

# MEADOWHEAD COMMUNITY LEARNING TRUST



Working together to:

- Raise aspirations
- Provide opportunities
- Improve achievement

*Newsletter 2016-17*



The Meadowhead Community Learning Trust (MCLT) was established in July 2009 by Meadowhead School, 6 education and 3 local business partners, and was the first of its kind in Sheffield. The aim of our charitable trust is to work together to improve the education, enrichment and career pathways for 4000 learners aged 3-19 in the Meadowhead area, regardless of their background or academic ability. Over the past 7 years, MCLT has gone from strength to strength, growing its membership to 31 business and education partners, who work collaboratively on innovative educational projects throughout the academic year. We are always looking for new members and there are various ways to engage with our young learners, so please read on for further details.



# OUR PROJECTS

We are showcasing just a few of the exciting projects organised by education and business partners since MCLT was established, thanks to the support from our members, Erasmus+ European funding, and the generosity of local charitable Trusts: Sheffield Bluecoat and Mount Pleasant Educational Foundation, Church Burgesses Educational Foundation, The Freshgate Trust Foundation, Sheffield Grammar School Exhibition Foundation, and May Hearnshaw Charitable Trust.



## MCLT Annual Trust Choral Concert

The Trust Choir, our annual fundraising event, brings together students from Meadowhead School and 6 Trust primary schools, who perform themed concerts to celebrate our partnership whilst raising funds to support other Trust Projects. Our latest theme "Music from around the World" incorporated some collaborative singing between our schools, resulting in a heartwarming performance and a real sense of community.



## Fashion Shows

Sainsbury's representatives judged and presented Meadowhall vouchers to the students deemed to be the top designers at our annual Project Runway Fashion show, with students modelling their creatively customised white shirts donated by Sainsbury's. Our Sixth Form students will be visiting the Archer Road store to meet with the head of fashion from London to discover more about fashion retail. They will then mentor Y9 students for next year's show. We also organised a special Christmas fashion show to help raise funds for Dronfield Sainsburys' charity of the year - CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young)

## Erasmus+ 'Passport to Your Future'

A diverse team of teaching and support staff from Meadowhead School and teachers from partner schools in Finland, Slovenia and Spain worked with 120 students aged 14-18 on this 2 year ERASMUS+ funded schools project to help develop tools and activities to improve their employability skills. During the visit to Sheffield, SUFC training Academy hosted a morning of ice-breaker and team building activities for the international group followed by a tour of the stadium. Yorkshire Bank hosted tours of the Sheffield Fargate branch for students from all 4 countries and gave presentations about careers in the finance sector. Trust business partner stakeholders enjoyed the project's final presentation and celebration evening at Meadowhead School in April 2016.



## Maths Fun

MCLT organised a 6 week programme with targeted pupils and parents of Lower Meadow school, who all received a daily 30 minute fun and interactive workshop plus a maths resource pack full of games to support their children's learning. Families enjoyed using this resource and were able to take it home at the end of the project and enjoy further "Maths Fun". Feedback from parents was excellent!





## Journalistic Challenge

Sponsored by Trust partner SUFC and money raised by MCLT, this annual joint literacy project with Meadowhead and our Trust primary schools supports young students to act as 'Sports Journalists' for a day. Students attend a preparation workshop at Meadowhead before descending on Bramall Lane at a Saturday match in the Spring term.

They were prepped and ready to go; pens in hand note pads at the ready and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the match and the writing up of their reports later. Prizes are awarded to the best match day reports at the end of the project.

## Everyone a Writer

The Everyone a Writer celebration evening in May each year is exactly that - a thoroughly enjoyable recognition of the creative writing talents of students from Meadowhead and our Trust Primary schools as well as a reminder that we can all be writers, with entries from adults too! This year's theme was 'The Future' and students read out their own creative writing to a packed audience of friends and family. The students' varied interpretations of the theme meant that we heard some very moving and thought provoking visions of the future in our fourth year of this inspirational project.



## Meadowhead Bakeoff

There were three heats before the final which took place in July, each judged by former student Chef Vaughan Richardson from DoubleTree by Hilton and a senior member of staff. Open to Y7 students, the brief was to design and bake an interesting and tasty cookie! We had weekly star bakers and 12 finalists who were asked to make a batch of cupcakes with a 'Summer Time' theme. The overall star baker won a Sunday lunch for four at the DoubleTree and the runner-up was presented with a batch of cookies baked by the DoubleTree Head chef.

## STEM

(Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths)

With support and funding from Rolls Royce, Meadowhead STEM club designed and built a wind tunnel which they used to test different shapes for their aerodynamic properties. The group then used what they had learnt on a visit to the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, where they created small cars which were then raced (powered by carbon dioxide cartridges), with prizes awarded on the podium for the top three.



## Aspirations Week - Lower Meadow Primary

In July 2016 pupils were engaged in a week of inspirational talks and activities focused on the theme of aspirations, with career talks led by various MCLT education and business partners including: St Luke's, Yorkshire Bank, Henry Boot Construction, Rolls Royce, and Meadowhead School staff. Pupils learnt a lot about the meaning of the word 'aspiration' as one pupil Daniel Howcutt said: "I learnt that life can throw any opportunities at you, and if things go wrong, don't worry. An aspiration is a goal you want to achieve. Never give up on your ambitions, because if you work hard, your dreams become closer. Don't stop dreaming!"

## Reading Matters!

For the past 2 years our Trust has secured external funding to support parents and volunteers from 3 Trust Primary schools to undertake special accredited 'Reading partner' training days, delivered by professional trainers. Over 30 parents, lunchtime supervisors and Meadowhead Sixth Form volunteers learnt how to be a reading mentor, then over the next few weeks they worked on reading with a primary pupil to help improve their literacy skills.





# CAN YOU HELP?

We are always looking to enrich learning opportunities for our young learners so they are better equipped for life beyond school. Can you or someone you know support any of the work related events below for Primary or Secondary students?



## INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS

### Careers Talks

Students can be inspired by external presenters talking about how they achieved the role they do or about their specialist subject during a lesson, World of Work Weeks, Aspirations Week or Science Week. Could you offer your time to share your field of work and answer students' questions?

### Mock Business Interviews (April)

Can you offer a day to give students the experience of a job interview? You need not have any experience, all we ask is that you are confident and willing to feedback to the individuals. All paperwork and details of the process will be explained in advance of the day and lunch is provided.



### EPQ

Widely recognised by universities, the Extended Project Qualification is taken by

some of our Sixth Form students. They undertake an individual research project on a subject of their own choosing and we are looking for mentors to support them.



### Work Experience (July)

Could you offer placements to our Y10 students? With such a large

intake, we always need the generosity of the community to help 330+ students have a worthwhile work related experience to add to their CV.



### World of Work Weeks (Feb/ March)

Are you available at any time

during school hours Monday - Friday to give an insight into your vocation? Perhaps there is a subject area you could offer classroom support for?

## CONTACT US

For all MCLT enquiries:

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