
The Phoenix



The Meadowhead School Newsletter — July 2014



**Head Boys & Girls:
Jake Rodgers, Holly
Parker, Chloe Taylot &
Harvey Morton
With Alan Wragg &
Steve Fowler**

Aspirations & Achievement

As we reach the end of a very busy year with many changes I am proud to reflect on how well students and staff, ably supported by families, have risen to the new challenges and opportunities.

We are introducing new courses and qualifications throughout the school in response to new requirements from the Department of Education. This includes new A levels in our Sixth Form where teaching is now in its fourth year. As an 11-18 school we continue to develop as we plan our new Sixth Form buildings and Post-16 provision, enrichment and support, fit for the changing demands of the workplace and Higher Education.

We have celebrated many achievements and successes this year, regularly reported on our school website and in the Phoenix. The Y11 Record of Achievement was a particular highlight, as were the Talent and Dance shows, the “Everyone A Writer” evening and the Art and Design exhibition evenings. Our first A level Textiles and Product Design show exhibited truly outstanding work and creativity that would rival university level work.

Key themes run through the success of this school. Achievements are built on a positive “can do” ethos, aiming for real quality grounded in genuine commitment and effort. It’s not just what you do, but how you do it. I am proud that so many students demonstrate this day in, day out.

Finally I would like to thank parents and families for their unstinting support for the school as we work together to help all students aspire to achieve their absolute best. There is no doubt that families and school working in a positive partnership is one of the keys to future success for the students.

Mr Fowler

Morocco 2014

By the time you read this many things would have happened. Exams will have been completed, the World Cup will be won (hopefully by England), Andy Murray may have retained his Wimbledon crown and 7 intrepid Y12 and Y13 students will be back from an eye opening and challenging expedition to the High Atlas Mountains of North Africa!

The aims of the expedition are twofold. Firstly to ascend North Africa's highest peak named Jebel Toubkal with an altitude of over 4000m (more than 4 times higher than England's highest) and secondly to immerse ourselves in Berber culture and help a Berber community project in the mountain village of Asni.



The following adventurers will be embarking on this student led expedition, supported by Mr Barnett and their expedition leader: Damien Gronski, Theo Jones, Haydn Morris, Zachary Young, Alfie Veevers, Nathan Parkinson and Thomas Owen.

This is Meadowhead School's second expedition to Morocco and there will be more! Watch out for information to more far-flung and exotic destinations around the world! The team will be writing a full account of their adventures in the next Phoenix!

جيد يوم

Mr Barnett

Year 10 Geography Trip

The River Porter

At the beginning of June the Y10 Geographers dug out their wellies and went splashing around in the River Porter! Despite having to postpone the trip due to inclement weather, we eventually managed to get all the Y10 Geographers out in the field. Students visited the River Porter for a day to collect the data for their controlled assessment.



It was an enjoyable but challenging day with several students battling the midges and surprisingly daunted by the prospect of walking for 4 miles in one day! At least they only had to walk down the river and not up it!



Despite the challenges, the welcome half time stop at Forge Dam café rejuvenated spirits and during the day students were able to collect quality data to analyse back in the classroom. The students worked hard and were a credit to the department and the school. A big thank you to all the staff that helped make the visit possible.

Mrs Cook

Cantabria 2014



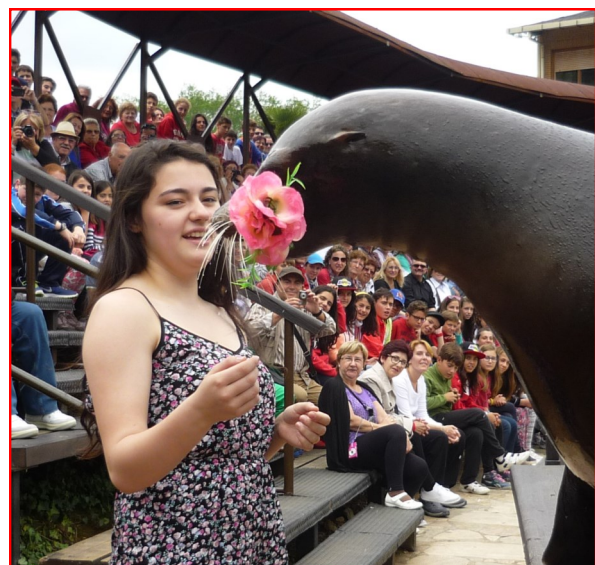
On 2nd June, 44 Y8 and Y9 students with Miss Renshaw, Mr Church, Miss Dillon and Mrs Silverwood flew to northern Spain to take part in a Spanish study tour of the 'Costa Verde' (green coast) region of Spain.

We set off in the early hours of Sunday morning and made our way to Stansted Airport. Some students were a little nervous about flying, but the flight out to Spain was 'plane' sailing!

We arrived at the Campomar Hotel in Isla, a village on the coast, not far from Santander/Bilbao. The hotel was really nice and after dinner the pupils went out onto the terrace to write their Spanish diary. Pupils worked on their booklets every day.

During the week the students went to see a Spanish Flamenco Show, a 'Merengue' (Latin American Dance) dance workshop and a nature park with zebras, giraffes, lions, tigers and wild bears!

At the nature park we saw a sea lion show which was really entertaining! Other activities included: the torture museum in Santillana del Mar, a beautiful old cobbled Spanish village. The students were enthralled to see real Spanish Inquisition instruments of torture. We all enjoyed eating 'Chocolate Con Churros' at Pedro's (the coach driver) family café!



All in all a fantastic Spanish study experience was had by one and all the Y9 and Y8 students were a credit to Meadowhead School.

A big thank you to Mr Church for his fabulous organisational skills, Mrs Silverwood and Miss Dillon who provided a much needed linguistic and first aid support at all times. We hope the trip will continue to run every two years as we are sure that this cultural experience along with additional Spanish 'real life' study will contribute to raising attainment for students taking GCSE Spanish.

