



e-Phoenix

Volume 7

Newsletter Autumn Term 2016

Welcome
to this term's e-Phoenix,
our short and snappy newsletter. If you
are reading online, you can go to the
full article by clicking the green
Phoenix symbol.

Battlefields Trip

As we remember the 100th anniversary of the battle of the Somme this year, it was a particularly moving trip for a large group of our students from Y9 and Y13 who travelled to the Western Front in October.

World War I Remembered



"We will remember them" at the Lochnagar Crater, France.
Photo courtesy of Ethan Szurko Y10

Students explored the best preserved trench network at the Newfoundland Park Memorial and got muddy exploring the recreated trenches at the Hill 62 Sanctuary Wood Museum.

Students visited key memorials and the Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth War Cemetery in the world, as well as laying their own poppy wreath at the Menin Gate.



In school, on Armistice Day, our school fell silent as staff and students observed a 1 minute silence. All week our Y9 and Sixth Form fundraising team sold Poppy Appeal merchandise raising £492.07

Celebrations

Diamond Awards

On Tuesday 13th December it was a pleasure to hold the first of this academic year's Diamond Award Ceremonies, welcoming families and friends to join us for the presentation of certificates and Phoenix pin badges to 61 students in Y8 to Y11. Once a student has been given 100 Gold Awards, it is converted into a Diamond one and is a recognition of the attitude and determination of each student, both in their class work and extra-curricular activities. Special congratulations to Penelope and Sophie who have only just started Y8 and have already earned a Diamond Award!



Octagon GCSE Presentation 2016

On Tuesday 8th November we celebrated the achievements of last year's Y11 students at the University of Sheffield's Octagon Theatre. Staff from school and the students' families enjoyed the presentation of GCSE certificates and awards.

We were especially pleased to be able to welcome former student Paul Greaves, coach of Bryony Page, current Olympic individual trampolining silver medallist. Paul offered students warm words of encouragement and advice for the future.

Some of Paul's former teachers were in the audience, including Mrs Bowker who first encouraged him onto a trampoline when he was a Y7 student in 1992.

As well as certificate presentations, there were awards and prizes recognising students' progress and achievements. Two special prizes were awarded: the

Bryan Marsden History prize was given to Jessica Buttery and the Philip Mintoft Science Prize went to Scarlett Coddington.



Paul with Mrs Neill (Chair of Governors), Mr Fowler and the students who introduced sections of the evening



Mrs Bowker (pictured right) with Paul and Mrs Goodrum (whose daughter Paul coached)

Erasmus+ Conference

In November, Mrs Silverwood (Community Liaison and Communications Manager) attended the UK annual Erasmus Conference in Cardiff, where she showcased the Key Action 1 project on which Meadowhead School took a lead. This was a 12 month work shadowing project with our partners in Germany and Spain which has improved teacher competencies, knowledge and confidence, which has allowed the development of our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) curriculum to enrich teaching, increase uptake, and promote 11-18 career pathways.

International Links

Erasmus+ Work Experience Abroad (CEWE)

In July 8 enthusiastic Meadowhead students from Y10 - Y12 travelled to Koblenz in Germany for the last part of the ERASMUS+ Work Experience Abroad project. They met up with their exchange partners and completed 5 days work experience.

Placements included two nurseries, a primary school and a physiotherapist practice in a hospital. As well as this valuable insight into working in Germany, there were cultural visits including a tour of Koblenz, a day trip to Bonn and an open air festival. The students were so enthusiastic and open-minded and were a credit to the school. This experience will certainly open up more opportunities for them in the future and set them apart from others.



I would like to say a massive

thank you to our project partners for their support and hard work that has gone into the preparation and planning of these experiences! Please take a look at the CEWE Erasmus + website to see more.

Mrs Kelly
Head of Modern Foreign Languages



We were delighted to be awarded the International School Award from the British Council again for the period 2016 -19. We have held this award since 2004 and John Rolfe, from the British Council, said: "The school's fantastic international work has rightfully earned it this prestigious award. The International School Award is a great chance for schools to demonstrate the important work they're doing to bring the world into their classrooms. Adding an international dimension to children's education ensures that they are truly global citizens and helps prepare them for successful future careers in an increasingly global economy."

