WHALLEY RANGE 11-18 HIGH SCHOOL - A MEMBER OF THE EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP TRUST

PARTNERSHIP NEWS

WINTER 2015

NEWS • REVIEWS • FACULTIES • CHARITY • PERFORMANCE • SUCCESS

In This Issue...

BEST ATTENDANCE
FOOTBALL FESTIVAL
STUDENT VOICE
CAREERS NEWS
STEM PROJECTS
SIXTH FORM NEWS
MATHS WORLD

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

WELCOME FROM THE ACADEMY HEADTEACHER AND EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

We have had a very active and rewarding start to the year and we are very pleased that we have achieved some prestigious awards this term. We are the overall winner for our outstanding commitment to positive health outcomes in the area of Sex and Relationships Education and this was presented at the School Health Service launch. The 'Values Quality Mark' was awarded to us in October, a certification for schools who effectively provide a values-based education, which now qualifies us as a hub school in this area of practice. We have also achieved the Silver CEIAG Award during half-term 1. Finally, we have achieved Sports Leadership Academy status. Sports Leaders UK were impressed with the way in which we embed leadership and voluntary activities across the school.

We are very proud of our students and all that they have achieved so far this year. We hope you enjoy reading about the huge range of exciting opportunities that our students take part in and the huge contribution they make to the school and the community, which help them grow into confident young women of the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish staff, students, their families and our community Seasons' Greetings and a peaceful New Year.

Ms P Kane M.A. - Executive Headteacher ***Mrs E Hole - Academy Headteacher***

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Visit to the Manchester Business School

Year 12 A' level students visited the Manchester Business School at the University of Manchester at the start of term. This was an excellent opportunity for students to experience university life. Students thoroughly enjoyed experiencing university lectures, networking with IT and Business undergraduates and the tour of the University Campus. Students engaged in workshops and created their own presentations on Interactive Social Media. This was an action packed day and they also had the opportunity to attend a presentation on careers in Business and IT.

'This visit has been a great and it's let me experience university life' Mobeen Khan, Year 12

The students were excellent ambassadors for the Sixth Form and found the sessions inspirational and motivational. They delivered some excellent presentations and impressed the university students and lecturers!

Best Ever Attendance!

Blackpool - Attendance rewards trip

The start of the new academic year has yet again seen the best ever attendance at Whalley Range High School. Over 96% of students were in school every day during half-term 1, with an increase in attendance and a 69% improvement in punctuality across all year groups compared to the same period last year. Over 600 students achieved 100% attendance, as well as receiving no late marks or behaviour consequences. To celebrate their fantastic efforts 654 students were rewarded with a trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach accompanied by 37 members of staff, travelling on 10 Coaches! The rain stayed away and both staff and students enjoyed Blackpool's traditional cuisine and thrill seeking rides.

ECO-ACTION GAMES

In October a group of student leaders and staff from Whalley Range High School and Levenshulme High School had a fantastic opportunity to develop our Trust's partnership with Manchester Business School. The Eco-action Games event involved students playing classic games with an environmental twist. Students had fun playing Snakes and Ladders, Play Your Cards Right, Top Trumps, Twister and Bingo. At the same time they were able to evaluate how sustainable their daily actions are. Students and staff had a fantastic time, and both sets of students were a fantastic example of their schools. These games will be used in both schools as a resource for Deep Learning Days so that we can encourage all students and staff to be more sustainable.

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

On Wednesday 4th November, we went to the Southern Cemetery as part of our Commonwealth War Graves Commission project. In class, we have studied war poetry and the project focuses on creating pieces of writing and art based around Remembrance Day. The trip was absolutely brilliant and the students managed to find out a lot of information about fallen soldiers from World War I and II. They found British and Canadian graves; in some graves, families who passed away decades from each other were buried together. They have each written fantastic poems based on the graves they saw, and some students have been filmed reading their poems.

Go to the school's Youtube channel to see their great work!

ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATIONS

Student Voice Project

Leadership for Life is a youth action project which has trained and empowered a class of Year 10 students to become effective change-makers in their school. The project aimed to create active local role models and positive global citizens who are aware of the issues that young people face, and have the skills to be able to act on resolving those issues. The project has been facilitated by a group of student volunteers from the University of Manchester Students' Union (UMSU) Access All Areas (AAA) project.

Student change-makers have directly benefited from the training and experience by gaining exposure to the following skills development: communication, teamwork, leadership, public speaking, confidence and critical thinking. Students have also developed an understanding of the following topics: education, democracy and political participation.

The skills and knowledge that they have been developing will be useful in employment and later life; impacting greatly on the future life chances of the participants, both in terms of employability and the wider sense of self-actualisation.

Creative Writing Club

KS3 students are enjoying developing creative writing skills, on Wednesday lunchtimes. Students are examining diverse themes and topics for story writing and poetry.

