

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

PARTNERSHIP NEWS

SPRING 2016

NEWS • REVIEWS • FACULTIES • CHARITY • PERFORMANCE • SUCCESS



featuring....

**STEM WEEK
MENTORING
CAREERS
DIGITAL MEDIA
WORLD FAITHS
SPORTS LEADERS**



....aspire, believe, achieve”



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WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER AND THE ACADEMY HEADTEACHER

Ms P Kane MA - Executive Headteacher Mrs E Hole - Academy Headteacher

Welcome to this Spring Edition of Partnership News. I am pleased to announce that we have recently been recognised nationally for our exceptional 2015 performance. Educational Outcomes data analysis from SSAT has shown that the school is in the top 20% nationally for progress made by students between their Key Stage 2 results and their Key Stage 4 results.



Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said:

"I hope that SSAT's Educational Outcomes award will highlight the professionalism, commitment and hard work of the leaders, teachers and students at Whalley Range 11-18 High School. Recognising and sharing successes like this is at the heart of SSAT's mission, so I am delighted to congratulate Whalley Range 11-18 High School on their achievement."

Congratulations and well done to everybody for your hard work!

Mrs E. Hole - Academy Headteacher

"We are delighted at this success and want all our partners to know how much we appreciate their contribution to raising aspirations and motivating students to work hard to achieve their ambitions."

Ms. P. Kane M.A. - Executive Headteacher

Lucy Powell MP

The first female MP in Manchester

A truly inspiring and motivational woman, who took the time from her busy schedule to speak to students at Whalley Range and Levenshulme High School. It was a fantastic opportunity to take part interviewing Ms Powell and finding out about her pathway into politics. Maintaining the balance between family life as well as a demanding political job is key to sustaining her successful career. As a Shadow Education Secretary Ms Powell's role is really one to be admired and motivated by. It showed us a true insight that no matter what background, upbringing or gender, you can aspire to something you want to become. During the interview we openly deliberated the major talking points on the current political agenda. Alongside this we put across our views on political aspects such as voting and the linear and modular approach to A' level exams. It was positive to perceive that Ms. Powell took on board all our views.

Alaina Ahmed SF3



Anti-Bullying Room Launch

The anti-bullying ambassadors launched the grand opening of the anti-bullying room in B034 on Thursday 25th February. They wrote special VIP invitations to Ms Kane and Mrs Hole to cut the ribbon and open the doors to the students. Students were invited to come and write their own inspirational quotes to go up in the anti-bullying room as a sign of school solidarity against bullying. The anti-bullying room is manned by two anti-bullying ambassadors every break and lunchtime. Students have since been using the room to report bullying incidents and to gain support from the anti-bullying ambassadors and it has proved to be a real success!

INSPIRING DIGITAL & MEDIA CAREERS AT THE BBC.....

The BBC opened its doors to Whalley Range and Levenshulme on Thursday 3rd March to promote diversity within the media and digital industries. Twenty Year 8 students from Whalley Range and twenty Year 8 students from Levenshulme were invited to visit the modern BBC Dock House building in Media City for a bespoke careers event aimed specifically at girls.

Inspirational women from the BBC were on hand to deliver sessions promoting opportunities from Coding, Systems Analyst, and Graphic Design to a range of media opportunities at the BBC aimed at girls. The students took an active role in the sessions interviewing BBC staff and then delivering confident pitches in front of an audience.



“The BBC is such an amazing place to work with amazing opportunities for young leading women”

Nicola Crowther, Diversity Events Manager at the BBC



INSPIRING Women Conference



Year 9 and 10 students from Whalley Range 11-18 High School and Levenshulme High School attended the Inspiring Women Conference as part of our on-going collaboration with the Alliance Manchester Business School.

Students listened to presentations from a range of inspiring women from both the education and business sectors. They were also given the opportunity to ask questions about the womens' careers. Students then attended sessions to develop their employability skills. The closing remarks were made from Professor Fiona Devine, Head of Alliance Manchester Business School and Sandra Cox, Partner KPMG, LLP (UK). KPMG co-sponsored this rewarding event.

Another group of students recently attended an International Women's Day event at Manchester Metropolitan University. The conference was a fantastic opportunity for our students to visit the university, meet some inspiring women and develop their employability skills.

The project will close with a Graduation Ceremony at Manchester Metropolitan University in June.



