

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

# PARTNERSHIP NEWS P

SPRING 2015

NEWS • REVIEWS • FACULTIES • CHARITY • PERFORMANCE • SUCCESS



## SCIENCE WEEK

**BBC SCHOOL REPORT**  
**BRITISH VALUES DAY**  
**TEACH MEET**  
**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT**  
**YEAR 11 RESIDENTIAL**  
**MATHS FEAST**



## WELCOME FROM THE ACADEMY HEADTEACHER

We are delighted that we have for the second year running won an SSAT Educational Outcomes award for our exceptional progress. The award is to recognize our achievement of being in the top 10% of schools nationally for value-added progress.



Sue Williamson Chief Executive of SSAT said:

**'These results are testament to the commitment and hard work of the students, teachers and leadership team at Whalley Range 11-18 High School, and show what can be achieved when skilled teachers have high expectations and ambition for every young person'.**

In March the official launch took place of the Business Class partnership between Whalley Range 11-18 High School, Levenshulme High School and the Manchester Business School. The guests included students, parents and staff from both schools and staff from the Business School. It was a very successful event that enabled networking to create relationships and encouraged the development of new ideas for exciting partnership activities in the future.

Our Key Stage 4 and 5 students have worked very hard to prepare for their exams and we wish them every success when they sit them in the Summer term.

**Elizabeth Hole - Academy Headteacher**

**Patsy Kane M.A. - Executive Headteacher**

## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Our Sixth Form AS RE students, along with Mrs Eaton and Miss Hoyles attended the very prestigious annual Holocaust Memorial event taking place at the Cornerhouse along with other schools from all around Manchester. The Lord Mayor of Manchester also attended the annual memorial along with some Jewish Rabbis, scholars, historians and descendants of Holocaust survivors. We watched a film which was very emotional and inspirational about the British man Nicholas Winton who saved thousands of children from concentration camps and brought them safely to England during WW2, There was a Q & A session with the scholars from the Holocaust Education Trust and the event ended with a Jewish prayer.

The event gave us something to think about and made us all value being able to live peacefully, knowing that our family will not be taken away from us just because of our race or religion.



## Whalley Range String Group

On Thursday 5th March the Whalley Range String Group took part in a celebration of Irish Music at Chorlton Irish Club. This event was arranged by Mr Richard Sanderson, the string teacher here at the school. There were many different schools all showcasing their talent including the national youth fiddle champion.

Our string group played 3 traditional Irish folk songs and they were all excellent! One of our very own members, Sawsan Jarwan in Year 9 also hosted the evening. She announced each performer and told the audience all about the schools and groups that they were about to see. She did this with confidence and professionalism, well done Sawsan and the Whalley Range String Group!



## Values Day

As part of our multi-academy trust work, students from Whalley Range 11-18 High School and Levenshulme High School spent the day working together to celebrate both co-operative and British values. Students collaborated to create a co-operative values jigsaw which will be displayed in both schools and were also given the opportunity to listen to and question some inspirational women from Manchester. The day was a huge success and we are eager to start arranging our next event!

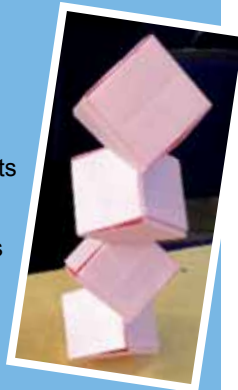


## MATHS FEAST!

Like gladiators ascending into the Coliseum, two teams from Whalley Range valiantly entered the halls of Manchester University, pens in hands and calculators stowed away. They had come to compete in a battle of wits against rival schools from the far corners of the Greater Manchester area. The Maths Feast 2015 was an event of special magnificence; almost thirty teams and three hours of pure sums.

Whalley's alpha-team consisting of Olivia Carter, Faith Chamapiwa, Pankti Gupta, and Lydia Moodycliffe broke into the overall top ten. The beta-team with Tasbiha Chohan, Amina Hameed, Khadija Hammad, and Mariyah Khan reigned victorious in round five. Their structure (pictured) towered above the competition; a cardboard-crafted colossus of Columbus Cubes that brought home maximum points.