So far this year we have written a variety of poems for entry to national poetry competitions: Poetry Rivals and The Poetry Trials. Fifteen students from the club have also had success as their 'Poetopia' poems were selected for publication.

Students went on a trip to Manchester University last year and became bloggers for the Manchester Children's Book Festival and even got to meet Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy! This half term we have been working with the History Department, creating short stories and descriptions based on context and facts from different periods in history.

Prizes have been won this year through the Creative Writing Club's half termly competitions and we hope to win further national awards following on from the success of last year!

Gifted and Talented English

A group of Gifted and Talented students in half-term 5 last year were selected to attend the 'English Gifted and Talented Course' run by the English Department. During the course, students attended different workshops in order to increase their cultural capital and to learn and develop new English-based skills. Some of the workshops included were: Speaking and Listening, Literacy, Leadership and Coaching.

Bronte Country

This half-term A Level Literature students went to Haworth Parsonage, where the three Brontë sisters lived and wrote their classic novels such as Wuthering Heights and Jane Eyre. Our students heard about the family secrets, explored different readings of the novels, and walked in the spectacular Yorkshire countryside that inspired their writing. They gained invaluable insights into new interpretations of Wuthering Heights which they are studying for their exam. And, best of all, there was a dressing up box, and the students thoroughly enjoyed dressing up in Victorian costumes (as did Ms Buckle, but unfortunately all the pictures have been destroyed!)

In order to complete the course, students had to give a presentation on what they had learnt from the course, at a special celebration event. After the presentations, students were given certificates and badges to show that they had become, 'Gifted and Talented English Leaders'.

STEM NEWS

WRHS

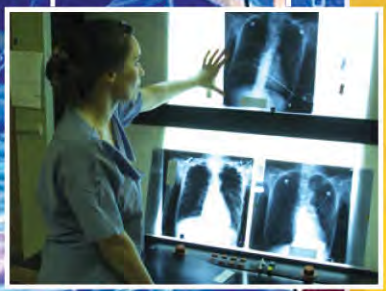
CPR TRAINING

After a successful pilot study in July, all students in the Sixth Form have the chance to contribute to a research project while learning how to save lives. Manchester Children's Hospital has lent the school a smart CPR dummy, attached to a tablet. This will be available for all staff and students to use at any time in the Sixth Form common room from 23rd of November. The dummy will give participants live feedback to improve their CPR technique, as well as providing a score every time they try it, which they can scan with a selfie and send to the research team.

Students and staff will be competing with other local colleges both in Manchester and globally, with leader boards for the highest scores and the most attempts. The hospital hopes that this will raise confidence with trying CPR, and hopefully in the future save lives!

CHEM-QUIZ

In June, 4 of our students competed in the annual Chemquiz Competition at The University of Manchester. The team had to complete a range of challenges from practical work, a multimedia round and a chemistry quiz. Although we were not victorious, a great day was had by all and we all came away with a competitor's mug.



CAREER PROFILE
RADIOGRAPHER

In Radiography, there are two different fields – diagnostic and therapeutic. Diagnostic radiography is when they find out what is wrong with somebody, for example broken bones, finding out about diseases and helping surgeons plan operations. Therapeutic radiographers use radiation to treat diseases. Both areas of radiography involve working as part of a team with radiologists, clinical oncologists, physicists, radiology nurses and other health care professionals.

Hours:
37 per week
(sometimes evenings or weekends)

Starting salary:
£21,692 + per year

STEM Skills needed:

- Maintain accuracy in record-keeping and communicate findings.
- Use mathematical skills for calculations and measurements
- Predict and draw conclusions using data
- Read and understand technical materials
- Repair equipment and use software
Communicate with others and listen

Qualifications:
Degree or postgraduate qualification

NHS CAREERS DAY

Year 11 Triple Science students recently enjoyed a trip to the University of Manchester for an NHS Careers day. They had the opportunity to experience a wide range of careers and occupations that they might pursue if they chose science as a career. They also had the opportunity to sign up for volunteer work to enhance their CVs for the future.

RE-INVENTING MANUFACTURING

Students from Whalley Range 11-18 High School and Levenshulme High School worked collaboratively in teams to compete in a business and engineering competition. As part of Re-inventing Manufacturing, a 'Business in the Community' initiative, experts from Duo UK, Interface, and Siemens worked with Alliance Manchester Business School and the two schools.

The project was developed after statistics from The Engineering Report 2015 showed engineering employers have the potential to generate an additional £27 billion per year from 2022 into the UK economy – the equivalent to the cost of building 1,800 secondary schools or 110 new hospitals.

The students were placed in mixed groups and presented with a concept, which they needed to develop into a product and consider all stages of the business process.
The two winning groups spent time working with the help of the other groups to improve their presentations, before presenting their ideas at Manchester Business School to a panel of judges made up of industry experts and business leaders.

Industry experts from Duo UK, Interface and Siemens supported the students in their project teams during the event and heard from some of the University's widening participation fellows who spoke of their careers in engineering.