Sixth Form

'This great stage of fools'

The A Level English Literature trip at the beginning of term to watch King Lear in Stratford-Upon-Avon was a great success. 31 students and 5 members of staff enjoyed a memorable evening at the Royal Shakespeare Company, in the Bard's hometown. Students are studying the play and were treated to a very fine performance from Anthony Sher as the 'fond, foolish old man' and an excellent supporting cast. Students were extremely positive about the performance and the visit to Stratford, and it has definitely helped with their understanding in preparation for writing their coursework.

Open Evening



Reverse Advent Calendar

In the run up to Christmas, each Sixth Form tutor group has been collecting a 'reverse advent calendar' – on each day, a particular student was nominated to bring in a non-perishable food item to donate to Grace Food Bank (based in Norton, Lowedges, Jordanthorpe & Batemoor). We will be passing the donations to a representative from the food bank on Friday 16th December (pictured right).

To succeed at Sixth Form,

Alton Towers

students need to work hard, but also make the most of their leisure time. After plenty of the former in the first couple of weeks of term, Y12 and 13 students enjoyed a day of fun and team bonding at Alton Towers on Thursday 15th September. It set them up well for a term of intense academic study!



We were very pleased to welcome over 200 students and their families to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 2nd November. There was a really positive atmosphere with lots of our current Sixth Formers volunteering to share their experiences so far and answer questions. Subject teachers were on hand to give details of their courses and Mr Fowler (Headteacher) and Mrs Burdekin (Head of Sixth Form) gave an overview of what our Sixth Form offers students, including the support and guidance, details of the extensive enrichment programme and how to apply. Comprehensive information on all aspects can be found on the Sixth Form area of the school website.



Journalistic Challenge

This innovative Meadowhead Community Learning Trust project, sponsored by SUFC, is now in its sixth year. Students in Y7 have started learning some journalistic skills in preparation for their report on a football match at Bramall Lane next March. In their first workshop students were asked to build the tallest possible structure to support a football using only paper. To add an element of excitement and competition, they were divided into teams. Well done to the girl's team whose football was supported for the required 30 seconds on the tallest design.



Y11 Wear Pink team £415.91



Young Carers Cooking Club

This fun and tasty initiative began in October to support students in school who are Young Carers. Mrs Selby led the lessons with the students, who have learnt different baking and cooking techniques, including those required for a pasta bake and flapjack. They are hoping to build on these skills next term.



Y8 Christmas Jumper Day team for Save the Children



Around School

Fundraising

The Autumn term is usually a busy one for fundraising and this one has been no exception. Each year group has provided a team of volunteers responsible for the different charities. We would like to thank everyone who has supported in any way, either through giving their time or through generous donations.

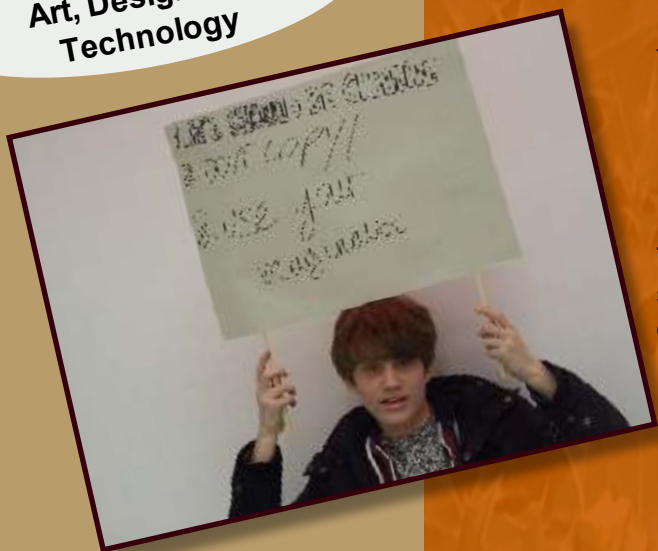
Staff Macmillan Coffee morning £219.00



Y7 Children in Need team £415.91



Art, Design and Technology



Earlier this term, 14 GCSE Art students enjoyed a visit to the Hepworth Gallery in Wakefield. The day involved exploring the sculpture works exhibited and participation in some art activities.