International Women's Day Event at MMU

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2016



Another successful Fairtrade Fortnight has been held at Whalley Range 11-18 High School! Assemblies were delivered to each House encouraging students to think about their breakfast and where it had come from. In the words of Martin Luther King 'Before you have finished eating breakfast, you have depended on half the world'. Students learnt about the Fairtrade Premium and how this helps farmers with education, better working facilities and securing a fair price for their product. Students were also invited to take part in a Fairtrade Wordsearch with prizes announced at the end of Fairtrade Fortnight. Staff didn't miss out either as Mrs Davies organised a Fairtrade Tea & Coffee Event for them. This was kindly sponsored by the local Co-op Forum along with kind donations from Dave Green and the team at the Co-operative Store in Whalley Range. Staff came along to have a cup of Fairtrade tea or coffee and a biscuit – it was a great chance to meet with colleagues and have a chat. There was also the added incentive of winning a bundle of Fairtrade goodies.

Well done to Mr Swift (pictured right) who was the lucky winner!



Student Council.....



The Student Council at Whalley Range High School is going from strength to strength! Recently they attended the re-launch of the Manchester Youth Council at Manchester Town Hall. This event was held on a Friday evening, but even after a long week at school students were keen to go along and take part. Mrs Davies was incredibly proud of the girls as they stood up in front of an audience of other school councils, youth groups and agencies who work with young people to deliver a presentation about their experiences on the student council at Whalley Range, in the Grand Hall at the Town Hall!

Mrs Davies, staff link for the student council said, *'A number of people came up to me to congratulate the girls on their presentation. They were very professional and kept very calm even though it was a very daunting task! I was certainly glad it was them up there and not me!'*

The student council are a very committed group of girls who are working hard for fellow students at Whalley Range 11-18 High School. If you want to find out who are the student representatives for your House see Mrs Davies in A058.

inclusion news

COLOURING COMPETITION

The Half-Term 1 Colouring Competition was a great success and lots of students participated enthusiastically. Congratulations to our competition winners, from left to right, Naazemah Khaliq, Aysha Takila, Rahima Imtiaz and to all students who participated.

Rahima stated: **"I enjoyed colouring and being with my friends and I will continue to take part in the next competition!"**

The colouring competition will continue during terms 2 and 3 on Friday lunchtimes in A124.

All students are welcome.



FRIDAY LUNCHTIME CRAFT CLUB

Friday Lunchtime Craft Club (A124) has continued to be extremely popular amongst students in all year groups. Following the success of last term, girls increased their interest for crafting and its advantages. Students used this fantastic opportunity to make personalised cards for Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. Everyone experienced new techniques and enjoyed developing their artistic skills under the guidance of Mrs Lordache. A massive well done!



“WE Day is a celebration of youth making a difference in their local and global communities. WE Schools is the year-long programme that nurtures compassion in young people and gives them the tools to create transformative social change.”



WE Day Concert Trip



On Wednesday 9th March, 18 student leaders were invited to the annual WE Day event at Wembley Arena to celebrate their involvement in making a difference in the wider local community. The tickets to the event could not be bought but invitations were given to our students to recognise the commitment they have made in their leadership roles. For example, so far this year students have helped raise money for a local food bank and invited individuals from a local residential care home to join them for a Christmas afternoon tea.

“Together WE CAN change the world”

It was a long day with students meeting at 3am at Piccadilly train station for the journey to London. The whole WE Day event was incredibly inspiring and there were some famous faces at this year’s concert including:

Rita Ora, Brian Cox, Labrinth and Fleur East - to name a few! The



student leaders found the day so inspirational that they are currently applying to become ‘WE Leaders’ so that they can continue to focus on making a difference in their wider local and global communities and we look forward to being invited back next year!



National Theatre Connections Festival

Take Away
by Jackie Kay

29th April 2016 at 7pm
@HOME Theatre, MCR
featuring WRHS students

Tickets £5.00 each

See Mrs Carlin for further details

Take Away tells the story of a town which is in the grip of onions - everyone is doing what they can to get their fix. Darcus, a travelling poet, turns up and offers to rid the town of the onions with his rhymes, for a small fee. A poetic ensemble piece about a community who pay the price for refusing to keep their promise.



National Connections Theatre Festival at HOME THEATRE

Friday 29th April 2016 at 6.30pm

We are excited that students from our school are taking part in the National Theatre Connections Festival and will be performing in the play TAKE AWAY by Jackie Kay and performing at one of Manchester’s newest theatres.