**This year; round five and the top ten. Next year; total domination of the entire competition!**



# INCLUSION *faculty*

The Inclusion Faculty continues to be popular amongst students in all year groups. Our Faculty offers help to all who need it in all subject areas and we encourage every student to experience every aspect of school life.

Rainbow reading continues to be successful with EAL students who are able to become more confident in reading and thoroughly enjoy the sessions. Mrs Mothersdale runs this Monday to Thursday during registration. All students are making good progress in reading and listening skills and Mrs Khan supports individual students with reading activities during registration and they are also progressing well.



## Sixth Form Work

Miss Rathore and Miss Khan have worked alongside the Sixth Form students to help them reach their full potential with exams. They have also advised on application forms, CVs and personal specification for university in order to secure their post-18 pathways.



## Project day

Mrs Hamnett and Miss Worrell support the students and assist teaching staff throughout the day in the various activities to ensure students can understand what is involved and that their needs are met, whilst also enthusiastically joining in with all the tasks.

## EAL intervention

This year we have had an increased number of students coming to the Faculty for support with EAL needs. Miss. Kamesy and Mrs Suleman are always willing to help and assist children with their homework or any other issues they might have. They do extra work during registration, lunch and after school A124.



## Inclusion Faculty Clubs – A124

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School 8.00-8.15	Homework Club Extra maths & English Inclusion Staff	No Club due to staff meeting in A124	Homework Club Extra Maths & English Inclusion Staff	Homework Club Extra Maths & English Inclusion Staff	Drop in Any Subject Inclusion Staff
Lunch 1.15-1.55	Film Club & Homework Mrs Hamnett & Mrs Mothersdale	Textiles & Craft Club Inclusion Staff	Laptop & Homework Mrs Khan & Mrs Hamnett	Creative Workshop Ms Kamesy & Ms Worrell	Craft & Homework Club Mrs Iordache & Mrs Mothersdale
After School 3.15-3.45	No Clubs due to staff meetings in A124	Homework (GCSE) All Staff	Homework All Staff	Homework All Staff	Homework All Staff

## Inclusion Leaders

Mrs Hamnett and Mrs Mothersdale are working with Inclusion Leaders on an exciting knitting project. They are making 'Plushis', which are a knitted friend, for children with cancer. These will then be sent out to children who are in hospital to used as a friend when undergoing treatment.



## BBC School Report 2015

School Report was back for another action-packed year of making the news with young people around the UK. At Whalley Range a group of Year 7, 8, 9 and 11 students learned the reporting ropes in order to create their own report, which is now available to watch nationwide on the BBC website.



## Holly Smale at The Central Library

A group of Year 7 students got the opportunity to meet Holly Smale: author of the Geek Girl series. In the stunning setting of Manchester's Central Library, Holly Smale spoke to the students about her life and inspiration for Geek Girl. After the conversation with the author, our students got to ask her questions. The questions asked were perceptive, thoughtful and challenging, and the students were a real credit to the school. At the end of the event, students had the opportunity to get their books signed and even took a selfie or two with Holly!



## VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Ninety students from Year 10 went to see an outstanding production of 'A View from the Bridge' at the Bolton Octagon in January. This classic of American drama is being studied for English Literature and the girls were able to gain an invaluable insight into the play in performance and the theatre company's interpretations of the characters. It sparked plenty of debate on the way home and subsequently in the classroom. The girls were thrilled to see the text brought to life. Thanks to Miss Gledhill for organising such an incredible opportunity.

## YEAR 8 ENGLISH G&T COACHES

A group of Year 8 Gifted and Talented students took on the challenge of training to be an English G&T Coach. They passed the course with flying colours and are now official English coaches. Well done!



