

# Meadowhead School

## Academy Trust



# e-Phoenix

Volume 8

Newsletter Spring Term 2017

**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 on the green  
symbol next to it.

### Sixth Form Building Gets the Green Light!

We are very pleased to announce

that we have the full go ahead for building work to commence in April 2017 on our long awaited Sixth Form building, with all the legal and contractual documents agreed and signed by all the PFI partners.

The centre will include recreational and private study areas, dedicated Sixth Form teaching rooms and the most up-to-date technology. Keep an eye out for progress updates on our website and social media.



Artist's Impression

### Journalistic Challenge

We were super excited to welcome footballer Jake Wright from Sheffield United to one of the Journalistic Challenge workshops where he enjoyed being quizzed by students in our own 'press conference'.

This project is now in its 6th year, bringing together Y6 pupils from our Trust primary schools with our Y7/8 students to generate enthusiasm and inspiration to write for a purpose. At the end of the project students watched Sheffield United win at Bramall Lane, making notes for their match reports to be submitted next month. SUFC will award prizes to the best 4 final reports.

A big thank you to Jake and to Sheffield United Community Foundation for supporting this exciting workshop.





## Out and About

### Chatsworth Reward Trip

At the very end of last term, 30 pupils from Y7 and Y8 were taken to the 'Chatsworth at Christmas' event to reward them for their fantastic reviews. Whilst there they got the opportunity to visit the farmyard, adventure playground, gardens and Chatsworth House itself where they saw the magnificent Christmas display and a performance from a ballerina performing 'The Nutcracker'.



### English Cinema & Theatre Trips

**A Monster Calls.** We took a group of Y9 students to see this film because we teach it as the modern novel. Students displayed excellent behaviour and really engaged with some very difficult, emotional themes.

**Blood Brothers.** Due to high demand (100 on the first night, 150 on the second), we spent two nights at the theatre watching Blood Brothers with Y10 and Y11 students, as part of their GCSE Literature studies. Behaviour was fantastic as usual and all students and staff really enjoyed the performance.

**Dr Frankenstein.** A wonderful group of conscientious Y10 and Y11 students went to see an interesting interpretation of Mary Shelley's 'Frankenstein' at the Crucible Theatre. This was especially useful to those who are interested in studying A Level Literature and the students who study Frankenstein at GCSE. An excellent evening was had by all.



### Lyceum Theatre Trip

30 students from Y7 and Y8 were taken to the Lyceum Theatre to see 'Running Wild', a fantastic show with puppets as the lead characters. The students were chosen from those with the best reviews for the term and all had a fantastic time, especially Ms Evans who cried all the way through!

### David Crystal Lecture

A Level Linguistic students plus a host of teachers attended the popular David Crystal lecture at St George's Church. This event runs annually and raises money for the charity supported by the University of Sheffield's English Society, ICAN. We have taken a group of Sixth Form Linguists for several years and the lecture was fantastic as usual.

### Psychology Conference Y12/13

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 42 Sixth Form students attended this highly informative conference at Hulme Hall, Manchester, accompanied by Ms Faulkner and Mrs Stubbs. The 2 main speakers, Jean-Marc Lawton and Dave Cox (both of whom are involved with the AQA exam board) spoke on topics including 'Memory, Research Methods and Abnormality' and 'How to answer a range of exam questions' - a jam-packed programme for success in Psychology!

Hollie Robson won a £15 voucher at the end of the conference for asking the best question "Are some evaluation points more impressive to examiners than others and if so what are they?"

Conference organisers commented on how polite Meadowhead students were. One student, MBon Ngwenya, summed it up as a 'captivating knowledge fest'.





## Diamond Awards



*Ella, Lucia and Reuben with Mr Fowler and their Double Diamond Awards*

86 students received a Diamond Award - 15 from Y8, 26 from Y9, 32 from Y10 and 13 from Y11.

### Diamond Awards and Celebration Assemblies

At the end of the Spring Term we celebrated students' achievements, efforts and positive attitude with the Diamond Award Ceremony for students who have gained 100 Gold awards from staff.

Special mention goes to the 3 Y10 students pictured above who received a Double Diamond Award! In the Celebration Assemblies nominated students also received an award or certificate, with prizes for 100% attendance, never being late and no C3 detentions. Well done to all these students!



In the hall we now have a 'wall of fame' for students who have achieved a Diamond Award - we look forward to filling the walls with many more in future years! Keep up the good work everyone.

### World Book Day

We started the day with DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) and it was great to see so many different books being read, though popular author David Walliams featured in many classrooms! In Y7/8 English lessons during the week they used JK Rowling's book 'Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them' as inspiration for some creative writing.