Miss Renshaw

The best moment of the trip, for me, was the experience of being able to speak Spanish and visiting a foreign country. The Spanish people were so polite. The holiday has been a one off, crazy and wild, I have also made new friends! The weather was great and I loved the animal park as I am an animal fan.

Lauren Griffith

It was a good trip, we learnt a lot about the Spanish culture and made note of a few new words.

Michael Selby

The Spanish trip was the best holiday ever and a massive learning curve.

Zac Wright

My favourite moment was going round the market because we had to speak Spanish and try to make them understand. I liked it because it did actually help me revise and learn some new words in Spanish, phrases like; price, boy, girl, thank you, sorry, please may I have, do you know any English?

Lowri Anderson



Celebrating Success in English



Talented Y10 pupils in the English Enrichment club were invited to take part in a celebration event at the University of Sheffield after success in a creative writing competition.

As part of the University's Booker initiative pupils were given a free copy of the Booker shortlisted novel *Pigeon English* by Stephen Kelman. They then took part in a Sheffield schools story contest, writing a story based on a phrase from the novel, "If you cross the line you'll turn to dust". Meadowhead pupils were victorious with Rachael Vallely scooping first place for the girls and Natalie Jackson and Josh Kirkham claiming the runner up spot for the girls and boys respectively.

To reward all the entrants we, along with a few other schools, were invited to the University of Sheffield for a tour of the University, a creative writing master class with author Paula Morris and a prize giving ceremony.

The afternoon was a fantastic experience and the tour, even in the pouring rain and with dubious commentary from colourful local characters was a lot of fun.

The only disappointment? We weren't allowed to have a go on the Art's Tower's famous perpetual lift, the Paternoster.

Thanks to Casey Bottom, Rebecca Samuels, Tara Bellamy, Rachael Vallely, Alex Clayton, Dominic Brookes, Matthew White, Joshua Kirkham, Natalie Jackson and Leoni Knox for their participation in this scheme.

Mrs Key

Poetry Coal Mine Crafting



The University of Sheffield has recently been putting learning opportunities on offer to encourage pupils to think about University. One of these opportunities was in the field of English, where a group of students from my year group attended sessions at the University to further our creative writing skills. These sessions took place in the form of weekly workshops and we were guided and encouraged in a relaxed environment to produce pieces of poetry and fiction writing. Each week we met up others from different schools and were able to socialise whilst learning. We also enjoyed the buffet the University had to offer.

In the final week we were taken to the National Coal Mining Museum - all completely free of charge - to take a guided tour down a mine and to write poetry about the experience afterwards.

I thought it was great as we were all taken down the mine and shown around for about an hour. Then we went back up and had lunch while we wrote poems. It was a really nice day out.

Casey Bottom 10L said: 'I really enjoyed it. We got to learn in small groups and produce work that we wouldn't otherwise have done. We made friends and had a great time. I would definitely do it again.'

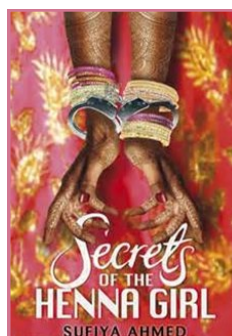
We will all be attending a celebration evening later in the year which will recognise all the poetry we have written and work we have achieved whilst attending all the weekly workshops.

Rebecca Samuels 10H

Secrets of an Author Visit

Y8s got a chance to meet author Sufiya Ahmed this term when she came to Meadowhead to speak about her award winning Young Adults book *Secrets of the Henna Girl*. This gripping and exciting book tells the story of Zeba Khan, a hardworking sixteen year old girl dreaming of sixth form college and A levels. That all changes when her parents take her back to Pakistan that summer and tell her she'll be marrying her cousin. After reading from her book, Sufiya explained why after a range of glamorous careers in the City of London and in Parliament she had returned to her first love of writing. She talked to students about her path to becoming an author, the issue of forced marriage which forms the basis of the book and gave pupils the chance to dress up and act out a scene from the book which featured a traditional Pakistani wedding. Pupils were given the chance to ask questions and to meet Sufiya who signed copies of her book after school in the LRC.

Mrs Key



FUTURE AMBITIONS – SUMMER 2014



At Meadowhead School we aim – to provide young people with 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 compliment the curriculum therefore we aim to enrich the lives of all Meadowhead citizens and during this term we are proud to share the following highlights.

EXTENDING BUSINESS LINKS

As Meadowhead School Academy Trust grows so does the interest from local businesses and organisations. Added to the huge list of Businesses currently working on projects with the school we are delighted to welcome motor vehicle dealership **JCT600** to the team of employers committed to extending the world of work into the school.



Jo Silverwood, the school business development manager is in discussion with *'The Black Eye Project'* Marketing company looking to yet again extend the fields of employment that we work with. It is hoped they will soon be able to join our ever growing portfolio of partner businesses who are putting back into their local communities.

MASTER CUTLER NHS AMBASSADOR SCHEME

Hosted by the Master Cutler of Sheffield at one of Sheffield's most prestigious venues, we are proud to announce that the following pupils achieved accreditation for their completion of the NHS Ambassador 'Made in Sheffield' scheme. Congratulations go to...

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Amy Ball | Jake Hatton | Finley Mercer |
| Maria Burton | Will Hibbert | Ben Pearson |
| Jonathan Edwards | George Irons | Charlie short |
| Grace Eggleshaw | Abigail Lee | Andrew Taylor |
| Katrina Fawcett | Olivia Martin | Stontelle Thomas |
| Alexandra Gregory | Charlotte Mather | Thomas Walker |



These pupils have an opportunity offered to them which is virtually unheard of in the modern age which is a guaranteed job interview at any point they return to the NHS in the future.

Yvonne Byrne, Community Engagement Manager, and the backbone of the scheme commented "I would employ every one of them in an instant. The journey each pupil has been on has resulted in a team of highly skilled and competent young men and women who will excel in all they put their mind to achieve."