## FOOTBALL POETRY AWARDS



Students across the school entered the National Football Poetry competition in February, in the bid to be selected to perform their poem at the Manchester School Games 2015. Only one poem could represent the school and after much deliberation, as all poems were brilliant, Sayeda Fatimah Saadi's (Year 8) poem titled, 'The Beautiful Game' was chosen. Sayeda's poem won 'Best in Area' for Greater Manchester and was invited with 5 school friends to Manchester's National Football Museum Poetry Awards. Resident poet Paul Cookson hosted the event and Sayeda represented the school with pride as she performed her poem to the audience of 5 other schools. Though she didn't win overall, she was a true credit to the school and was told that if the competition was based on performing the poem, she would have won!

**Well done Sayeda!**



## POETRY by HEART

In January Mariam Ghori was the first student from Whalley Range High School to compete in the regional final of the Poetry by Heart competition. The competition was held at the Portico Library: an inspirational and historical location hidden away above the busy streets of Manchester City Centre. Mariam had learnt and recited 3 poems by George Herbert, Benjamin Zephaniah and a First World War poem by Amy Lowell. Following the competition she has been invited to participate in poetry recitals as part of the Manchester Children's Book Festival.



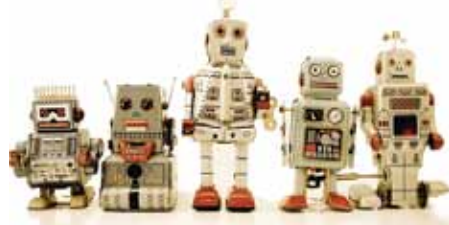
## Students' Work Published

Through Creative Writing Club, students entered the national poetry competition: War of the Words, Conflict Competition at the end of 2014. An amazing 14 of our students' poems were selected to be published! Their poems can be seen in Northern Poet's anthology and this can now be read in the LRC. Well done to those who have been published, you are a true credit to the school.



# RANGE ROBOTS

## take over Daresbury Laboratory!



A team of nine students known as 'Range Robots' represented the school in December at the FIRST LEGO League Robotics Tournament at Daresbury Laboratory in Warrington. Daresbury Laboratory is a working scientific research laboratory, and was the perfect venue for the event. Sixteen teams competed in this regional tournament, designing a robot to complete a set of tasks, and putting together a comprehensive solution to this year's problem of 'How do we learn?'.

This required teamwork, preparation and nerves of steel. The girls did fantastically well, and were praised by the judges for their confident presentation skills. The team's project was focused on how people could learn about the Tollund Man (a well preserved bog body). The students had prepared an iPhone augmented reality app that, when the phone was pointed at a leaflet, automatically played video clips explaining aspects of the subject.

At the Robot Game, the team's robot did particularly well at the second attempt of three, scoring the highest number of points in that round. Overall, the team came fifth in the Robot Game which was a fantastic achievement. Well done to Range Robots!

**RoboClub takes place in room B0/08 every Tuesday lunchtime, and is open to all Year 7, 8 and 9 students interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. See Mr Beggs or Mr Daly for details.**



### STEM EVENT

A number of Whalley Range Sixth Form students planned and delivered a fantastic STEM showcase event for our Key Stage 3 students, with a range of STEM stalls, interesting activities and entertainment. The event was a fantastic success and has helped to raise awareness of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics opportunities within our school. With a really high turnout many students left the event with valuable knowledge about STEM, and a greater understanding of STEM-based options and careers going forward.



### DIGITAL LEADERS – REAL SMART

As part of the Real Smart Enterprise Skills recording activity this half-term, Digital Leaders were once again a big help to Learning Coaches and students. Digital Leaders ensured that they were able to go around each form to provide assistance regarding the use of Real Smart. They have attended and received training to train themselves on how to use Real Smart so that they can share and pass on their knowledge and ICT skills to both staff and students. Well done Digital Leaders!