Y11 Hepworth Gallery Visit

Many of the students had never visited a gallery like this before and found the experience both engaging and inspiring for their own Art coursework back at school. They used the drawings of the sculptures in their sketchbook to design their own final pieces. At the end of the day, the students wrote their own "Art Manifesto."

Painting with Light

Some of our Y11 students have been experimenting with a camera and coloured lights to create striking images. In an after-school workshop Lucy Percival, Olivia Smith, Anna Williamson and Daisy Tudor 'painted' with light in a pitch black room whilst the camera shutter was held open.



Y7s Get Creative

Y7s have been enjoying their ADT lessons in their first term at Meadowhead!

Ceramics



Art



Textiles



Food Technology



MEADOWHEAD SCHOOL'S

production of...

SCHOOLS WILL ROCK YOU

THE MUSICAL QUEEN • Ben Elton

7th, 8th and 9th February 2017
Doors open at 6:30pm
Tickets available at the Finance Office
13th January 2017
(9th January for cast members)
Concessions - £3.50

presented by permission of www.schoolswillrockyou.com

**A Date for
your Diary!**

Rehearsals are well underway for our next exciting whole school production, following on from the success of *The Wiz* last February.

Inspired by the hit musical 'We Will Rock You' this version for schools gives us the chance to develop our own staging. The story follows two revolutionaries as they try to save Rock in a post apocalyptic world and will feature the songs "Another One Bites the Dust," "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Killer Queen," "We Will Rock You," "We Are The Champions" and many more.

**This
is not
a show
to be
missed!**

Residents at White Willows care home enjoyed Christmas carols on Friday 9th December, performed by a small group of our students and their brass band instruments. They were accompanied by Mr Wolstenholme and Mr Johnson.



We wish all staff, students, parents/carers, governors and friends of Meadowhead School a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Students return to school after the Christmas holiday on **Wednesday 4th January 2017**

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

At the end of September, Miss Roberts took 12 students to Wales High school to take part in a STEM challenge. Students were given the task of making a racing car which propelled itself down the corridor and then a trebuchet which would launch a projectile over a wall as far as possible. The students really got into the activities and worked well as a team. Unfortunately, they didn't win but they did learn more about how STEM subjects are used in different jobs. They all behaved really well and made Miss Roberts very proud.

Royal Society of Chemistry Quiz

Aiden (Y9), Eve (Y9), Melissa (Y10) and Euan (Y11) represented the school at this annual 'Top of the Bench' quiz, held on

Thursday 1st December at King Edward VII Upper School.

Afterwards, Aiden commented on the evening:

"We all really enjoyed the experience. We did many fun practicals including separating and identifying unknown solutions, finding the melting and freezing point of a white crystalline solid and we also participated in chemistry quizzes. One of the highlights was the massive buffet with a large variety of food and treats! The evening was much more fun than expected and even though we didn't win, we all had a really great time."

Chemistry Quiz



Full Steam Ahead to York for Future Engineers!

On the 21st October a group of 11 aspiring engineers from Year 8 headed off to the National Railway Museum in York to take part in a regional

project aimed at promoting engineering as a career.

It was an exceptionally well organised event held in the magnificent grounds of the National railway museum. Students were challenged to complete 3 problems located in the main hall of the museum with supervision from the organisers, their volunteers and Mr Hegggs supporting from Meadowhead.



Each problem related to the railway system and tasks that engineers would face when dealing with such a complex and vital part of our transport infrastructure.