Sheffield Teaching Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust



THE NEW NHS AMBASSADORS FOR 2014-2016

With over a third of the year group applying to become ambassadors for the NHS, congratulations also go to our new cohort of ambassadors for 2014-2016. Well done to all.

| The 2014-2016 'Made in Sheffield' Ambassadors | | | Our runners up who receive enhanced work experience |
|---|---|---|--|
| Callum Purcell Emma Shannon-Little Olivia Wallace Emily Banks Luke Champion | Ted Claxton Jessica Thompson Beth Rowland Zaratu Adayemi Ethan Keen | Ewan Colton Lydia McFarlane Scarlett Davison Maisie Bingham Sanaa Javed | Bronte Russell Adam Ryan Grace Cook Sian Crowther Ed Marsden |

CAREERS ADVICE

National Careers Service

Helping you take the next step

Please can we remind students that Cerys Evans our Careers Advisor has extended hours of working with the school to offer students impartial information, advice and guidance. All students can access this service on **Thursdays** and **Fridays** should they wish. All Y11, Y12 and Y13 students will receive face to face interviews during the academic year on at least one occasion with many Y10 students also receiving careers advice towards the end of the year.

Don't forget the National Careers Service is a free government funded website that can also help with any careers questions you may have. Just type '**National Careers Service**' into your search engine.

In addition, please be aware that we subscribe to **Fast Tomato** which is a free to Meadowhead pupils, online interface that provides every young person with impartial careers information and advice 24-7 (please see below)

A student guide

Fast Tomato

1. Head to <http://www.fasttomato.com/>
2. (Your 1st time use only) – Click on Register with a code
3. Code is msad followed by year group and form letter e.g. A 7a pupil would sign in with the code msad7a
4. Enter your details and confirm your year group and click **SUBMIT**
5. Make a copy of your username and password below.

Username: _____ Password: _____

6. Click **START FAST TOMATO** and then complete the 5-10 minute questionnaire that will help to come up with job suggestions based on your answers.
7. Play around and start researching and getting the most from the computer programme.

Having trouble - See your school careers advisors - Ms Evans or Mr Cocken

WORK EXPERIENCE 2014

From **Monday 30th June to Friday 4th July** our Y10 pupils all embarked on their Work Experience. Still regarded by employers as by far and away the single most important asset an individual could have on their CV, we have been inundated with stories of success.

We are immensely proud of the levels of maturity, resilience and determination exhibited by the Y10 pupils, and the reputation they carry forward for the school.

Well done to you all and good luck to the Y9 students who are already working towards finding their placements for next year – **Monday 29th June to Friday 3rd July 2015...**



Tom Humphries at Volkswagen - JCT600



Cameron Rodgers at Swann Morton



Daniel Green at Mondelez UK



Sam Gibson & Louis Tivey at Henry Boot



Anna Smith at DoubleTree Hilton



Dominic Ellis at DoubleTree Hilton

MEADOWHEAD 'SCHOOL OF DREAMS'



Winners of £500 – Team Aspiration

On Friday 4th July 90 Y7 pupils, 10 Y12 students and 12 representatives from the business world descended to the hallowed turf at Bramall Lane to take part in a 'School of Dreams'.

Pupils were taught to juggle, speak Japanese, and participate in a physical and mental 'Apache Relay' and to work as a team to pitch for the right to spend £500 donated by Honda.

The winning team, Team Ambition, are planning on organising a series of events to help raise awareness of how it feels for those with any form of difficulty. They plan to do this by encouraging all able bodied participants to 'take on' the disability of their opponents.



A packed house full of 'dreamers'



Rob from SUFC gives the tour



Pupils working to change the world...



Apache Relay of mind and body.

THE 'SCHOOL OF DREAMS' TEAMS



Team Determination



Team Positivity



Team Aspiration



Team Resilience



Team Achievement



Team Ambition



Team Dedication



Team Resolve



Team Persistence

Huge thanks to all our businesses and organisations for their support on the day...



MEADOWHEAD BIG CHALLENGE WINNERS!



A total of 202 business teams from Secondary schools/Colleges across the city took on *'The Big Challenge'* in October and competed on a £25 start loan to make and sell their products over the following 5 months.

Only the very best businesses from across the city impressed the tough panel of 5 independent judges well enough to secure their place in the final and an invitation to the VIP awards evening at the Royal Victoria Holiday Inn in April – **Harvey Morton IT Support** (Y11) and **Tech Vid** (Adam Waterhouse & Will Shearstone - Y10) were invited along with another 9 teams of all ages from Sheffield schools and Colleges.

I am delighted to announce that Tech Vid won **3rd prize** overall at Key stage 4, for their innovative business which creates online self- help technical videos on YouTube, creating revenue from selling advertising space.

Harvey Morton scooped joint **1st prize** at KS4 and a second award for *'Most profit made'* bagging an amazing £1600.00 in just 5 months of starting his own company 'Harvey Morton IT Support', which offers hands-on solutions to all your IT needs from building a new website to designing a mobile phone app. Both teams won trophies, certificates and £100.00 each to spend on a well-earned treat for their hard work, although knowing these 3 they will no doubt re-invest some of it back into their business next year!

The whole evening which was well attended by staff, parents and many Sheffield business leaders, celebrated the true entrepreneurial talents that our young students are clearly demonstrating with such passion and enthusiasm in such a short space of time – watch out Lord Sugar!

Thanks to all supporters, school and business mentors, Learning Managers, students, parents and enterprise champions who help guide our students throughout this amazing challenge and gain valuable skills for life. Here's looking forward to Big Challenge 2015 in September!

Mrs Silverwood

THORNBRIDGE – FOUNDATION LEARNING



Despite the weather forecasting the worst thunderstorms of the year, eight Y10 students, two 6th formers and five intrepid teachers ventured out into the depths of the Peak District in search of bravery and resolve. Showing the steely determination (not dissimilar to that of Robert the Bruce) the Y10 FLT class met the dangers head on as they tried to outdo each other with their feats of Herculean prowess.