### WORLD AWAY EVENT

Two sets of students attended this careers event where they were fortunate enough to listen to a motivational speaker and they took part in a question and answer session with employees from different sectors e.g. HR and Engineering. It was commented that the Whalley Range students were the most animated group of students the employees had met on the day!

### CAREERS FAIR

Local colleges were invited into school to help students think about their futures. Here at Whalley Range we encourage the students to make the right decisions as they will be staying in education until they are 18 years of age. The students had the opportunity to speak to all the colleges including our very own Sixth Form and Anna Browne who works in school doing our careers advice and guidance was on hand to help the students.



# Conway Centres

Arts and Outdoor Education

## YEAR 11 RESIDENTIAL TO ANGLESEY

On a rainy Friday 13<sup>th</sup> of March, 45 Year 11 students and six teachers headed to the Conway Centre on Anglesey for the second annual 'English and Maths Booster Residential'.

We arrived to a crisp but sunny Wales afternoon, where students gained a taste of the centre and the activities with a tour and an introduction to the Revision Presentation Challenge. Then it was straight into the rooms to unpack, a filling meal and the first two revision sessions.

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.

Saturday morning saw an early start for breakfast and three more revision and study sessions. The girls once again excelled themselves, motivating and encouraging each other to aim higher.

Saturday afternoon was a real change of pace - our big outdoor adventure of either canoeing or the high ropes obstacle course. The latter culminated in several students (and Mr Ward) throwing themselves off a 20m platform with the rest of the students managing the ropes to catch them. This was perseverance and resilience in action, making memories to last forever. Saturday night saw the students competing in Mr Boden's Mega Quiz - thoroughly enjoyed by students and staff alike. 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.



## TRANSITION TO WRHS TRANSITION

### New Intake Evening

The first of our new intake events for those students joining us in Year 7, September 2015 was a real success. It was a pleasure to welcome so many excited and slightly nervous students and their parents/carers. The evening was extremely busy with guided tours, form filling, refreshments and conversation. The next new intake event is a Question and Answer session which will be on Monday 18th May, 2015 from 3.30pm to 6.00pm.



### Primary Art Challenge

90 Year 5 students entered the Primary Art Challenge for 2015. We had some fantastic, colourful, creative and interesting entries. The young artists were given the task of designing their own piece of bunting telling the story of their imagined 'Happy Ending'. The artists based their work on the 'The Lost Happy Endings' by Carol Ann Duffy and Jane Ray using pencil, paint, crayon, collage.

The winners of the competition were: Mominah Altaf, Laraib Anwar, Asmaa Kekli, Andrew Jackson, Katie Hodgson and Lucian Judge from Wilbraham Primary School and Abdi, Jerry Horgan-Safe and Keri from Manley Park Primary School. Thank you to all those budding artists who entered the competition and well done to the winners.



### Primary Enterprise Challenge Cup

As always the Year 6 Enterprise Challenge Cup was lots of fun. Teams from Birchfield's, Heald Place, Manley Park, St. Margaret's and St. Mary's took part in the competition. After a very industrious, often hectic and messy day a final decision had to be made as to the winners. All teams and their members were judged on their overall contribution to the day, to the team effort, decision making, planning, creating and presenting. It was an extremely difficult decision to pick a winning team as everyone entered into the spirit of the day. First place was awarded to Birchfield's Primary School, second to Heald Place and third to St. Mary's. The members of the three placed teams were awarded a well-deserved trophy and a certificate.



## THE ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM



This year Whalley Range 11-18 High School have created the Environmental Team, a group of student leaders who are tasked with improving their school environment. In February two of the Environmental Team (Anmool Mohammed and Wafa Ibrahim) spent a morning at the Parrs Wood High School Recycling and Efficiency Convention. This convention was aimed at helping schools to become more environmentally friendly. The students really enjoyed the event and came away with an exciting new outlook on ways to improve our school environment. As a result the Environmental Team have created an anti-littering campaign, and they look forward to implementing other environment based projects around school.