The students were all amazing and were fully engaged in all of the sessions that were held. There were many other schools represented on the day and the Meadowhead students certainly rose to the challenge of being enthusiastic and immersed in what they were doing; this was even more impressive given that all students had to give up a day of their half term break in order to attend.

It wasn't all hard work though and we all had an opportunity to explore the museum and be given a guided tour by one of the knowledgeable volunteers.

The event was part of our S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) enrichment and it was clear from the reactions of the students that the future of our railways is in safe hands.

York Railway Museum



Y7 Robotics Festival

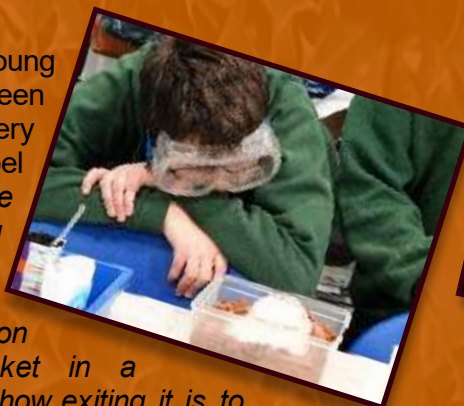
Four Year 7 students attended a robotics convention at Hatfield school on 25th November, organised by the STEM outreach branches of Tablet Academy and WPS Westward. The convention showcased 8 different robots that the students were able to program and use in a number of engaging and challenging tasks, including building, drawing and robot sumo-wrestling! At the end of the convention, school groups competed to program a robot to complete an obstacle course. All the Meadowhead students were enthusiastic and acted as excellent role models to the Lower Meadow primary school group that travelled to the convention with us.



Y7 After School Science Club

Budding young scientists have been busy in this very popular club - thank you to Annabel Milns 7G for writing this for us: *"We have been establishing many exciting experiments such as: fire snakes, alien blood and exploding volcanoes."*

We have also spent five weeks on making a high flying water rocket in a competition. In science club, I like how exiting it is to create our own experiments and projects that help us learn about reactions and forces"



Did you attend Meadowhead School, Rowlinson or Jordanthorpe?
Why not join our network of former students to receive invites to special events throughout the year on:

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/meadowhead>



STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

The Chemistry of Drugs

Sixth Formers attended a special Christmas lecture at the University of Sheffield on 7th December. The lecture showed how the chemistry we learn in class relates to the real world. The students found it really interesting to learn about Quinine in tonic water and the methamphetamine production in TV's 'Breaking Bad'. Students also enjoyed getting free stuff from The Royal Society of Chemistry!



Science Talks

We welcomed one of our ex Sixth Formers, Oliver Scott (who went on to gain a First Class Degree in Physics with Nuclear Technology) to give a talk to our current Sixth Formers and keen Y10/11s about the wider opportunities of nuclear physics and university on the 29th November. On Friday 9th December Dr Chris Booth, a physics university lecturer from Sheffield University, came in to give a talk on particle physics - 'Quarks, Leptons and the LHC' to our Sixth Form students (pictured above).

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Community Engagement

Family Learning



Following the success of our family learning workshops last year, from October we have welcomed Y7-8 students accompanied by a parent, carer or other relative on Thursday evenings to learn something new, and to support them with their learning in various subject areas.

These sessions started with a series of three 'Reading Together for Fun' workshops led by Mrs Tomlinson to take away some of the barriers that make reading enjoyable.

In the 'Great Meadowhead Sewing Bee' Mrs Goodrum and her group have been recycling men's patterned shirts and transforming them into something fun and creative, whilst developing confidence with the sewing machine and hand-sewing skills.