All of the students showed superb attitude and resilience and by the end of the day we were all 'bowled over' by the resolve of each student to prove to themselves that

seemingly impossible tasks and challenges can be overcome. We were so proud to bear witness to this fantastic team who supported and encouraged each other all the way. Whilst the weather tried its' damndest to dampen our spirits it seemed only to serve as fuel to the fires of the Y10 students as they climbed and zip lined their way to dizzying heights of ambition and aspiration. Congratulations to all of the students and well done for proving that against all odds, it is actually possible to overcome barriers that are put in your way!



Y10 MOCK BUSINESS INTERVIEWS



Over a period of just two days the Meadowhead Learning Resource Centre was yet again transformed into a proving ground for the Y10 pupils. In a process that was launched two months prior, the culminating hard work was clearly evident in many outstanding individual performances in which pupils and businesses met head to head to give as true a flavour as possible as to what a real life interview will be like.

Close to 40 businesses/organisations and over 330 students grappled with the ins and outs of interview technique and areas for improvement. Feedback from both pupils and staff shows overwhelming support for such a venture and all students benefit by adding to their CV and to their Record of Achievement (ROA) folders.



As ever our thanks go out to the huge array of providers who contribute to this intensive two day process. Well done to all Y10 students on their performances and for receiving such positive praise from your interviewers. The reputation of Meadowhead as a provider of 'work-ready' individuals goes from strength to strength across the city. Well done.

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you able to support us in making Meadowhead Students more employable?

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
Associate Assistant Headteacher
Vocational and Work Related Learning
cockenm@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

Jo Silverwood
Business Development Manager
silverwoodj@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

Bev Simpson
Vocational and Work Related Learning
Support
simpsonb@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

Cerys Evans
Senior Careers Advisor
evansc@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk



Sign up to **Meadowhead's** network of leaving students (Y11-Y13)

What do I get from signing up?

Hear the latest news and get invited to events;
Chance to improve your CV;
Share your achievements with old teachers;
Continued support even after you leave.

How can I help Meadowhead?

Give advice and support future students;
Volunteer – there are loads of ways to help;
Keep us in the loop about what you're up to.

How do I sign up?

Either online through the school website or at
[http://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/student/
meadowhead](http://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/student/meadowhead)

All you need to do is fill in a few contact details
and then we'll be in touch later in the year.

We really hope you stay in touch!

Record of Achievement Ceremony 9th May 2014



There are four significant dates on the Y11 calendar that have always held particular sway amongst Y11 students when they contemplate the completion of their first five years at Meadowhead.

One is of course GCSE Results Day in August. Another is the unique Octagon ceremony held to honour our students and acknowledge their achievements in their GCSE examinations. The Y11 Prom also has a predominant place in most students' memories. And then there is the Record of Achievement Day; a day that has special resonance for all concerned as it marks the very last time that all Y11 students are gathered together as an entire Year Group in the Assembly Hall as time honoured tradition has dictated for as long as I have been at this school and doubtless even before.

So on May 9th we invited an Old Boy of the school, Mr Alan Wragg as our guest of honour to preside over our celebration and enjoy the spectacle of various musical and dramatic performances and the presentation of the Meadowhead Record of Achievement Folders to each and every one of our Y11 students. Mr Wragg lived locally in Greenhill and attended Meadowhead school when it was Jordanthorpe School in 1976. He was a captain of the South Yorkshire rugby team and left in 1983. He went to Manchester University to study chemistry and whilst there was head hunted by Marks & Spencer. They sponsored him to take a Textile Technology degree at Leeds University. He then followed a career in textiles in Sri Lanka and Hong Kong. He is now the head buyer for Tesco's clothing range F&F and regularly commutes between England and the Far East.

The students as always, appreciated the importance of this milestone event as a deeply engrained Meadowhead tradition, and made the day a memorable one that undoubtedly will be hard to shift from the countless other memories they have stored from their first five years at this school.

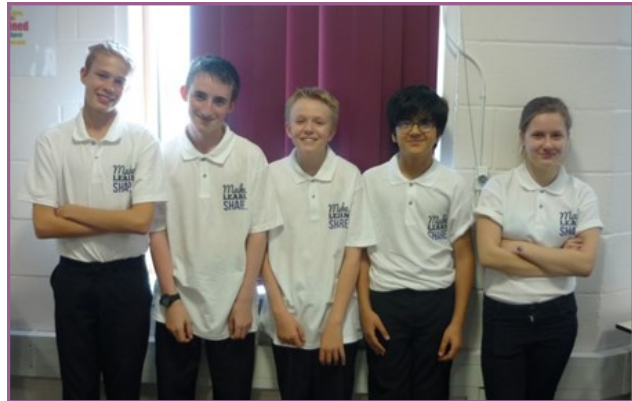
Our thanks to our guest of honour for his well-considered speech, our admiration for the performers who invested energy and talent into their routines and delivered in spades, but most importantly our genuine appreciation of all the Y11 students who by their presence alone, irrespective of the individual contributions made by so many of them on the day, made this a very, very special event indeed.

Mr McKeown



Year 8 MAKE.LEARN.SHARE Ambassadors

Students from Y8 applied to be MAKE.LEARN.SHARE Ambassadors in a new Computer Science project. This is a citywide 'Made in Sheffield' project initiated and supported by Sheffield City Council (you can read more on [http:// www.makelearnshare.org.uk/about](http://www.makelearnshare.org.uk/about)). Fifteen budding computer scientists were chosen and spent a day at Sheffield Hallam University learning Robotics. This was followed by two days training at the CLC – one to get to grips with app design and the second a Teaching & Learning day which taught the Year 8s how to teach younger pupils.



The 15 students 'graduated' and were presented with their special polo shirts in Assembly.



Our Y8 students went to Woodseats Primary, Lower Meadow Primary and Bradway Primary schools and taught app design and robotics to a group of thirty Y5 and Y6 pupils.

Meadowhead School where they had a follow up session using ipads and programmable robots.

Mr Kay



Y12 Discover Languages Day



Hope Garfitt, Rahan Kaytan, Isabelle King, Loren Parker, Katie Sims, Brontë Swan and Taneisha Warner.