## LEADING EDGE TEACHING

In February the Geography department hosted a 'sharing good practice regional event'. Geography teachers from across the north west came to Whalley Range to find out about the innovative and creative teaching strategies used within the Geography department. This was a hugely successful event and delegates left with lots of new ideas to try in their own schools.



## Insight into GEOGRAPHY

On 5th March a group of 10 Year 9 students went to the University of Manchester for an exciting, hands-on day exploring the advantages of taking a degree in Geography. Students were given presentations by leading University professors and current University of Manchester students. These talks provided our students with insight into university applications, student life and higher education. The highlight of the day was when students got to make their own glaciers and allow them to flow down a model mountain. This experiment allowed students to see geographical research in action, at the same time as having fun making and playing with glacial 'GAK'. The students were a credit to the school and came away with a renewed insight into Geography.



## TEENS & TODDLERS

A group of our Year 10 students have successfully completed the Teens and Toddlers course. They have shown great commitment throughout the duration of the 18 week course, completing work experience at a local nursery for one morning per week. During their time in the nursery they develop an ongoing relationship with a "toddler" they are buddied up with. The toddler looks forward to the visit each week and the students found it hard to say goodbye!! Whilst on this course they improve their communication skills amongst other things and develop a sense of responsibility - this course is invaluable if the student is considering working in childcare in the future.



# Sky Sports Trip

At a Sky Sports conference late last year the school won a competition to take a group of Year 7 students to London to be part of the Game Changes show on Sky Sports 1. Choosing which students was a hard decision so the girls entered a competition in which they had to write a letter explaining why they wanted to go. The trip was a great success! The girls were part of the live show and had the opportunity to go backstage into the 'Skills Section' where they learnt about the different roles needed when presenting on television. Upon returning to school, the leaders are passing their knowledge onto others through presentations and videos.



# INTER-HOUSE FOOTBALL

A fantastic event with lots of goals and nail-biting moments in which 50 students took part across all 5 Houses. Players showed great teamwork and sportsmanship in all games and it was great to see so many supporters from staff and students cheering for their individual Houses to win.

Holmes secured their place in the final and it took a tough semi-final between Williams and Winfrey to decide the second finalist. Winfrey clinched the result and went on to win a very closely contested final.

**The results were as follows:  
1st Winfrey, 2nd Holmes, 3rd Williams  
and 4th place Radcliffe & Westwood.**



# Primary Basketball

Primary basketball was a fantastic event, seeing numerous schools competing in the school games. The event saw over 20 sports leaders running the event, taking on numerous roles, such as officiating, timing and score keeping. The leaders were exceptional in their delivery showing professionalism throughout. St Mary's Primary quoted:

*"I thought everything was very well organised and that the young leaders were incredibly mature and knowledgeable for their age. I was particularly impressed with the confidence that they showed and their leadership skills! I am so pleased that I can bring my children to these competitions where they can be inspired by older children in the community."*

# NETBALL KNOCKOUT

Congratulations to the Year 7 and Year 10 Netball team who have taken part in the Manchester Schools knockout tournaments. All students were fantastic and displayed excellent netball and teamwork skills.

Also, congratulations to the Year 7 and Year 8 Netball team who participated in the South Manchester league and have been unbeaten this season. Well done girls!



# SPORTS EMPLOYABILITY

A group of Year 10 GCSE and Gifted & Talented students attended a Sports Employability Event at Manchester College recently. Students were able to discuss and enquire about the potential industry and how to work towards a career in sport. The students also took part in various activities such as fitness testing, karate and American football. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



# Badminton Finals

After a Central & East badminton singles competition on the 10th February Shruti Khanal and Monesha Manboard qualified through to the finals! They both played 4 tough competitors including playing each other. Both played extremely well and were a credit to the school! Overall Shruti came joint 2nd place and Monesha came 5th, an excellent result to add to the PE department's achievements.