It is the first time that our school has been involved in the National Connections Festival which is a prestigious theatre event for schools across the country. If we are selected by the national judges our students may have the chance to perform TAKE AWAY with the school cast on stage at the National Theatre in London’s South Bank later in the year. We hope you can come and support Whalley Range students. For more information please contact the Drama department.



CHINESE NEW YEAR 2016

Wednesday 10th February 2016 in the Hall, the World Language Leaders organised a celebration of the 2016 Chinese New Year – Year of the Monkey!

Leaders held varied stalls where you could learn greetings and calligraphy, try your luck and much more. 66 students attended, and we raised £18.90 for the Sickle Cell charity.



Emilie Chan, World Language Leader who helped organise the event.



“Many students came and learnt a lot of new things. I would like to thank the students from different Houses who came to support this event.”

French Mentoring

Olivia Carter, Faith Chamapiwa, Naima Shah, Gursharon Bansal and Loujane Eljabri have been amazing KS4 French mentors since the beginning of the year.

They have helped with memorising for speaking and writing assessments, with getting the correct pronunciation, with including tenses in pieces of work, and giving ideas and support. The mentees made significant progress with their speaking and writing skills at GCSE! Thank you so much!



Ammal Al-Nousaity, Areeba Ahmed, Kaynat Manaf and Sana Ahmed, all talented Year 9 French students have been mentoring since the beginning of term. They have supported Year 7 and Year 9 with a noticeable impact on the speaking skills of the students mentored.

A group of high attaining Year 7 students have also been inspired to mentor this term. These lovely and enthusiastic students have made themselves available 'à la carte' to help others in their class with great results! **Please keep it up and “merci”.**



language leader website

We have recently launched the World Language Leader Website. Come and visit our page! Tell us what your favourite language is, watch the photos of our events, discover our mentors and find a link to get an app to learn world languages!

We are still developing the site, so regularly have a look to see what's new!



MGS Trip

On Friday 26 February 2016, Our students from Year 12 and Year 13 who are studying Arabic and Urdu went to Manchester Grammar School to listen to a talk which was delivered by a speaker from GCHQ. This talk helped the students understand more about the value of language learning in their profession and the opportunities that exist for linguists within their organisation. The students gained an insight into the value of their language learning in a real world context.

Inspirational Speaker

The Year 10 Spanish classes recently welcomed Dr Marina De La Casa to our school. She gave an informative presentation on her work in South America on Tuberculosis. The students found her research experience, the challenges of working in difficult conditions and career path all extremely interesting and this stimulated a lively question and answer session. The Year 10 students were inspired by her achievements and the positive role she has played within her chosen vocation.



Young Journalism Prize Winner

Last year, students from all over the North West were invited to write about their favourite books, poems and authors and to submit their work to the Manchester Children's Book Festival (MCBF) Reading and Writing Relay. Hundreds of fantastic articles were sent in, with lots of brilliant writing about favourite stories and poems and what they love most about the festival. The best of these were published on the MCBF blog.

The MCBF team had a very tough job deciding which articles they liked best but we are very pleased to announce the title of 2015 MCBF Young Journalist of the Year has been awarded to... Zainab Imran!

Zainab, really impressed the MCBF team with her enthusiasm, fantastic articles about the festival and her amazing interview with Time Riders author, Alex Scarrow. She was awarded £100 of Amazon vouchers. You can read Zainab's great work on the MCBF blog.

Runners up in the prize (also published on the blog) were: Taha Haque, Areeba Ahmed and Atiya Mahboob who blogged about multicultural Manchester and how they were inspired by the poetry of Carol Ann Duffy. All runners-up received £20 Amazon vouchers.



Creative Writing Club

This year we have had 40 poems and short stories, created by our students through Creative Writing Club, selected for publication across a range of anthologies. Students have been very busy in Creative Writing Club this year, entering many national competitions. Their poems and short stories have been selected for publication on the basis of imagination, perception, expression, creativity and use of language, making this a great achievement for our students to be proud of.

Copies of all of these anthologies will be kept at the British Library and other libraries across the UK and Republic of Ireland, providing a lasting record of their achievement. Copies of the anthologies of students' work will also be available in the LRC if you would like to read their fantastic writing. The anthologies include: The Poetry Trials - Lancashire and Manchester, Chasing Shadows - A Collection of Teen Poetry, Poetry Rivals 2015 - Beyond the Page and Grave Encounters - A Collection of Ghost Stories.