The day-long experience, provided entirely free of charge, was jam-packed with valuable information about studying languages in higher education and university life in general. The students enjoyed French, German or Spanish master class sessions, a seminar about why a language degree is useful and what it really involves, a “question and answer” session about moving to university, carousels in some more unfamiliar languages including Russian, a sunny tour of the university and its language facilities, advice on finance and applications and even a free lunch!

The day was highly informative, motivational and hugely reassuring and has provided our very own linguists with an unrivalled insight into the world of language learning in higher education.

Mr Merritt



On Monday 23rd June, ten of our sixth form’s most curious and aspirational Y12 students, who either study German, French and or Spanish, joined other Y12 students from around the city to participate in a Y12 Discover Languages Day at the University of Sheffield.

Keen to broaden their knowledge of studying a languages degree at a higher level were Rebecca Dronfield, Elizabeth Finney, Rebecca Gallagher,



“The best part was being able to discuss experiences with current students. It helped with major decisions; I am now confident that I’ll study languages after A-Levels.”

Rebecca Dronfield

“I learnt that life and work at university are fast-paced and it was great to meet both current students and like-minded students from across the city.”

Loren Parker

I would definitely recommend this day. I learnt so much from friendly people and I’m now even more convinced that I want to study German at university!”

Taneisha Warner

Families for Learning – Induction Evenings next term

We always strive to improve the ways that we communicate with parents. In order to help give students the best possible start to the year. Early next term we will be running Curriculum Evenings aimed at specific year groups. These will focus on key information and aim to give parents a better understanding about how they can best support their son/daughter at school in the coming year.

The dates and times are:

| | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Year 8 | Wednesday 8th October 7.30-8.30pm |
| Year 9 | Wednesday 8th October 6.00-7.00pm |
| Year 10 | Wednesday 17th September 6.00-7.00pm |
| Year 11 | Wednesday 17th September 7.30-8.30pm |
| Sixth Form | Thursday 25th September 7.00pm |

We will be writing to you in September to give you full details about these evenings. Please note, Year 7 parents are invited into school in July.

Many parents already make regular use of their secure login onto the Parental Portal allowing instant access to an increasing amount of personalised students information including assessments, attendance, homework, behavior and rewards.

If you want to find out more about the portal please contact **Mr G Bragg** at school.

We continue to develop other opportunities to invite parents into school including Progress Day, Parents' Evenings and Options and Guidance evenings for specific year groups. All students will receive three written progress reports in the year and these will also be available on the Parental Portal.

Mr Fowler

Sixth form: why should I choose Meadowhead?

We are very proud of our Sixth Form provision, which is now highly regarded in the city. Students at Meadowhead enjoy excellent teaching, support and extra-curricular opportunities. Here is a taste of what we offer:

Experienced A Level teachers and excellent range of subjects

- 2014-15 is the fifth year of A level provision at Meadowhead
- Dedicated, passionate staff inspire students to achieve high levels of success, building on strong relationships from GCSE
- New subjects are added each year: BTEC Performing Arts, Art, Craft and Design and Psychology will be taught in school from 2014-15
- Further choices available through continuing partnership with Sheffield College
- Former Meadowhead sixth-formers now attend wide range of universities across the country

High levels of support for university and employment applications

- Links with both Universities in Sheffield, plus a range of businesses
- Outside speakers from a range of institutions – from Cambridge University to Sheffield United FC – will visit school to discuss options post 18
- High-quality tutor time programme supports UCAS applications right from the start of Y12
- In-school careers advice service
- Post 18 options evening in June featuring speakers from universities and Student Finance
- Chance to participate in mock interviews for a range of options

We invite you on Thursday 6th November to our Sixth Form Open Evening (for students starting Sixth Form in September 2015). If you have any other enquiries, please contact Mrs Burdekin, Mr Sheppard, Mr Beigel, Mrs Bohan or Mrs Leonard in the Sixth Form office.

Comprehensive pastoral and academic support programme

- Highly-trained and experienced tutors and support team
- Regular parental email bulleting keeping parents up-to-date with key information
- Parents' evenings, reports, Post 16 welcome evening and Post 18 options evening
- Weekly after-school Academic Support sessions staffed by members of the sixth form team
- Tutor time programme covers broad range of key skills for study and for life
- Individual exam mentor programme: personal support for every student

Unique, ground-breaking enrichment programme

- Opportunity to spend a day a week out of school gaining work experience – potentially crucial for applications post 18
- Bespoke in-school enrichment programme covers all subject areas
- Chance to gain experience as classroom support in lower-school classes
- Student President and Vice-President
- Paid work available during lunch times
- School magazine Monkeys on Typewriters published twice a year
- Other extra-curricular activities available: sport, drama, book club

Mrs Bowker - stepping down after 39 years

Jenny Bowker is a well known member of staff who has influenced the lives of many generations of Jordanthorpe and Meadowhead pupils. Having started as a teacher of Physical Education in 1975 she progressed to being head of girls PE, Head of PE and then became an Assistant Head in 2000. After 39 years Jenny is going for a change in role, relinquishing her job as an Assistant Headteacher and becoming a part time teacher of Health Fitness & Well Being.



Jenny is a true legend of the school and it is reassuring to know that pupils will still benefit from the commitment, contagious enthusiasm and high standards that she brings to her teaching.

Mr Fowler

Retiring

Mr B Adams

We wish Brian Adams well on his retirement after twelve years as an ADT Technician, helping students in their lessons as well as giving essential technical support to the



teachers. Previously Brian taught Biology at Rowlinson School for three years, before breaking new ground as a foster parent and child minder whilst bringing up his two sons, both former Meadowhead pupils. His wife Joy is a well known Methodist minister in the community.

Brian is a man of many talents and boundless energy who is committed to his sport and voluntary work. What you may not know is that Brian competed in the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal, finishing 11th in the 20km Race Walk, and 4th in the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton. Brian continues to pass on his sporting expertise coaching new generations of athletes to national standards and has been a great asset to the Health Fitness & Well Being Faculty in school.