# Year 11 BTEC Sport

## Primary School Leadership Sessions

Our Year 11s have been completing the final units of their BTEC Sport course this year. This unit has been based on sports leadership and included tasks on planning and delivering personal sporting sessions to primary school children. Wilbraham Primary School have been coming over to us on a Thursday and Friday afternoon to participate in these sporting sessions led by the Year 11 students. They have worked hard in ensuring they have practiced their sessions well enough to deliver to Year 5 students. The sessions have been a great opportunity for the Year 11s to develop some of their leadership, confidence, communication and responsibility skills. The Year 5 students have been a pleasure to teach and have really enjoyed their afternoons of sport. It has been fantastic to see our young women being future role-models to younger students and dealing with this responsibility superbly.



# GIFTED & TALENTED ACHIEVEMENTS

Teya-Sophia Slepokurova attended a gymnastics competition in Wigan and was placed 3rd on the vault, 5th on the floor and 4th overall. Congratulations and good luck for your next competition in September.

Aaliyah Ali attended a cricket tournament in Wales and has been selected by a talent scout to represent and play for Wales (regionals). Aaliyah has also been selected to play for her county of Lancashire at cricket. Congratulations and good luck for your summer tournaments.

Leah Hughes has a dance performance coming up with her dance school in July called The Dance Extravaganza. Leah has been rewarded with 'Dancer of the Year' and will be performing a dance solo.





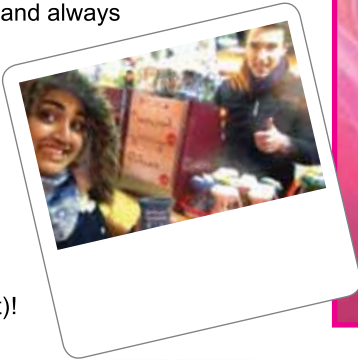
**AACHEN AT CHRISTMAS**



**Kann ich ein Selfie machen? ,,**



Some people said we were crazy, going to Germany for the day on the last day of last term, but it was an experience we will never forget. Aachen is a beautiful mediaeval city with the second best Christmas market in Europe, clustered around the famous cathedral. We spent the day experiencing the sights and sounds of a real German market, sampling the food, buying presents and learning about Aachen's history from the Romans to the present day, not forgetting Karl der Grosse (Charlemagne). The people in Aachen were friendly and helpful, and always ready to pose with our students, especially when they asked them in German. It was such fun. Learn to ask if you can have a selfie and you could come on the next trip just like Radia (pictured right)!



**Valentine's Day**

On Tuesday 10th of February, the World Language leaders held a Valentine's day event. There, people who came were taught how to make paper hearts. It was a very nice experience for the participants and the leaders. They also had to write ' I LOVE YOU' in a language they do not speak inside the paper before folding it and making a heart out of it. The languages included Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Urdu and others. This all enabled students to say a phrase in another language and to have fun making something they may not know how to make. Even the language leaders learnt new things out of this task!

Chinese Mandarin	我爱你
French	je t' aime
Spanish	Te quiero
German	Ich liebe dich
Urdu	میں آپ سے محبت کرتی ہوں
Arabic	أنا بحبك
Korean	사랑해



**Chinese New Year**

Recently our language leaders helped to organise a Chinese New Year celebration event along with Miss Liu our specialist teacher. According to Chinese astrology, each year (starting from Chinese New Year) is associated with an animal sign, occurring in a 12-year cycle and this year has been designated the Year of the Goat!

138 students attended in total and many got to experience writing the elaborate words and learning to speak basic phrases. The event was a huge success with special thanks to Miss Boulesteix and Miss Yang for their support.



## ENTERPRISING trip to...



It was an amazing experience, and increased our knowledge on forces and other aspects of science, as well as learning about textiles and drama.

Everything came to life! We found out about the history of industry in Manchester, and how people made money in the 18th Century,

when Manchester was nicknamed 'Cottonopolis'. We learnt that women were paid half as much as the men, and children as young as 5 would work picking up scraps of cotton, and sometimes getting squashed. We went around the museum and found our favourite items, taking pictures and trying interactive activities.