Staff shared posters of their Fantastic Books and the special £1 Book Tokens were handed out which students could use in this month's Scholastic book leaflet or in bookshops.



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

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



## Celebrations and Events

Y7

It was lovely to see our Y7s receiving their awards for excellent behaviour, attendance and punctuality both as individuals and for their forms. Also joining the assembly were subject teachers who marked the achievements in their areas too. Mr Pitman and the student Sports Leaders shared the excellent sporting success of Y7s representing Meadowhead across the city.

Y8/Y9/Y10/Y11

Well done to all students who were entered into the prize draws and to the winners who received a £10 voucher. You can find names of the students on our website.



Highest Attendance:  
8G, 9B, 10D & 11G

Highest Competencies:  
9F, 10L & 11I

Fewest Cs: 8I, 9I, 10D & 11B

### History Comes Alive!



Y8s enjoyed their history coming alive in February when they were given the opportunity to become soldiers of the English Civil War in interactive lessons, trying on re-enactment clothes and equipment, courtesy of Mrs Webb.



## VIP Visitors Welcomed



### Sixth Formers Quiz Local MP

Louise Haigh MP visited our Sixth Form

Briefing on Wednesday 15th February to be quizzed on a range of topics. She spoke about the parliamentary vote on Brexit and Article 50 and the dramatic change in the political landscape during her two years as an MP. Sixth Formers asked questions on a range of topics including Donald Trump's proposed state visit, the felling of Sheffield's trees, employment prospects following the EU referendum and the funding of the NHS. This was Louise's third visit to speak to Sixth Formers and we would like to thank her for her time and interest in the views and questions of Meadowhead Sixth Formers.



### A Level Presentation Evening

We welcomed back last year's Y13 students and their families to a celebration evening and presentation of A Level Certificates on 3rd January 2017. It was lovely to catch up with everyone!

### Hola!

We welcomed a record number of 21 Spanish students and 2 teachers from our partner school in Zaragoza for the first leg of our annual Spanish exchange between 28th March - 4th April.

Y9/Y10 families hosted the students and all enjoyed a week of exciting trips and activities such as a trip to York and its tasty Chocolate Story attraction, Sheffield city centre town trail and VIP reception in the Lord Mayor's parlour, and Chatsworth House tour and gardens on a glorious sunny Sunday – they certainly brought the Spanish sunshine with them for the week! They also experienced lessons with their partners and visited



### International Links

Lower Meadow and Bradway schools to talk to their classes about life in Spain and teach them a few words in Spanish too!

All students had such a fantastic time that there were tears when we waved them off and they now can't wait to return to Spain in May.





## Gulfoss



## International Trips



## Iceland

February 2017 saw the inaugural geography department visit to Iceland. 20 sixth formers and 2 staff set off, with great expectations, to explore the 'land of fire & ice'.

Thankfully, this amazing country did not disappoint and everyone was quickly under its spell!

Students experienced snow, ice, waterfalls, crashing waves, mud pools and steam vents, dramatic landscapes and the Northern Lights! Their adventure didn't end on leaving Iceland as they were in for a turbulent landing in Manchester during storm Doris! Certainly a trip never to forget.

## Kerið



## Reynishverfi



Please visit our website for a full description of this fantastic trip and lots more photos!



## German Language Experience

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March, Mr Merritt and Miss Klaes took a group of 12 Y10 and Y11 GCSE German students

on an intensive German speaking course at a specialist school in Birmingham.

The group became detectives for the morning and investigated the murder of bank manager Richard Reich - all interrogation of suspects was in German! In the afternoon students had fun with vocabulary games based on realistic role play scenarios and, after changing sterling into euros at a bureau de change, went shopping for real snacks and souvenirs in the mock shopping village. Once again all of this involved speaking German throughout. This really boosted their confidence and language skills and will be incredibly valuable for their studies and impending exams.





# World of Work Week

In the first week of March, we hosted our annual World of Work Week to highlight to students the importance of having aspiration and the significance of achieving academic success. During the week we;

- Invited employers to exhibit in the Rosling where students were inspired and challenged by our visitors
- held assemblies to focus on a motivational 'can-do' attitude towards life
- invited in class speakers who linked their jobs with the subject area they presented in
- facilitated after school careers talks to probe a little deeper into careers
- taught lessons as part of their week to introduce the World of Work theme to subject areas
- displayed motivational posters looking at staff ambitions, key skills and aspirational messages

Overall, we hosted 77 exhibitors and 17 classroom speakers representing 39 different areas of working life to help engage our youngsters with the world of work.