The Whalley Range winners each receiving a £50 Amazon voucher each were Ava Micklewright and Seher Ahmed. Well done!

SCIENCE FAIR

In July the Science Leaders organised the first annual Whalley Range Science Fair. Students from Years 7, 8 and 9 entered in groups and spent a month preparing projects to present at the fair. All students had to carefully research their project and create a display on it. Some groups carried out experiments. One group for example researched how the colour of a drink affected our perception of its taste. Other groups researched a topic and created models or displays on it. One group created a set of demonstrations about the weather.

The actual fair was extremely successful. Each group had a stand to present their project on and they were available to answer questions. The Science Leaders also ran competition stalls and a science cake stand to raise money for charity. All students were invited at lunchtime. After school, teachers and parents of participants attended to see the projects and for the prize-giving. Everyone who attended voted for their favourite project. The first prize winners were presented with a basket of science goodies to share among them. £70.45 was raised for Starlight Children's Charity.

STEM LEADERS

This year's STEM leaders are split into three teams:

The STEM club team are thinking of exciting experiments for Year 7 and 8 students every Wednesday lunchtime in B0-38. The STEM events team are organising competitions and one off events including one for British Science week next half-term. The STEM media team are working on the STEM VLE page and on promoting STEM throughout the school, using research design and ICT skills.

The first event is an engineering challenge building a tower out of sweets.
Watch this space for more exciting STEM events throughout the year!

STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

INCLUSION FACULTY and INTERVENTION

225 new students are taking part in Maths Challenge, Writing Challenge, EAL, KS4 tutoring, Year 9 Numeracy and Accelerated Reading.

WRITING CHALLENGE

All 16 students in the Writing Challenge are working hard with Mrs Quinn and are now on or above target. They hope to finish by Christmas. Umay Zaynab in Year 8 said, ***"Thank you Mrs Quinn for being here for us during the Writing Challenge".***

MATHS CHALLENGE

35 students have started the Maths Challenge with Mrs Bajwa and 31 are now on or above target. Aliyah Ali 7MA1B said, ***"I am so grateful to Mrs Bajwa for choosing me to do Maths Challenge."***

New mentors from Manchester University and our Sixth Form have volunteered their free time to work with our students to make sure they achieve their Maths target.

EAL ADULT CLASS

Mrs Bajwa is taking an after school class on Tuesdays and a class on Thursday afternoons from 2pm until 5pm to help 18 parents with their English. Any parent interested should contact school and ask to speak to Mrs Bajwa. Fatima Alzahara Shneb 11MA4A said, ***"I am so proud of my mum attending EAL classes. My mum and I would like to thank the Headteacher and Mrs Bajwa for putting on these classes."***

INTERVENTION KS3 CLUB

All Clubs take place before school, lunchtime and after school and are being regularly attended by many Year 7, 8 and 9 students in A1/17 and A1/19. Hopefully, their end of year grades will reflect everyone's hard work.

EAL

Our EAL team is working hard at break, lunch and after school in A1/19. Over 90 students have attended so far. The team's work has had a big impact on the students' achievement and some have already moved to higher sets.The names of all who attend clubs regularly are put in to a raffle and this term's winner is Sana Farooq in Year 9. Congratulations Sana!

ACCELERATED READING

62 students are taking part in Intervention Accelerated Reading and most are making significant improvements to their reading ages. 10 students are now above target and have left the group. This takes place in A1/19 with Miss Altaf at registration time.

We would like to thank all our mentors who have given up their free time to support our students. We are very grateful.

Friday Lunchtime Craft Club

Friday Lunchtime Craft Club in A124 was a huge success in half-term 1. Students attended enthusiastically, enjoyed themselves and had lots of fun making Halloween decorations (pumpkins, spiders, bats) and cards. Coordinated by Mrs Iordache, students learnt and experienced new skills and creative techniques. A big well done to everyone who had the courage to try new things!

Lunchtime Homework Club

Lunchtime Homework Club is held in room A124 all week and is regularly attended by students from all year groups and the SEN team give assistance and support. Laptops are available, so students can explore subjects in more depth.

Colouring Club

Mrs Iordache and Mrs Maher have initiated a colouring activity on Friday lunchtimes in A124. This is a place where students can come to relax, connect, discover, share and enjoy a productive break. It is an opportunity for everyone to express themselves by using colours and by being creative. Come along and try it! Look out for a colouring competition at the end of half-term 2.

INCLUSION INTERVENTION INCLUSION INTERVENTION

LionHeart Challenge

After successfully winning the Lionheart Challenge in school, a team from Whalley Range High School went to the Northern & Midlands Regional Final at the Reebok Stadium in Bolton.The girls were nervous but definitely up for the challenge! It was a busy day, which included a working lunch with no breaks! The girls were tasked to come up with a commodity or service which would benefit the local community and so they chose to focus on the homeless. They worked tirelessly all day, using all their skills and teamwork and their presentation blew everyone away. Then they waited with baited breath! They were firstly awarded a Key Category prize, on receipt of this they thought that that was it, but no, the winners were announced and it was Whalley Range High School!