Feedback from all families has been extremely positive once again. One Y7 parent commented "I've really enjoyed spending quality time with my child learning in a fun and relaxed setting and learning new tips on how to help my child improve their reading"

Further sessions for Y7-9 families will be taking place on Thursday evenings in the New Year, and if you would like to join in, please contact Mrs Silverwood
enquiries@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

The sewing bee group with their finished items



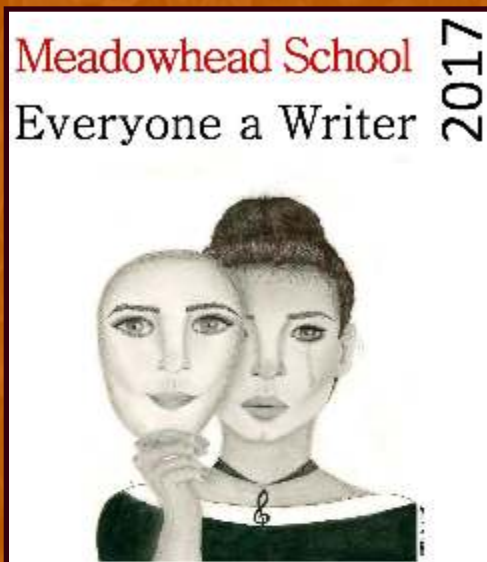
Everyone a Writer

We are inviting entries from adults in the Meadowhead Community and Trust partners to enter Everyone a Writer 2017 with this year's theme of 'Being Human'.

This annual creative writing competition encourages entries from Trust primary schools, Meadowhead students and the wider Meadowhead community and is now in its fifth year.

If you would like to write either a piece of prose or a poem (500 words max), please send your entry by **Friday 10th March** to everyoneawriter@meadowhead.sheffield.sch.uk

The Celebration Evening is on Thursday 4th May 7.00pm at Meadowhead School. All published writers will receive a free anthology.



National Citizen Service

We have recently launched the National Citizen Service (NCS) "It all starts at YES" in assembly and form time for all our Y11 students. We are encouraging all Y11s to sign up to take part in this fantastic opportunity next Summer – the first available week is July 3rd 2017, but there is some flexibility for students as to which week they start the programme.

The cost per student is just £50 and payment can be in instalments – however we are proud to announce we have an early bird offer to receive £15 off for a limited time (please enter "15offncs" when signing up on: <https://www.ncsefitrust.co.uk> or see Mr Cocken for details).



NCS is a nationwide programme that can help develop skills and boost confidence over a three week programme: 'Adventure', 'Skills' and 'Social Action' and really can be an experience to change lives. You can read more on their website: <http://www.ncsyes.co.uk/what-is-ncs>

New Year Language Classes

Language classes for adults begin again on Thursday 12th January 2017 from 7pm. If you have not been before and want to brush up on your existing language skills you are welcome to join one of our post-beginners, intermediate or advanced classes. Unfortunately we are not able to run a complete beginners class but we do offer the 10 week interactive computer based 'Eurotalk' course to help you learn the basics in one of 19 different languages!



An Action Packed Autumn Term!

Basketball, Netball, Dance, Rugby, Hockey, Trampolining, Handball, Badminton, Cross-Country, and Dodgeball. The spring term will see us add to this list with other activities such as Cricket, Rounders, Table Tennis, Snooker, Pool and Athletics.

We urge all students to do some sort of extra-curricular physical activity each week and thank parents/carers for their support too.

Girls Football

All Y7/8/9 Girls Football teams have made a great start to the season. Well done to the U13 girls team who are in the South Yorkshire quarter finals against Westfield. The U16 girls team enjoyed a good run in the National Cup beating teams from Huddersfield and Wakefield. They also took part in the Sheffield schools five a side competition coming fifth in the first tournament. The U15 girls team got to the last 64 in the National cup and lost to Westfield. The team are still in the South Yorkshire competition beating Hungerhill school 3-1 in the last match. They are due to play Wales school after Christmas to try and get into the semi-final. The team will also take part in a local Futsal league straight after Christmas.



Rugby

All Y7 boys have followed rugby in PE lessons for the first term and have really taken to the challenge of what is a new game to most. An after school squad has been training with Sheffield Tigers RUFC coaches. We have played a number of schools at the Sheffield RUFC Abbeydale ground and the team really started to show its full potential winning 4 out of 5 games.

Y7s also played against each other in a Possibles v Probables match. New players who want to join can do so in the New Year.