We had planned presentations in class, and we filmed each other talking about the science behind machines in the museum, like ejector seats and hydroplanes: performing a rap, poem, song or piece of drama. Later in the term we are inviting our families to the museum to see our films.



# SPACE WEEK

**STEM CLUB** takes place in room B0/43 every Friday lunchtime, and is open to all Year 7, 8 and 9 students interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. See Miss Bird for more information.

**PHYSICS** Physics Leaders meet every Wednesday Lunchtime in B012. If you are interested in applying to be one please see Miss Beardwood in room B0/12



## Eon/ Smallpeice Biomass Project

In February 73 potential future engineers from Year 8 were involved in a project with the Smallpeice trust, which was sponsored by Eon. The students learned all about biomass power stations and then designed and built their own small working models, using science, technology, engineering and maths skills.

## ROBOCLUB ROBOT RACE

Students from RoboClub organised a Robot Race under the canopy one lunchtime to celebrate British Science Week. Students from all years took part as three teams competed for prizes. The challenge was simple: program a robot to navigate around Science-themed obstacles without touching them, then cross the finish line. To prove the programming was well thought out, the robot had to be able to recreate the race three times in a row to win. RoboClub members were on hand to help. Just before lunchtime came to an end, Rohma Shahzad's team won!

**Well done!**



## Physics Leaders

### OPEN DAY

The physics leaders hosted an open day for rest of the school. They demonstrated lots of different physics experiments including balancing the forces on helium balloons, the Van der Graaf generator, viewing light spectra, making hovercrafts and making 3D glasses. It was well attended and everyone enjoyed experiencing some physics experiments that they wouldn't normally see in lessons.



## CANCER SPECIALIST

Two students from STEM club interviewed Julie Brookes, a cancer scientist from the University of Manchester on Range Radio. Zakiyyah Kholwadia and Alea Mahmood asked Julie about her typical day, inspirational people in her life, and her views on how women are perceived in science.

The full interview is available to listen to on: [www.mixcloud.com/wrhs1118](http://www.mixcloud.com/wrhs1118)



# Telescopes Talk

Recently, Whalley Range High School had an exciting visit from an astronomy professor. Professor Michael Merrifield from the University of Nottingham came into school to talk to the girls about telescopes and how we use them to view the universe. This was part of an ongoing project on telescopes for the physics leaders but all years were invited to attend. Lots of girls came along to hear him talk about different types of telescopes, how they work and what they are being used to do. This talk included exclusive information about the upcoming project to build the European Extremely Large Telescope or E-ELT. This will be the largest telescope of its kind in the world when construction is complete in 2024. This, as Professor Merrifield pointed out, will be just in time for the future astronomers attending the talk to use to carry out their cutting edge research. Two of our physics leaders, Zoha Karim and Isha Azam said *“The students enjoyed learning very deeply into the topic and were intrigued specifically about the E-ELT. The visit has made us think a lot about Physics.”* All the girls who attended will be entered into a raffle. A few lucky students will be invited to join the physics leaders on their trip to Jodrell Bank next term.



## Observing the SOLAR ECLIPSE

Ten Science Leaders accompanied by staff recorded measurements of light intensity, temperature, wind speed and bird activity during the partial solar eclipse.

*We feel lucky to be one of the 10 students to see the eclipse. This was the first eclipse that any of us had seen, and it is amazing how gravity and other forces can make the moon pass in front of the sun. It felt like the evening, the temperature dropped and suddenly everything was silent. It was amazing!*

Iqra Ali 9SW1b and Saffiyah Naqshbandi 9SW2b



*Abigale Stuart Robinson, Year 7, said “I really liked trying the experiments, my favourite was making bracelets out of UV beads”*

### EGG-CELLENT!

Students from STEM club invited pupils from all year groups to their open day. Students were invited to take part in experiments such as turning copper coins silver and gold, lava lamps and finding out which fruits act as batteries, all planned and run by the STEM club leaders and members. There were also exciting demonstrations such as liquid fireworks, egg-cellent egg-speriments, and volcanoes.