Mrs Davies, Enterprise Co-ordinator, added,
"The girls were amazing. They were totally focused and ready for the challenge. It was a long hard day but they rose to it and are now looking forward to the National Finals later in the year".

STUDENT COUNCIL @ WHALLEY RANGE HIGH SCHOOL

Here at WRHS we have a very active Student Council made up of representatives from each year group and House.

So what do they do?

Some of the events the Student Council have been involved in are highlighted here....

MEETING WITH DR NEIL HAWKES

Representatives from the student council met with Dr Neil Hawkes to discuss how Co-operative and British Values impact in our day to day at school. As a result of all the great work that we do here at the school we achieved **The Values Based School Award!**

STUDENT VOICE

YEAR 7 LEADERSHIP FAIR

On Friday 19th October, the Student Council had a stall at the Year 7 Leadership Fair and all Year 7 students were encouraged to apply for a place on the council. We hope to announce in the next edition of Partnership News who the successful candidates were. Watch this space!

VOICEBOX EVENT

Whalley Range recently hosted the first Voicebox Event of this academic year.

What is 'Voicebox'?

It is Manchester's Secondary school network, offering the opportunity for students to have their voices heard, get involved in local and global campaigns and learn more about making change happen. Student representatives from 9 local school councils were welcomed at Whalley Range High School. They all spent the morning getting to know each other and discussing a range of topics including Anti-Bullying Week.

MAKE YOUR MARK

Whalley Range High School took part in the Make Your Mark event. Young people across Manchester were given the chance to vote on what should be discussed at the next Youth Parliament Meeting. Topics such as 'An Education for Life', 'The Living Wage' and 'Transport' were among the topics. The Student Council led on this and 1334 votes were cast at school which was a fantastic result!

CAREERS NEWS AT WRHS

BARCLAY'S LIFE SKILLS

BARCLAYS

Barclays offered us the opportunity for 12 year 9 students to attend their Branch in St. Anne's Square for 3 days for their "Big Event" which is part of the Lifeskills programme which they run. On the first day the students had to have a formal interview with members of Barclays staff and look at building a CV for future employers. On the second day the students shadowed the staff in various roles such as Business Advisor, Branch Manager and Cashiers; in the afternoon they attended a Careers Fair put on especially for them and other students and on the last day they took part in a competition with other schools to create an App and present it to Barclays staff and the rest of the group. A big thank you to Barclays for presenting us with this fantastic opportunity for our students.

ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

Suzanne Acton from Advising our Futures is our new careers advisor for Year 11; she meets with students on a 1:1 basis to give them impartial advice and guidance and is available every Tuesday and Thursday at break and lunchtime to see the students. Every student in Year 11 will get a 50 minute interview and the students who need more help will be seen more than once. Suzanne has many years experience in speaking to young people about their career aspirations and our students will be a lot clearer about their future goals after speaking to her.

ADVISING OUR FUTURES

APPRENTICESHIP BUS

We started our Careers journey for the Year 11 students early in September when the apprenticeship bus visited school to give students information about the opportunities available to them when they leave school on the vast range of apprenticeships on offer in Greater Manchester. Apprenticeships are proving to be the lifeblood of business across Greater Manchester and taking up an apprenticeship after GCSE's or A' Levels is an exciting opportunity to earn money and progress quickly in a career.

CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

Here at Whalley Range we provide students with a variety of workshops and talks to cater for everybody. So far this year we have had College Application Workshops during which Whalley Range Sixth Form, the Manchester College, Connell, Trafford and Salford College have all been in to speak to our Year 11 students. ANS Group, Kids Allowed and Interserve, (all training providers) have spoken to students who may want to consider apprenticeships after their GCSE or A' Levels. Year 9,10 and 11 have all had assemblies about considering their Career choices for the future.

CAREERS AMBASSADORS

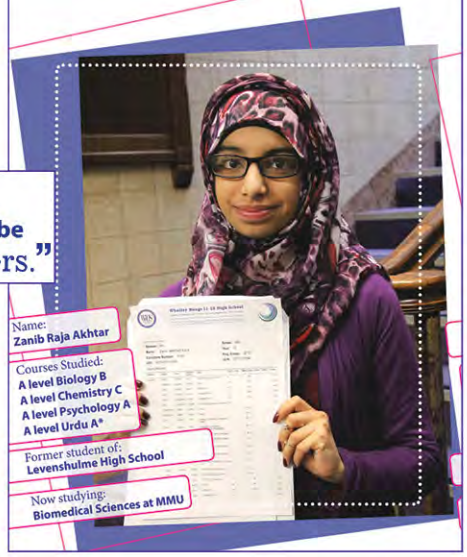
We have a team of Ambassadors who are learning about Careers, this is being led by Anna Browne who is experienced in Careers and Guidance and running a pilot programme called Fast Forward. The students have already attended a parents evening speaking to parents about the vast array of Careers Advice and Guidance you can access on the internet. They have had a talk and asked questions of Clare Hoxworth from the BBC. Dr Muzammil Quraishi from Salford University is also coming in to speak to the Ambassadors about careers in Criminology and Cara Hague from 'Our Futures' will be running sessions on employability. This will enable the students to stand out to future employers when they start applying for jobs.