Brian has been an enthusiastic supporter of all aspects of education and school life for many years and will be sorely missed.

Mr M Jones

After 30 years as a Maths teacher at Meadowhead and Jordanthorpe Schools we say goodbye to Mike Jones and wish him well in his retirement.



In that time Mike has always risen to the challenge of demystifying Maths for thousands of students, always looking for new ways to engage them by linking Maths to everyday life, including through one of his main loves of sport! Mike has put this to real use, becoming something of a Fantasy Football expert, winning a number of national competitions.

Mike's other claim to fame is as fleeting TV star in the 1980's, winning several rounds of the BBC TV Quiz Show "Beat The Teacher" presented by Bruno Brookes. A young Mr Jones certainly enjoyed his celebrity status while it lasted and also won cash prizes for the school.

Thank you Mr Jones for all your work in the Maths faculty and as a Maths teacher over the years. Enjoy your retirement

Mr Fowler

Nigel Laybourne – a real gentleman

We are sad to report that Nigel Laybourne died recently. Nigel was a former teacher who taught Technology at Meadowhead and Rowlinson Schools for 39 years until his retirement in 2009.



For most of that time he was a Head of Year with a style all of his own. He was well known to generations of pupils and parents for his firm but fair expectations and his genuine concern to do his best for all pupils.

Our thoughts are with his wife Ann and daughters Rachel and Claire. Ann was a Food Technology teacher at Meadowhead for over thirty years and also retired in 2009. Rachel is a former Meadowhead pupil who achieved fantastic success as an international volleyball player winning over 100 caps for England and Great Britain, rounding off her career by participating in the London 2012 Olympic Games.

The family were overwhelmed by the many memories and messages of support, including (at the time of writing) over 800 comments and “likes” on a Facebook page started by ex-pupils – RIP – Mr Laybourne. I think that says it all.

Mr Fowler

He mentioned me on the last assembly we had in 2004.... Our year went to Pleasure island in year 8 or 9 and i left my walkman on the coach. He drove back to cleethorpes to the coach company and picked it up for me. Legend.

Such a nice teacher, helped me get an A* for food tech ☺ rip Mr Laybourne x

Could even get a thikko like me though school loved the noddy car



Brilliant teacher but most of all a brilliant man really cared about his students!!!

He taught me at rowlinson school then my daughter at Meadowhead he was a brill teacher go fly your wings r. i p xxx

Great Teacher, taught my mum and dad and then me. Had him for woodwork and he would always laugh at my attempts haha. I remember he once covered our food tech lesson and he just went around eating everyones food haha. Rip sir x

sic

“Legends, Divas and Superstars” Dance Show 2014

On the 14th of May 2014, Meadowhead pupils took part in a dance show, based around the theme Legends, Divas and Superstars. For one night, 40 Y7 to Y13 girls came together to put on a fantastic performance in which friends, family and teachers all came to support.

The girls had been rehearsing since September. The opportunity to be part of the show was open to every student with the agreement that they'd commit themselves to rehearsals. These students went above and beyond the expectations, some even attending up to three practices a week after school along with Saturday morning rehearsals, showing a great deal of dedication and self-discipline.

A huge amount of praise needs to be given to two of our Y13 students; Amber Parry and Lucy Hague. Both girls have fully enjoyed dance and have always been an active part of every dance production since joining Meadowhead School. This year they choreographed, organised and took ownership of a number of different dance pieces. They also performed a brilliant duet showcasing what fantastic performers they both are. Well done girls, we couldn't have done it without you!

It's fair to say that everyone involved really represented the school in a glowing light and should be extremely proud of themselves.

A huge thank you to all those who came to support the performers and we'll look forward to next year's show!

Mrs Tym, Miss Denton & Mrs Stubbs



Y8 and Y9 students photographed before Egyptian themed number, entitled “Dark Horse”



Y7 students ready to perform Tina Turner’s “Proud Mary”

Y10 students in their “Cry Me A River” costume.



Y8 Cricket Boys

So far this season I have been massively impressed with the team. Against Westfield and the lads knocked up a massive 160 for 2 with some great batting from Oliver Tyas and Max Robinson who both retired. Westfield managed to get 44 for 8. The team were really pleased with their performances. Our next game was a very difficult game against Birkdale who managed to gain 96 for 5 and we scored 50 for 8. The boys were still up beat with their performance as they knew it was



going to be a difficult match, which Kieran Maxted was awarded the man of the match. The final league game of this season was against Yewlands School; this was a very close battle and was a must win game. The Meadowhead boys played a very tactical game captained by Kieran Maxted and managed to come away with a victory with 106 for 2 to Yewlands 90 for 10. The boys were buzzing after the game with Tom Higginbottom being awarded man of the match for his tremendous batting and eventually had to retire after reaching his maximum run allocation as well as taking a bouncing ball through his face guard to his face.

We are now waiting to see if we have progressed to the finals, so watch this space!!!!

Mr Perry

South Yorkshire Athletics

The South Yorkshire Athletics competition took place in June at The Dorothy Hyman Stadium, Barnsley and we had a number of Sheffield representatives from Meadowhead School. There were some excellent results with 5 athletes becoming South Yorkshire Champions.

Y7 Boys - Ellis Hircock- LJ, 1st place.

Y7 Girls - Ella Sharket- walk, 1st place.

Y8 Boys - Luke Newell- 1500m, 4th place.

Y9 Girls - Abi McGaurly- HJ, 1st place.

Y10 Girls - Lauren Bennett- 200m, 2nd place.

Y11 Girls - Charlotte Mather- discus and javelin, 1st place in each.

Y11 Boys - Jonathan Shields- 3000m, 1st place.

Ms Dunbar

U14 Mixed Rounders - Sheffield Champions

On Thursday 12th June Meadowhead hosted the Sheffield Schools U14 Mixed Rounders Tournament. Meadowhead's team were in a pool with All Saints and Yewlands. After a close win over All Saints, we went on to beat Yewlands convincingly, scoring seven rounders. Ehsan Mohammed and Matt Beck both scoring two rounders each.