*On 20th March we got to see this eclipse happen live, and to experience the changes in the surroundings, like when the eclipse started to take action and the birds and other creatures became quiet. In fact, we got to see the birds, flying around away from the sun. For us, it was a huge experience, when everyone had to stay inside. The 10 of us and some teachers had the opportunity to watch, and measure the movement of the moon, weather, wind and sound.*

Amama Salman 9VW2b



## KS5 SCIENCE CLUB

### Spectroscopy in a Suitcase

Ever wondered how you can make paracetamol in a class room? Year 12 and 13 A-level Chemistry students had a unique insight into the pharmaceutical industry through the “Spectroscopy in a Suitcase” workshop delivered by the University of Manchester and the Royal Society of Chemistry. The students succeeded in making high-purity paracetamol and were able to analyse their product using infra-red spectrometry machines and advanced thin layer chromatography techniques.



*“The experience increased the depth of my knowledge of analysis techniques. It was fun making the paracetamol”*

Jumannah Al-Assadi

## Physics Show

Students from Years 9 and 10 and the STEM club gained some hands on physics experience recently. Physicist Marcin Poblocki visited our school, with a range of homemade physics tricks. Students applied their knowledge of electricity and forces to explain why objects were moving, levitating, making sounds and lighting up, and then had some hands-on experience making tricks of their own.

# NATIONAL NO SMOKING DAY

The Student Council were asked to highlight National No Smoking Day on 11th March 2015. The strap line for this year's campaign was 'Proud to be a Quitter'. Miss Sutcliffe created a wonderful display highlighting celebrities who have successfully quit smoking, along with some fascinating facts. The Student Council went into assemblies to deliver a powerful message after interviewing staff who are also successful quitters. On National No Smoking Day, the student council ran a pop-up information stand. This was very interactive for students and had items such as a healthy lung and a smokers lung; a model of a mouth which compared a smokers and non-smokers and a case which contained just some of the chemicals found in cigarette smoke! Students were amazed at what they learnt! The Student Council are hoping that all their hard work had the desired effect!



# FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

February saw the arrival of Fairtrade Fortnight and as always Whalley Range 11-18 High School embraced it. Assemblies were delivered to each of the 5 Houses to launch the event. An interactive quiz was sent to Learning Coaches for students to take part in to help them learn a bit more about Fairtrade. Mrs Davies also ran another quiz for students with prizes at the end of the week for those with the most correct answers. Mr Lazarou, Catering Manager, served Fairtrade drinks for the whole 2 weeks. The highlight of the fortnight, as always, was the staff Fairtrade Tea & Coffee Event on Friday 6th March.



With support from the Co-operative membership and our local store in Whalley Range, staff were able to enjoy a cup of Fairtrade tea or coffee and a biscuit. On arrival staff were given a raffle ticket giving them the chance to win some Fairtrade goodies. Congratulations to Mr Egleton (pictured) who was the lucky winner!



# ENTERPRISE MARKET HALL

The Enterprise Markethall continues to go from strength to strength. Students have embraced the entrepreneurial spirit and the number and diversity of stalls is increasing! The Product Design leaders came up with a great idea for Mother's Day gifts, crafting hearts for students to buy along with a card for their deserving mums. They even took orders so that gifts could be personalised. As a result of their fabulous creativity the Product Design Leaders



made a donation of £100 to Comic Relief - Well Done Team! Come along to G207 every Monday at Lunchtime and see what's on offer - you may pick up a bargain!

## REMAINING TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR

Half-term ends: Friday 22nd May 2015

**Half-term holiday:**

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2015

Term starts: Monday 1st June 2015

Term ends: Thursday 16th July 2015

**Autumn term starts:**

Wednesday 2nd September 2015

**Public Holidays**

May Day - Monday 4th May 2015

Spring Bank Holiday - Monday 25th May 2015



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