UPS DRIVING COURSE

We took a group of Key Stage 3 and 4 students to a Saturday morning training day delivered by volunteers from UPS and GYMN. The sessions taught those who haven't started driving about the hazards they might experience as a driver, and also increased awareness of road safety in general. The group engaged in lots of discussions around road safety, watched videos on the topic, then experienced what driving is REALLY like using two fantastic state of the art driving simulators.

WR SIXTH FORM

> "We strive to educate, INSPIRE and **empower young women** to be THE NEXT GENERATION of leaders."



SIXTH FORM DESTINATIONS 2015

We were very proud of our students last summer and the excellent results they achieved in their exams. This meant that 86 students took up places at university to study for a range of degrees from Law, Pharmacy, Criminology to Biomedical Science. From Year 13, 18 students took up apprenticeships in areas such as Pharmacy, Digital Platforms and Business administration. A further 3 students successfully gained employment. We wish all our students well with their future careers.

MANCHESTER BUSINESS SCHOOL VISIT

Year 12 A' level students visited The Manchester Business School at the University of Manchester at the start of term. This was an excellent opportunity for students to experience university life. Students thoroughly enjoyed experiencing university lectures, networking with IT and Business undergraduates and the tour of the University Campus. Students engaged in workshops and created their own presentations on Interactive Social Media. This was an action packed day and they also had the opportunity to attend a presentation on careers in Business and IT.

'This visit has been a great and it's let me experience university life'

Mobeen Khan, Year 12

The students were excellent ambassadors for the Sixth Form and found the sessions inspirational and motivational. They delivered some excellent presentations and impressed the university students and lecturers!

STUDENT LEADERSHIP FAIR SUCCESS

On Friday 18th September, staff and students held a Sixth Form student leadership fair in the common room where all Sixth Form students were invited. We had a great turnout for this event with many Sixth Formers discussing leadership opportunities with staff and taking up roles that will both enhance their education and confidence to lead.

Pathway to Success

RESIDENTIAL

On a rainy Friday in November, 25 Year 11 students and five teachers headed to the Conway Centre on Anglesey for the second annual 'Pathway to Success" weekend residential.

The weekend consisted of a number of study skills sessions, independent study time, self-awareness and self-management workshops and a variety of outdoor activities. The combination was designed to prepare the girls for some of the rigours of Year 11, both in terms of academic success and the KEY skills like resilience, teamwork and communication that are so important.

The outdoor activities included the low ropes assault course, high ropes and bush craft. Students were required to work together to complete challenges, and to push themselves out of their comfort zone and take a risk to do something they didn't think they could achieve – epitomised by the students (and teachers!) who climbed to the 25 metre high log and jumped off! This was perseverance and resilience in action, making memories to last forever.

Just when the girls thought it was time to relax, they encountered the Nightline! Crawling through mud in groups, whilst blindfolded was a certain way to develop teamwork and communication skills. Their enthusiasm and determination was inspiring.

Sunday morning was the grand finale, where students were rewarded for attributes such as teamwork, resilience and co-operation. The students celebrated each other beautifully.

The weekend was a huge success. The students arrived home tired from their exertions, but revitalised and determined to succeed after such a valuable experience.

WORLD EDUCATION GAMES

In October, 166 students at WRHS took part in the World Education Games run by the mathletics website. Students donated their time to play mental maths games against each other and earn points. For every point students earned, mathletics donated money to the UNICEF School-in-a-Box project which donates resources to schools in third world countries and in areas that need to set up a new school following a disaster.

Over 6 million students took part, earning over 169 million points. This allowed 130 boxes to be purchased helping tens of thousands of students all over the world. WRHS students contributed 3,478 points towards this. Humairah Alam 7AH1b was the highest achieving WRHS student, with Freya Marbell 7AH4b in second place.

NATIONAL CIPHER COMPETITION

Cryptography - the art of writing and solving code

Alan Turing and the Enigma Machine. Computer Coding. Cipher Challenge. Words that conjure up images of intrigue. Words that fired the imagination of Muna Hassan. After a lesson on The Caesar Shift method of simple cryptography and information about a National Cipher Challenge organised and run by Southampton University, Muna took up the challenge, logged on and entered the first round of the National Cipher Challenge.