Of the employers who visited who completed our anonymous survey 100% said the event was worthwhile, as did the school staff. It is always pleasing to hear that 100% of the employers said the students' attitude was positive.



'Market' place information stalls in the Rosling

*Read the full story on our website...*



We welcomed Emma Hibbert from Gripple to a packed assembly hall to talk to Y8 and Y9 students about how important languages are in the world of work.

Emma gave a presentation in which she spoke of her experiences and explained to students how languages open opportunities for them (often unexpectedly) when it comes to their working lives. She mentioned that graduates with languages can command higher salaries and have wider opportunities, both in this country and abroad.

It was a very interesting talk and feedback from the students showed they enjoyed themselves and found it very useful.



Jason Oldham (Hart Shaw Accountants) in a Maths lesson

We would like to offer our appreciation and thanks to all our visitors who generously gave their time to come into school during the week.



### Y13 Mock Interviews

Our Y13s gained some valuable experience at their mock interviews in March, from submitting a CV to being interviewed by a real employer related to the area of work the students are interested in pursuing as a career. The employers who participated were extremely impressed with how well the students performed.



## Mock Business Interviews

### Y10 Business Visits Programme

During March and April we have managed to provide over 70 students in Y10 with the opportunity to visit one of the businesses in our Community Learning Trust. Individual students were matched with an employer based on their current career aspirations. Students have had the chance to meet with employers, tour their facilities and discuss the types of skills and attributes that would be required to work for each company. The project has been a great success leading to offers of work experience and potential future

employment for some of the students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the businesses involved who gave up their valuable time. Each visit was extremely well planned with staff taking a genuine interest in providing the students with a professional and informative experience. We really do appreciate the support of our Trust partner businesses and consider ourselves fortunate to have such obliging participants.

*Mr Heggs*

Businesses involved; Bradway Primary, Gripple Ltd, Double Tree Hotel, WCEC Architects, AMRC, Graves Leisure, Yorkshire Bank, Black Eye Project, and Henry Boot.



### Y10 Mock Interviews

There was a certain amount of anxiety for our Y10s as they prepared for these, but they were put at ease by the employers and confidence grew as the students received constructive feedback which will really help them in their future job applications. A huge thank you to all the interviewers from local businesses and employers who supported us with both the Y13 and Y10 interviews. Between them they met 330 Y10s and 118 Y13s!





# STEM

(Science, Technology,  
Engineering and  
Maths)

## Science Week

Students and their parents enjoyed fascinating talks, demonstrations and hands-on activities during this year's Science Week ( 13th -17th March).



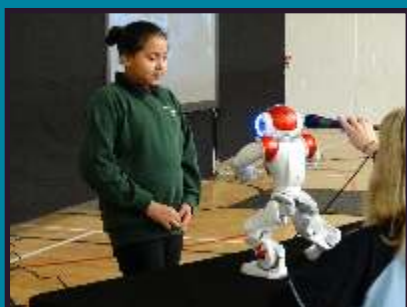
The final talk was from Dennis Ashton, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, on the theme of 'Living in Space' and it was great to hear so many well thought out questions from our students in response.



Professor Gehring from the University of Sheffield spoke about degrees of cold and showed us the effects of liquid nitrogen on blu-tak, rubber tubing, balloons and daffodils.



PHD students and their Professor from the University of Sheffield gave an insight into how chemical engineering can solve problems and make positive changes for our environment - at each stage students got the chance to do their own experiments.



## STEM Roadshow

Our Y7 and Y8 students were treated to an inspiring assembly in February as the STEM roadshow team demonstrated (with help from the students) their impressive drone and robot technology.

Students also learnt about the BAE Systems programming behind it and the valuable use of unmanned technology by the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

## Pop Maths Quiz at SHU Maths Education Department



On 4<sup>th</sup> March, 12 dedicated students from Meadowhead took part in this annual quiz - we have been taking part in this event for over ten years! This year we had two teams from Y8 and one team of Y13 students. All really enjoyed the challenge and although we didn't win, all can be congratulated for their dedication and perseverance as well as their fantastic problem solving skills, coping with 20 questions that varied in difficulty - from pretty hard to almost impossible! *You can read more about this on our website and try some of the questions!*



## Schools Will Rock You

In February our students performed lots of Queen's favourite songs such as 'Another One Bites the Dust', 'Radio Ga Ga' and 'Killer Queen' as well as a rousing 'We Will Rock You' and finale of 'Bohemian Rhapsody' in the whole school production of 'Schools Will Rock You'. This special version for schools of the hit musical enabled a wide range of students to take part, with acting, singing and dancing opportunities, as well as playing in the live band.