The Y8 team won against schools such as Silverdale, Tapton, Bradfield and King Egbert. The team has a number of new players who have all made a positive impact representing Meadowhead.

We have had a multitude of clubs running such as Fitness Suite, Football, 5-a-side football,



Football Scholarship training

Boys Football

Y9 boys are still going strong in the national cup and are unbeaten this season. We have 3 teams still in the county competition and the Y7 boys are looking forward to the Sheffield Cup Quarter final draw.

The Y7 B team have been training well each week at Mr Leesley's 5-a-side club and were unlucky to lose to Firvale School a couple of weeks ago in their first fixture. Mr Whitaker wishes to praise the Y8 boys for the team's outstanding performance in reaching the last 16 of the South Yorkshire Schools Cup beating Dinnington 5-1.

Under Mr Float's guidance, the Y11 boys football team have produced some good performances in the league. The Meadowhead/Sheffield FC Football Scholarship teams have started very well, the U17 team has won all but one league game and the U18 squad is currently unbeaten in the National College League Category 2 division.



The Y9 rugby team has also made a good start to the year, such was the demand for places we managed to field 2 teams at a recent tournament hosted by Sheffield Tigers. Once again this year there are a number of new players who are all keen to learn.

Sports

Netball



This has been a popular extra-curricular choice for girls and the Y7 team has had a great start, winning 4 out of 5 fixtures

at the league meet.

Many of the Y8 team are now taking on a leadership role, creating new drills and practices within the club. They also won convincingly against Outwood Academy earlier in the year, with a 18-3 victory!

Y9s are off to a flying start with their training, regularly attending as a team and strengthening their bond. They were unfortunate against Silverdale despite a valiant performance.

The Y10 team also had a convincing win against Outwood Academy (18-5) setting the squad up for a brilliant upcoming season.

At the top of the school, the Y11 team have taken on a leadership role with the lower years and regularly coach the younger teams. They are a strong squad who have dedicated many hours to their training alongside their studies for trial exams this year.

Overall, a very impressive start for netball this season, all teams have upcoming fixtures and tournaments to look forward to!

Sheffield FC Scholarship Squad



Sports at Meadowhead

Read our
regular Sports
News on the
website!

Cross Country

Cross Country runners



The Cross Country season is well underway with 4 meetings down and a few still to come. The weather has been relatively kind so far and the students have been absolutely outstanding in terms of their overall effort and attitude at the events. We have enjoyed some fantastic results from both teams and individuals with many top 10 finishes and a handful of top 3 finishes and one 1st place.

Hockey Club

The hockey club has again increased in numbers and ability this year, so much so that Mr Sheppard and Mr Beigel felt that the team was ready to play their first fixture. The boys were unfortunately beaten quite convincingly by Dronfield school but they did however enjoy the experience and will certainly learn from it going in to the next game.

Trampolining Club

Beginners bounce on Mondays and the more experienced trampolinists bounce every Friday. There was an amazing response to the Monday club at the start of term – we had to create 2 groups, who now train fortnightly and they are all making good progress, with most having learnt all the elementary moves and are now working on routines. Some of the Y7 & 8 girls from Monday's groups will be chosen to represent the school at the Sheffield Schools Championships in March 2017.

Friday's trampolining group are perfecting the more difficult skills and working on advanced routines ready for the competition in March. With so much talent here, it is going to be difficult selecting team members!

Badminton

The KS3 badminton squad recently took part in the Sheffield Schools competition, entering 2 teams, 1 in each pool. Both teams performed well and were a credit to the school.

Dance Club

The girls that attend dance club are working extremely hard in preparation for the school production 'Schools Will Rock You' which will take place in February.

The HFWB department would like to thank and praise all students who have made the effort to attend activities and for their commitment representing Meadowhead. A big thank you to the dedicated staff who facilitate the clubs, fixtures and competitions, especially to Mr Pitman for overseeing the programme.
Mr Allen, Head of Health Fitness and Wellbeing Faculty



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Academy Trust**

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