Congratulations to both Muna and Umulkher who achieved first place out of 1,210 National competitors of teams and individuals in part of their second challenge. This is only the just the beginning, and we look forward to more success in the future. Well done girls!

Annual National Day of Remembrance 2015

"A day of memory will honour these lost women and dishonour the crime"

Whalley Range 11-18 High School was chosen to host a very special event to raise awareness of Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage with the first Annual National Day of Remembrance in July.

In collaboration with Greater Manchester Police and national charity, Karma Nirvana the event highlighted and remembered those women and men that have fallen victim to honour based crimes.

Shafilea Ahmed (pictured above) was a 17-year-old British Pakistani girl from Warrington, Cheshire, who was murdered by her parents for refusing to agree to an arranged marriage.

The event at WRHS was held on 14th July as that would have been Shafilea Ahmed's Birthday and as a mark of respect students released 250 balloons to remember her and other victims.

We also developed a short video based on the subject alongside experts from Greater Manchester Police, which was played to students from all across the South Manchester area. The event gained much media coverage from both Granada Tonight and the BBC with the unique social media hashtag **#dishonourthecrime** trending across the North West on the day.

The successful school **ANDR** team who devised the event alongside GMP specialists.

Sharon Allen, Senior Child Protection Officer at Whalley Range 11-18 High School, said:

"We have been recognised as a beacon of good practice in the area of safeguarding – particularly forced marriage and honour based violence. We have developed our practice over many years ensuring that the wellbeing of young people remains at the very heart of what we do. We are honoured to be the host for the North West's Annual National Day of Remembrance."

FORCED MARRIAGE UNIT

t: +44 (0) 20 7008 0151
e: fmu@fco.gov.uk
f: Forced Marriage
t: @FMUnit

Chief Inspector Nicky Porter added:

"Being forced into a marriage to simply uphold your family's 'honour' is no way to live a life. You should have the freedom to make decisions for yourself and by reporting the crime to police we will be able to support you through the process and ensure you are able to live your life without fear."

#dishonourthecrime

Please call 999 in an emergency or 101 for a non-emergency

Kingswood
Inspiring Learning

On the 6th and 7th October 180 Year 7 Project Day students went off to the Kingswood Centre in Colomendy for two days of action packed activities to help them to develop confidence, resilience and self esteem. It was also a great opportunity to make new friends. They battled against the wet and wild Welsh weather with good humour as they challenged themselves to do their very best with many students achieving goals well out of their comfort zone. **Well done Year 7!**

CASTLETON'S CAVES

In September our Year 10 and 11 GCSE Geography groups went to Castleton for our controlled assessment fieldwork. The highlight of both days was getting the opportunity to go into Speedwell Cavern and Peak Cavern. Students learnt about how both caves were formed by glacial processes millions of years ago. In Peak Cavern students got to see, and take part in, traditional rope making in the World's largest cave entrance. In Speedwell Cavern students had a short cramped boat ride to an enormous natural cave, big enough to fit Blackpool Tower in with room to spare! The students and staff had a great day out but couldn't wait to have a snooze on the coach back.

TATTON MANSION

In September, GCSE students had the opportunity to visit Tatton Mansion as part of their History Controlled Assessment. Students were able to explore the old Tudor Manor house (where the beds were made of straw and the windows had no glass!) and the new Mansion (full of luxury paintings, carpets and furniture). Students also particularly enjoyed getting to explore the grounds and see the wildlife!

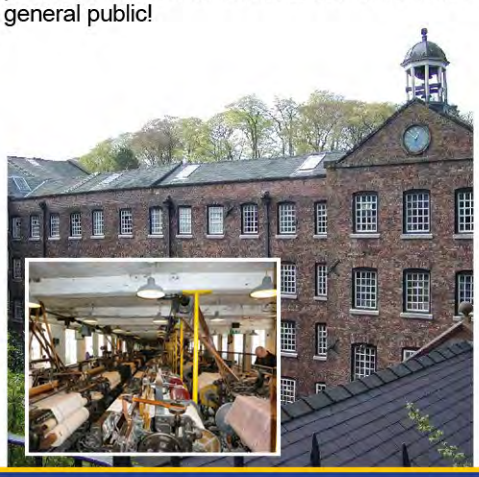
They learnt about the Egerton family and the servants who tended to them, experiencing a day in the life of the indulgent upper classes (even seeing a grand set of stairs built specifically for making an entrance into the ballroom for parties!), as well as the jobs that lowly servants would have done such as scrubbing floors.

The students were fantastic representatives of the school, asking many thoughtful questions, listening attentively to the guides, and being respectful of the site.