The story is set in a world where live music is banned and everyone must watch the same movies and listen to computer generated music. A small group of Bohemians try to restore free thought and live music. Rock music is saved when they are joined by Galileo and Scaramouche and a guitar is found amongst the ruins of an old stadium. Thank you to everybody's hard work in bringing this production to life and for families and friends who came along and enjoyed the show!

## Creative Talents



## Aspiring Photography Student

We are very pleased to be able to share some photos from Josh in Y9 and tell you a bit about his love of photography. One of Josh's weasel pictures was selected by the BBC Springwatch team to be shown on their Unsprung programme last year (2016) and won a Highly Commended Award! Josh says he would love to make a career out of his photography.



*You can read more about Josh and view other stunning photos on our website.*



## Trust Choir

Our 'Meadowhead Community Learning Trust' choir led by our professional conductor, Steve Roberts and school music staff, entertained packed audiences on 2 nights in April for our 7th annual MCLT concert.

150 students from 6 primary schools and Meadowhead sang their hearts out, performing individual and joint songs from famous Musicals such as Grease, Wizard of Oz, Aladdin, Mary Poppins, and Oliver.



This event is a fantastic celebration of our Trust community of schools and businesses coming together to have fun and raise funds for other MCLT projects to improve literacy, numeracy and provide family learning opportunities for our most vulnerable students (aged 3-19) in the Meadowhead Community of schools.



## Around School and Our Community

### Fundraising for Save the Children

During their Y7 Ethics lesson Miss

McCaffrey set a fundraising challenge and Esther and Eve were straight into it with Eve & Lucy also jumping in to help. They organised donations and we were inundated with supplies. Altogether the girls and I sold cake/buns/cereal bars and raised a total of **£117.40** which will all be donated to the Save the Children Fund.

We thoroughly enjoyed it and glad we could make a difference.

Thanks to family, friends and staff for their donations. *Mrs Dixon*

### E-Books

A reminder that students can now listen to e-books for

free through our e-book library platform! There is a link on the student portal or click the green phoenix symbol here.

### Holiday Language Taster Special Offer!

Come and try our fun

Holiday language tasters for 6 weeks to help you get by in French, Spanish or Italian this summer!

We are offering either 25% off for any parent of a current Meadowhead student, or a free child's place (age 10 upwards) with every full paying adult learner.

For further details and to enrol online follow the link below and quote **HOL25E** to redeem the offer.



### Y8 Superstars

Y8 are proud to be piloting a 'prefect' system to help make the Y8 base run smoothly. The 'Superstars' have been chosen as those with the best reviews for attitude and will help support form tutors and the Year 8 team every morning. This is a fantastic leadership opportunity and we look forward to seeing the group develop.

### Y8 Secret Agents

There are spies among us! Miss Miller has recruited a group of Secret Agents to report back on students doing good deeds for other people and generally being friendly and helpful. Those reported will receive silver awards and postcards home. So keep smiling, you never know who's watching!



### Red Nose Day

A fantastic fundraising effort for

Red Nose Day! We raised £643.76 - thanks to the students in the Y9 fundraising team for all their enthusiasm selling red noses and collecting money from staff and students who accessorized their uniforms with red on the day.



### Match Day!

Following on from the final Journalistic Challenge workshop (please see the front page article), here are our budding young reporters ready to put their journalistic skills into practice whilst watching Sheffield United beat Charlton Athletic 2 - 1 at Bramall Lane on Saturday 18th March.

Follow us on Twitter



<https://twitter.com/MeadowheadSch>

Get news and events as they happen

Like us on Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/MeadowheadSchool>



## Sports Update

We are certainly a very active school! A tremendous effort by all and some excellent competition results. The PE department would like to thank and praise all students who have made the effort and had a go! Don't forget to check the new club list for the Summer Term.

### Girls Football

The **girls U12s** have competed in two mini tournaments and played their hearts out, displaying in Miss Bowlers own words 'Excellent effort and determination'! The

**U13s**, which is a mix of both Y7 and Y8 girls have reached the final of the South Yorkshire Cup Vs Horizon, to be played on Thursday 6th April which is a tremendous achievement; we wish them luck in their bid for silverware. The squad has finished in 3rd place overall in the Sheffield league. They are a lovely bunch of students who work extremely hard during every match and training sessions. The **U15 girls team** got to the last 64 in the National cup and lost to Westfield. The team were unlucky to be beaten by Wales School in the quarter final of the South Yorkshire Schools Cup.

