed in front of the whole school and parents, dressed in the Olympic sport they had chosen and gave details about their chosen athletes in French.

The students impressed the crowd with their flawless French. It was a very successful play, highlighted by the presence of our very own Olympics torchbearer and her torch. The aim of the play was to foster good linguistic skills and boost confidence. Well done to Lower Meadow for their enthusiasm and dedication!

Der DDR Kuchen!

Over several weeks the Year 12 German students had been working on a major project which dealt with the issues of the Berlin Wall, the division of Germany and the politics of the Cold War. After studying the topic and watching two films, staff were impressed at the inspiration and innovation of the class and how this had led to students carrying out further independent research.

The highlight had to be when they arrived with a cake inspired by the topic! It features quotes from the films and a sugary copy of an East German Trabant! And yes, it was delicious!



Y7 Euroclub cooking up a storm

In the Summer Term, Euroclub decided to move from the classroom and test their skills in the kitchen. Guided by Head Chef Mr. Holland and his Sous Chef Mr. Jones, the students followed a German recipe and made German Honey biscuits, which they took home. Euroclub runs after school for Y7s and students look at a variety of topics including sports, food and drink and famous cities as well as practising their language skills. A big well done to all the students involved and a massive thank you to Mr. Holland for his expertise and the use of his room!

Mrs A. Kelly
Head of Department
French, German

Miss N. Legrée
Head of French
French, German, Spanish

Mr B. Merritt
Head of German
French, German

Miss R. Renshaw
Head of Spanish
German, Spanish

Mrs S. Smith
Head of Russian
Head of Year 7
German, Russian, French

Mr P. Church
Head of Business Languages
French, Spanish

Mrs G. Bramall
Teacher
French, German, Spanish

Mrs K. Cardall
Teacher
French, German, Spanish

Miss A. Criukshanks
Teacher
French, German

Mrs L. Greaves
Teacher
German, Spanish

Mrs H. Hunt
Teacher
French, Spanish

Mr S. Jones
Teacher
French, German

Miss N. Semp
Teacher
French, German, Russian

Mrs L. Taylor
Teacher
French, German, Spanish

Mrs T. Clapham
Faculty Assistant

Mr J. Fernandez
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Sonja Glas
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Adrien Mule Gentiluomo
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