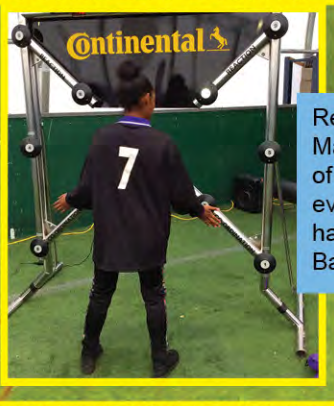
QUARRY BANK MILL

In October Year 9 went on their annual trip to Quarry Bank Mill in Styal. This was an excellent opportunity for students studying about the Industrial Revolution to delve into the history behind working and living conditions in factories and mills. Students thoroughly enjoyed exploring the mill itself, learning about the production of cotton and the workers that operated some (quite dangerous) machinery. They also visited the Apprentice House, a place where apprentices (children) slept while working at the mill! They particularly enjoyed learning about the punishments some of the apprentices would have had for misbehaving, one student even experienced this for herself!

The students were excellent representatives of the school and even received words of praise for their behaviour from members of the general public!



FOOTBALL FESTIVAL



Recently, The FA held a women's and girls' football event at Manchester City FC, in order to increase awareness and participation of football for girls in the local area. Six of our students attended the event in which they competed against other schools. The students also had the opportunity to participate in a skills circuit, freestyle workshop, Batak reaction board and a referees workshop.

PRIMARY FOOTBALL EVENT

Sports Leaders recently delivered one of the first primary events of the year. Over 25 leaders helped to organise and keep score at both football events. All students were brilliant with the majority of the primary schools commenting on the professionalism of our girls. Well done!

FOOTBALL TRAINING

Football at WRHS has started really well this year, with consistent numbers attending training each week. Training is currently being run by Manchester City in the Community. Fixtures started in September, with all girls developing skills learnt in training and putting them into game situations. Training is on a Wednesday after school and Thursday lunchtime.

BADMINTON COMPETITION

In October, 8 students competed in the Central & East girls badminton competition. They all played extremely well competing against Cedar Mount, William Hulme and Trinity High School. The KS3 team: Kareena Kaur, Ruaa Tabib, Kenita Sales and Mariam Asif, came a very close and respectable 2nd place. The KS4 team: Elyza Yunus, Kaizha Blackwood-Brown, Zalika Williams and Gan Sriphaithun, came an impressive 1st place with many individual players winning all of their games! The KS4 team will now progress onto the Citywide finals in December, good luck girls!

PE COMMUNITY LINKS

During this half term, we have been lucky enough to receive some specialist coaching to work in Boxercise, Cheerleading, Cricket, Pilates, Taekwondo and Zumba. These activities are linking in with our NEW Year 9 PE curriculum 'This Girl Can'- where students show resilience, determination and commitment in a range of activities, empowering them and building up self esteem. The students absolutely love the new activities that are on offer in PE, we have seen a massive increase in the student's confidence and motivation levels.

INTER-HOUSE BIATHLON

The first PE Inter-house competition of the year was a biathlon. In pairs the students had to choose to cycle 1000 metres or row 500 metres with the fastest combined time winning. Well done to the winning pair Jamie Lee Taylor and Raneem Mohamed from Parks House, who have now gained the first set of crucial points which get added to the Sports Day total. Will it be another Parks win this year?

There was also a highly competitive staff competition which was won by Mr Moran and Mr Mustafa.

700 600 500 400 300 200 100

World Languages Faculty

SPANISH RESTAURANT TRIP

The Rincon de Rafa restaurant was an amazing opportunity to explore the different traditional food of Spain. The trip allowed us to learn more about the Spanish culture and try dishes that we never thought we would eat, such as: Octopus, Squid and the famous Spanish omelette. During the trip, we spoke Spanish with people around us and this improved our language skills, we were able to identify different food on the menu which we could use in our Spanish lessons. Furthermore, it persuaded us to explore other cultural restaurants and taste a variety of dishes from other countries. Also, it enhanced our interest in Spanish and I would definitely recommend this restaurant. The only way to sum up this unforgettable experience is that it was extremely interesting! Lo pase bomba!

FRENCH CAFÉ

Another wonderful and successful Open Evening with Year 8 learning French phrases to act as waitresses on the night in our French Cafe. They were charming, attentive and rushed off their feet! Prospective parents complimented them on their manners and ability to speak another language. The Catering staff were very helpful providing a constant stream of croissants and other French delicacies.

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

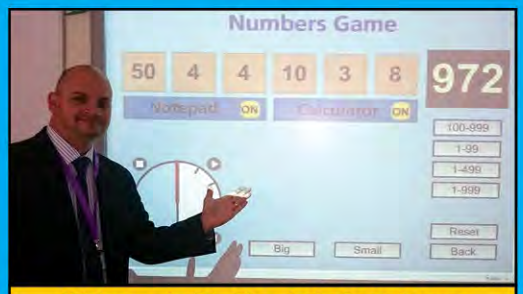
We celebrated the European Day of Languages in style as usual, with taster lessons in different languages such as Greek, Spanish, Arabic and Urdu. Mr Mustafa taught pupils Turkish, and Mrs Barnes taught Portuguese. Mr Lazarou also created a wonderful European menu for students to try, and our Facilities staff decorated the Dining Room with flags from different countries around the world. Congratulations to two students who won prizes in the lunchtime quiz, and to Parks House, who won points towards the Interhouse competition for the best attendance during the lunch time acitivities! Students also had fun taking part in a European themed sports competition in PE. A big thank you to all staff and students who took part in the celebrations!