Our wins saw us progress to the final where we met Tapton and Handsworth Grange. Both games were unbelievably close. All three teams played at such a high standard. The game against Tapton finished in a draw, meaning we needed Handsworth to beat Tapton, which they did!

So, it was down to the last game against Handsworth. Adam Blackburn's batting was awesome; scoring the maximum three rounders. Tom, Zhane and Amy also scored valuable points, which edged our score nearer to Handsworth's.

At the 20th and final ball the score was 6 to Handsworth and 5 ½ to Meadowhead. Ellie Hatton stepped in to bat. She had to score a rounder. Ellie hit the ball low and far. She sprinted round, putting the fielders under pressure. The fielders panicked, throwing the ball to second, but missing it. Ellie continued her sprint, reaching 4th base and scoring the rounder!

Meadowhead were crowned U14 Mixed Rounders Sheffield Champions! This is an outstanding achievement. Congratulations to all the players below that were part of the team.

Top row: Sophie Mart, Ellie Hatton, Abigail Whittaker- Hardingham, Zhane Murphy, Maisie Boot, Ewan Colton, Adam Blackburn

Bottom row: Joe Newman-Billington, Ehsan Mohammed, Matt Beck, Tom Hanson
Not pictured: Melissa Hadfield, Verity Kent, Amy Beck.

Mrs Tym



Y9 Football – Season Overview

The Y9 football team has for the first time finished a season with no silverware. Although this is disappointing, and was hard for everyone to take, I can't fault the boys for their efforts, and if truth be told, it could have been so much different with a bit of luck that we just didn't get. With one week of the season to go, the team was in a position where winning the treble was a distinct possibility. The boys had 2 games left – a South Yorkshire schools Cup Final against Ecclesfield (which was also doubling up as a league title decider), and also the Sheffield schools Cup Final against All Saints School.

The first game was against All Saints at Warminster Rd. The Team were leading twice in the game through great goals from Ehsan Mohammed, and Joe Oxley. The boys were very unfortunate to concede late on, taking the game to Extra-time. The team battled well, and gave it everything, but All Saints finished the stronger, scoring in extra-time to win the game 3-2.

The boys only had 48 hours before they had to pick themselves up for the big double header. The South Yorkshire Schools Cup Final/ League decider versus Ecclesfield. After a very thorough warm up and a passionate team talk centred around, starting bright, working hard, being positive, and defending properly. We managed to concede in the first 12 seconds without touching the ball!! We regrouped, and from that point moving forward there was nothing to choose between 2 very good school teams. It wasn't until the very last minute when we had thrown every player and the kitchen sink forward, that Ecclesfield broke away to score a second, condemning the boys to a second cup final defeat within 2 days, and also handing the league title back to Ecclesfield.

This year wasn't our year, but I am sure that boys will stick together and bounce back next season. I couldn't be prouder of the team, and their commitment to school football.

A special mention to Joseph Newman-Billington, I know the boys want to thank him for his efforts in always sorting out the team.

Mr Allen.



Y10 Football – Season Overview

The Y10 boys will be the first to admit that by their standards, they have not had a brilliant season. Going into this season the team was unbeaten in over 100 local fixtures spanning a 3 year period. Although we would have loved for this to carry on, we all knew that this run would have to come to an end!! The boys lost in the South Yorkshire Schools Cup semi-final to Notre Dame. They then lost again to the same team just 1 week later in the Sheffield Schools cup Final, despite having in the region of 30 attempts on goal, and dominating the possession. The team did manage to win their 4th successive Sheffield Premier League title, this once again is a fantastic achievement and one that is very well deserved after a long hard season. The boys are in a tough league, consisting of the top 8 teams from across the city, The Y10 students managed to finish with a record of Played 7, Won 7, which takes some doing, so a massive well done and congratulations on winning the title, you have once again made me very proud.

Keep working hard lads, and stick together.

Mr Allen.



Mike Catt MBE school visit



The Y9 and Y10 Rugby teams were invited to attend a training session with Mike Catt ex England international with 75 caps and a World Cup winner's medal, Mike who is the England attack coach has just returned from England's tour of New Zealand. Mike was invited to Meadowhead School through his role as an ambassador for Yorkshire Bank who are a School trust partner.

Mike was greeted by Mr Fowler, Nathan Snookes and Mitchell O'Brien who are the current Y9 and Y10 School rugby captains and Y9 and Y10 players were selected for the training session to give them their first opportunity to train as a team in preparation for the new season starting in September. Meadowhead has a long well established tradition in Rugby Union and Mike was impressed with our previous history and the number of players who have gone on to represent the region, county, North of England and England Saxons. We also have a number of students who play and train for academies including Will Boot and Charlie Foster (Leicester Tigers) and Mitchell O' Brien (Leeds Carnegie).

Mike led a fast paced, vibrant session concentrating on core skills; he was supported by Y13 students Drubo Tafadar and Lee Monks. Lee has recently made his debut for Sheffield Tigers 1st XV. At the end of the session Mike spent some time with the players talking about his previous experiences as both a player and now a coach. Mike was also keen to stress the importance of commitment and a positive attitude which was endorsed by the coaching staff at Meadowhead who are looking forward to the new school season. All the players were given a novelty Rugby ball and player photograph provided by Yorkshire Bank signed by Mike.

The school Rugby season will start in September, Meadowhead have already entered the Rotherham schools merit table and are also hoping for a number of games against Sheffield schools. Training will take place every week with regular fixtures both in mid-week and Saturdays from October to February. All players are welcome as are parents to fixtures and tournaments.

Our thanks go to the players and Mike for making it such an enjoyable event and also Yorkshire Bank for arranging the opportunity.

Mr Hill



Barcelona/ Espanyol Football Tour – 2014



I would like to thank all of the eighty students involved in the recent football tour to Barcelona, Spain. This was the 4th trip that I have arranged and, for many reasons, this one was without doubt the best yet.