This year's Debate Mate has been an exciting time for all the girls involved in Urban Debate League competitions. The girls were involved in a series of challenging debates against pupils from other schools in Manchester. During the debates and competition all girls had the opportunity to showcase the excellent skills and understanding they have developed during their Debate Mate sessions, and did so with impressive confidence. Mentors have commented on how well the girls had researched the topic and worked really hard and enhanced their knowledge into various different topics for all motions that were given to them. This term the girls will be competing for the Debate Mate Cup final at the University of Manchester!



This half term, we were lucky enough to meet L.A. Weatherly, best-selling author of the Angel series, as well as almost 50 other books for children and teenagers. She's originally from Little Rock, Arkansas, and lives in Hampshire, England with her husband. Lee's visit was to celebrate World Book Day 2016 on behalf of the Manchester Children's Book Festival.

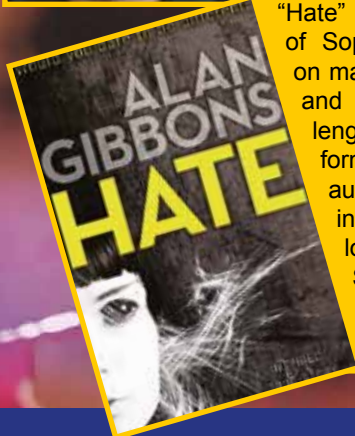
Lee spoke to our Year 7s at length about her experiences, inspirations and successes. She also took questions from students and engaged in further exciting discussion. At the end, Lee signed copies of her books for many enthusiastic students and presented prizes. If you didn't manage to purchase one on the day, we are lucky enough to have several copies in our library now!



CREATIVE INSPIRATION

We were lucky to take KS3 students to a fantastic talk led by Alan Gibbons, winner of the Blue Peter Book Award at Manchester Central Library where he discussed his latest novel.

Teen author, Gibbons and his book "Hate" was inspired by the murder of Sophie Lancaster and focuses on major themes such as prejudice and discrimination. He talked at length of his experiences as a former teacher and now as an author. We were able to engage in brilliant discussions and ask lots of exciting questions. Students also had the opportunity to receive signed copies of his books.





STEM NEWS

STEM Club

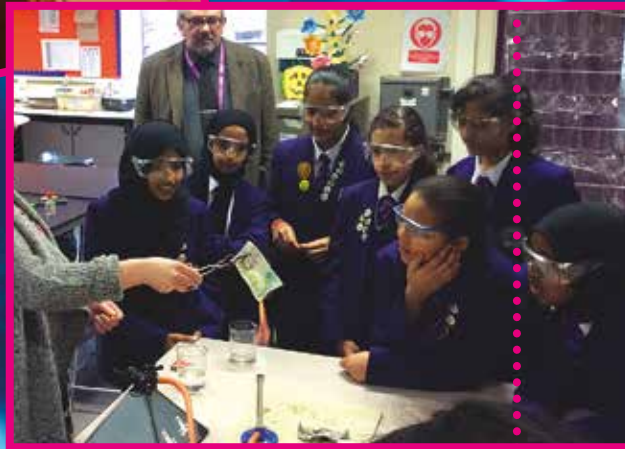
This term in STEM Club the student leaders have organised a number of exciting sessions, including a session on fire where we (safely) set fire to money and teachers, a session on colour where we learnt about glow sticks and skittles, and a session where we made 3D crystal Christmas decorations.

STEM Club is for Year 7 and 8 students and is run by STEM Leaders every Wednesday in B038.



International Women's Day

In celebration of International Women's Day on 8 March 2016, thirty Year 9 students attended a STEM show organised by Siemens Education and well-known scientist and presenter Fran Scott to mark the beginning of a unique collaboration between Siemens UK and the Girls' Schools Association. During the hour long event the students were encouraged and inspired to raise their aspirations and get excited about STEM and big careers in science engineering and technology. Whilst exploding balloons and setting fire to teachers, the students were helped to think about what they want from a career rather than choosing a career that they already know about. Students were also inspired by modern female role models and their contributions to science and engineering, learning about the valuable role that women can play in these fields.