EID MUBARAK

On Monday 21st September the World Language Leaders organised an event for Eid, to raise money for Syria Relief with a variety of stalls and music including henna, food, jewellery, traditional clothes and gifts. We were really proud of ourselves because we organised an Eid event in a short amount of time, but everything went according to plan, and we managed to raise £45.61 for Syria Relief. The total number of students who attended was 79, with Parks and Angelou Houses gaining points for the Interhouse competition with the highest number of students from their Houses attending.

By Sumaia Javed (World Language Leader)

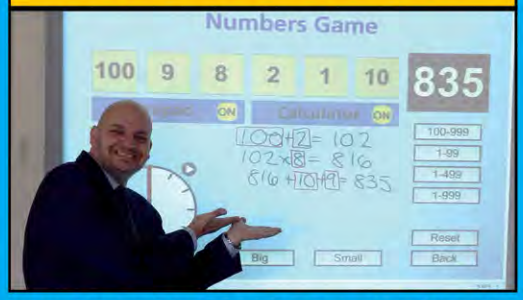
MR. CLEASBY'S COUNTDOWN CHALLENGE



Welcome to Mr. Cleasby's Countdown Calculation. The problem this issue is to make 972 using 50, 4, 4, 10, 3 and 8. You can only use add, subtract, multiply and divide and you can use brackets if you wish. You cannot use a number more than once and you cannot put two numbers together to make another number, like '2' and '1' making '21'.

If you manage to achieve the target number then write your solution on a piece of paper with your name and tutor group and hand it in to the Maths office B109. A winner will be chosen at random from all the correct entries. The answer will be in the next issue!

The closing date is 16th January 2016



SOLUTION FROM THE LAST ISSUE

The winners from the last issue were Namra Durrani 10SG2a and Horeb Amin 10SG5b. One of the many solutions to the **835** puzzle is shown above.

SYRIA RELIEF Fundraising

Students and staff have been committed to their fundraising effort for the Syria Relief 'Refugees in Crisis' campaign, raising an incredible total of £558.10. Activities included a charity 'selfie booth', where students were able to have their photo taken with their favourite Head of House. Franklin House also held a food collection, which has been gratefully received by the charity.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

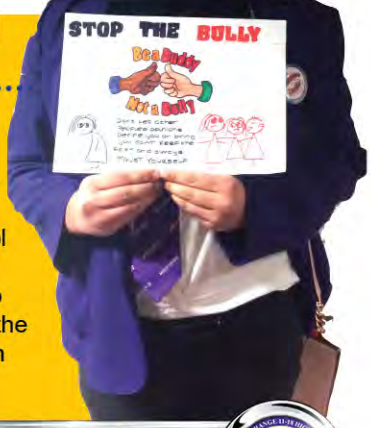
MAKE IT ENTERPRISING GRAND FINAL

After successfully winning the Greater Manchester heat of the Make it Enterprising competition, a team of our students made their way to Manchester Airport for the Grand Final. There were over 20 students representing schools from Cumbria, Blackpool, Cheshire, Manchester and Liverpool. The girls had to design an aircraft – deciding what type of cockpit, landing gear, interior and much more should be used. They needed to use all their skills as a team to come up with the best product at the best price. Mrs Davies, Enterprise Co-ordinator said,

The girls were amazing! Their behaviour was impeccable. It was a full on day and a very challenging task which stretched the girls to their limits. They were praised by the judges for the way that they worked together as a team, the quality of their work and their immaculate and polished presentation.'

'MAKE A NOISE ABOUT BULLYING' T-SHIRT COMPETITION

The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors (ABA) launched the Manchester Healthy Schools 'Design a T-Shirt' competition at the beginning of October through House assemblies. The theme of the competition was to 'Make a noise about bullying' as nearly a quarter of children do not tell anyone if they are being bullied. Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors are committed to ensuring that students feel safe and happy in our school community and this exciting opportunity was another chance to raise awareness about our schools zero tolerance stance on bullying. There were a number of creative entries and the ABA chose the winner who was Sehr Choudhry in RP1A! Well done Sehr!! Sehr's eye-catching t-shirt design then won 3rd place in the Manchester Healthy Schools competition and she will be presented with her design on a t-shirt along with some vouchers. A noise about bullying was certainly made!



If at any time you would like to withdraw permission for your daughter's image to appear in our school magazine, "Partnership News", please contact the Headteacher through our main school number **0161 861 9727** or via email on: **head@wrhs1118.co.uk.**