The coaching that the players received from the Espanyol staff was brilliant, I had requested that we work on attacking football, and the students weren't disappointed. The sessions were engaging, and fun, but still serious and delivered with both professionalism and high expectations. The Meadowhead students didn't disappoint delivering high quality football in every aspect. The coaching staff at Espanyol, and the Pro Ex Sports Tours representative requested that I feedback just how impressed they were with both the students attitude and the standard of play that they witnessed.

The trip was intense throughout: early starts, late finishes, hours of exercise with lots of excursions thrown in as well. The group went to watch Espanyol versus Rayo Vallecano, Espanyol managed to win the game 3-2 with a couple of late goals. The tour of the Camp Nou Stadium was a highlight for all the staff, as I am sure it was for the students as well. The stadium has a capacity of 98,787



and is bursting with football history.

We played 5 fixtures throughout the tour, winning 4 and losing just one. All teams did us proud, and I know that the staff would like to thank the students for their unbelievable support throughout the staff game. Having 80 supporters singing our names helped us through, and it is definitely the biggest crowd that a few of the staff will ever play in front of!!



Football is a sport which requires passion, dedication, concentration, teamwork, and a sense of humour, but most importantly, it is a sport that should be fun and enjoyable. This trip hopefully exposed the students to all of these aspects, especially the enjoyable part!!

The way in which the students represented themselves, the staff and the school was just phenomenal. We were so proud of the students throughout the trip, from the journey there, to the playing fields, to the excursions, and finally the journey home, the boys were just tremendous.

Once again a massive thank you to the staff that gave up their time, and to the students for their behaviour, which made the trip such an enjoyable experience for all. In the words of the boys singing their hearts out on the coach on the way home – “This was the best trip I’ve ever been on”!!

Mr Allen



Karate

I would like to congratulate Abigail Suter, Charlie Downham, Ben Jones and Bronte Russell for achieving 1st class Passes on their first Karate grading. They are all now licenced 8th KYU martial artists, and are busy training Thursdays After School 3.00-4.00pm to take their second grade by the end of the summer term.

New members welcome. Please see me for more details.



Mr Gaunt

I picked Karate because I had not had the opportunity to do it before. It is a fun activity and I like to learn new 'moves' and things for my next belt.

Charlie Downham Y7

I've just gained my first grade and am enjoying learning new things towards my next one. I enjoy hitting the bags, and doing self-defence on the mats.

Ben Jones Y7

Maureen Neill MBE

Congratulations to Maureen Neill our experienced and hardworking Chair Of Governors on being awarded an MBE in the latest Queen's Birthday Honours List.



Maureen gives up her time to work tirelessly for the school and many other organisations over many years. She also chairs the Meadowhead Community Learning Trust, is Chair of Governors at Lydgate Junior School, is a JP and serves on three charitable trusts. She is also a very proud mother and grandmother.

Maureen, thank you for the work that you continue to do for the school. Your MBE is very well deserved!

Mr Fowler

Meadowhead Bake Off 2014

The Meadowhead Bake Off is currently underway, with only 2 weeks to go until the final. The competition is run in conjunction with the "DoubleTree by Hilton" hotel who are very generously providing the fantastic prizes.



Open to Y7 and Y8, students have been given the task of creating a cookie with a creative flavouring that gives the person eating it a warm, happy feeling.

Each week a star baker is awarded by the Chef Tom Marr who comes over to taste from the Doubletree - the prize being an afternoon tea for themselves and their family at the Hilton. A runner-up is also awarded and wins a huge tin of cookies baked by the chef.

The final took place on Wednesday 16th July with all of the star bakers and runners up competing against each other. The overall star baker was Sasha Bushnell 7D for her Summer themed buns decorated as mini beach scenes! She has won a meal for four at the DoubleTree Hilton hotel.

Miss Wale





The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze 2013/14

We have 40 Y10 students taking part in the Bronze Award this year and they have now completed their training. They have been following a structured weekly training plan since January learning skills such as first aid, maps and route planning, pitching tents and cooking on Trangia stoves. This enabled them to take part in the two expedition weekends, the practice in May and the assessed qualifier expedition on 21st/ 22nd June consisting of two days walking and one night camping.

All students did exceptionally well during the diverse weather conditions ranging from floods, gales and thunderstorms to heat waves, whilst carrying all their food and equipment in rucksacks. They demonstrated excellent team skills such as organisation, time management, route planning and map skills, making sure everyone was involved and keeping spirits lifted. One group was often heard singing as they approached the checkpoints.

Over the next few weeks all students will plan and deliver a presentation outlining their aim and evaluating their journey; this will complete the expedition section. A variety of aims have been met including making a playlist of music to accompany photographs taken on the expedition, decorating a T-shirt using inspiration from scenery along the route, investigating the effect of humans on the environment and keeping a weather diary.

The students are also busy completing the other activity sections which make up the Bronze Award. The volunteering section gives students the chance to provide a service within the community whilst the physical and skills sections offer new challenges and opportunities. They are required to undertake two sections for three months and one section for six months.

Well done to all seven groups and we look forward to presenting certificates at the 'Celebratory Evening' in November.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all staff who have given their time freely to support our students during the 2013/14 Bronze Award, as without them it would not have been possible.

Mrs J. Cooke





This year's ADT GCSE show was once again a great success. The photographs on this page are a selection of a variety of work from the show.



For the first time this year our ADT A level students from Textiles and Product Design held their own exhibition and the photographs here show some of the beautifully crafted work on display.





MEADOWHEAD SCHOOL RE-ARRANGED CAR BOOT SALE

Saturday 4th October

9:00am start

To book a pitch, contact either:
Mrs E Smith or Mrs D Dixon
on 237 2723

| | Pre booked | On the day |
|---------------|------------|------------|
| Cars | £7 | £10 |
| Vans/trailers | £9 | £12 |
| Traders | £20 | £25 |
| Buyers | - | 50p |



Cars will be allowed on site from 8.15am to set up
Refreshments will be available all morning