### Boys Football

The season is drawing to a close and the **Y9** boys are again Premier League champions of the city, but were unlucky to lose in the semi-finals of both the Sheffield

and South Yorkshire Cup. The **Y7** boys were narrowly beaten in the Sheffield Cup quarter final but are still doing well in the league. The Y8 lads have been playing in the top league for Y8 school football and reached the last 16 in the S. Yorkshire Cup. The **Y10** football team have been very successful; winning 7 league games from 7. This makes them champions of their league. Next season they will be in the premiership with some of the top school teams in the City. **Y11** boys football team has pulled together this year with Mr Float's guidance and have produced some good performances in the league. The team has produced their highest scoring season: 17 goals scored in five matches. Every game was hard-fought and well-competed, and played with the right spirit. **The Meadowhead/Sheffield FC Football Scholarship** teams have surpassed all expectations; the **U17** team has won all but one league game and still have a good chance of winning their league. A special mention must go to the **U18** squad, the team is currently unbeaten in the National College League Cat. 2 division; they require one more victory to win the league and 3 more victories to produce the perfect unbeaten season.

### Rugby

Despite losing their first ever game 50-0 to Silverdale, the same

group of **Y7** boys have just played them again in a thrilling Sheffield School's final at Abbeydale Sports Club pitch, this time beating them to become Champions! The **Y8** team have produced a number of quality performances and did really well to be runners up in the Sheffield City finals. The Y9s have also participated in a number of tournaments, playing with great team spirit.

### Hockey

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. They did, however, enjoy the experience and will certainly learn from it going in to the next game.



Y10 Football squad



Y9 Football squad

### Athletics

Y7 and Y8 boys and girls recently represented us at

the **Sheffield Indoor Athletics competition**. Mr Perry and Miss Fantom accompanied the students. They had a great day, all students from Y7 and Y8 behaved impeccably and represented Meadowhead very positively. All the teams gave 100% and did very well especially the Y7 boys who finished 3rd in the competition.



Y7 Rugby Champions

### 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.





**U12s Netball Team**



**Netball**

It has been a fantastic season for all Meadowhead Netball teams this year. Training has been extremely busy with all year groups working together to improve each week. The **U12** team finished 2nd in their league and they have qualified for the city play offs to be held after the Easter break, meaning that they will play in the top four teams in Sheffield and stand a chance at becoming overall city champions. The **U13** netball team have absolutely dominated their league this season, winning all games and claiming overall 1st place. The **U14** team has taken on a big leadership role within training sessions this year, learning many new drills and skills from outside clubs attended. Improved teamwork led to gaining 1st place within the league this year. The **U15s** have also had leadership roles, proving vital in the assistance of the U12 Tournament held at Meadowhead. The girls have undertaken valuable netball officiating training too. The squad finished in 3rd place this year, in addition to finishing in 5th place during their U15 Tournament held at Goals - a tremendous season for all our netballers!

**Dance**

Mrs Stubbs team of dancers showed 100% commitment as they dedicated countless hours to rehearsals and performance for 'Schools Will Rock You'. Mrs Stubbs stated that 'It has been a great experience once again to be a part of a whole school production run so professionally by Mrs Masson-Wilson'. All dancers were very professional, both backstage and performing to sell out audiences.

**Cross Country**

The season has finished and Meadowhead was well represented across the 6 meetings, with outstanding attitude, effort and results. 4 students ran for Sheffield at the South Yorkshire Schools Cross Country Championships with 3 students qualifying to represent South Yorkshire at the English School Cross Country Championships in Norwich.



**Dance Performance**

**Trampolining**

We were very happy to again host the **Sheffield Schools Trampolining Championships**. In total there were 225 competitors from 12 Sheffield schools of all ages. Meadowhead entered 38 competitors in 8 competitions, all the boys and girls performed brilliantly with some stand out individual performances. The U16 Girls Novice team finished 3rd, the U15 Girls Closed team finished 3rd and the U15 Girls Elite team finished 2nd. In the younger age groups the U12 'A' team were 2nd and the U12 'B' team were 3rd. The time effort and dedication from all competitors in the run up to the event should be highly commended. Mrs Bowker has nothing but praise for all the students involved.

I would personally like to thank my team of dedicated staff that give up their own time to enable the clubs, fixtures and competitions to happen and to Mr Pitman for tirelessly overseeing the programme. *Mr Allen, Head of Health Fitness and Wellbeing Faculty*