SIEMENS

Radio Interviews

The STEM Media Leaders have been interviewing people with interesting STEM jobs to break the stereotype that scientists aren't creative! Tune in to the school radio station or Youtube page to find out more about becoming a sound engineer for TV programmes, or how engineering can send you travelling around the world.



Engineering Clean Water

We were selected to go to a workshop to design a water filter because we had been trying hard in our science lessons. It was a fun experience. The engineers from Manchester University came and taught us about the background of water and why not everyone has access to clean healthy water to drink. We were then split into three different groups to do a challenge.

The challenge was to use plastic bottles, different sized rocks and sand to build a water filter to clean the water. The different groups had their own unique ideas to see who could filter the water the cleanest. Group two were the winners! Everyone who participated had a really good time.

Rida Zainab, Muskan Fatima and Zeryan Mohamadian.



Forensic Scientist

Forensic scientists use biology, chemistry, maths and a range of techniques, to obtain and analyse evidence from a variety of sources. As a forensic scientist, your main role would be to look for evidence to link a suspect with a crime scene. You will need to: attend crime scenes, DNA profiling, analyse handwriting, analyse tissue samples for drugs or poison and be able to give impartial scientific evidence in court. Some skills you will need: concentration, attention to detail, an enquiring mind, and ability to work alone and in a team and being able to justify your findings when challenged. Hours: 37 Monday to Friday. Some employers operate a shift or on-call system for dealing with high priority work.

Starting salary: £20,000+ a year

STEM SKILLS REQUIRED:

- Maintain accuracy in record-keeping and communicate findings
- Research topics and determine good, reliable sources of information
- Analyse small parts of systems and see relationships; notice details in content and process
- Predict and draw conclusions using data
- Think creatively and solve problems and experiment

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

A science-based degree or postgraduate qualification

Research by Saffiyah Naqshbandi

Magic Materials Trip

As a reward for their hard work as STEM leaders students were invited to the Museum of Science and Industry in December to learn about material science. After learning about the future of material science including biodegradable socks, bullet proof clothes and 3D printed organs, students tested the tensile strength of chocolate bars, made bouncy balls and used 3D printing pens to draw their own three dimensional designs.



**MUSEUM OF
SCIENCE
INDUSTRY**

MOSI Trip

Year 8 DT students went on a STEM trip to the Museum of Science and Industry to take part in workshops focussing on wearable technology. It was a great opportunity to get hands on with technology. The students all screen printed T-Shirts with fluorescent material paints; they then soldered their own flashing LED wearable badges. They all made small LED bags by producing a circuit in the material with conductive thread. They spent time understanding the uses of new technology, trying out google glasses and virtual worlds. The highlight was their hula hoop workshop when they learnt lots of different tricks and moves and they all came away being able to spin their hoops.



CPR Project

Whalley Range Sixth Form are beating other local schools at CPR skills!

Students are able to practise on the CPR manikin in the Sixth Form common room at any time, and are uploading their scores to compete with other local colleges on ability, improvement and amount of practise. As of March, 7/10 of the top ten performers of all time are Whalley Range students. Congratulations to Alaina Ahmed SF3 and Waheeda Khan SF2, currently 1st and 2nd place on the leaderboards. Keep practising, and keep checking our results at:

<http://cprhighschool.com/>

A group of lucky students won the chance to spend the day at the studios of Manchester radio station Key 103. After a visit to the school by the apprenticeships bus, six students were presented with the chance to record a radio commercial for 'Positive Steps', a careers guidance service based in Manchester. Positive Steps provide a range of targeted and integrated services to young people and adults designed to get them on the right track and fulfil their potential. The day was delivered by Bauer Academy, who also recorded a radio show with the students to be uploaded to the Key 103 website. The students also got a behind-the-scenes tour of the radio station, exploring the different careers available. Mr Corney, trip organizer, said of the day: "It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to see behind the scenes at our local radio station. The staff were great and ensured the students had an experience that will stay with them for years to come." We would like to thank Key 103 and Positive Steps for offering us this opportunity and look forward to hearing the finished work.

"The best way to PREDICT the future IS to create it!"



The Level 2 BTEC students went out to work in February. The students went to a variety of placements and came back with some outstanding comments about their attitude to work, enthusiasm and professionalism. Words like; willing, polite and helpful are testament to the hard work that the students put into the week. The Year 10 and remainder of Year 12 have a lot to live up to. One student in particular was interviewed and offered an Apprenticeship for September.

WORK EXPERIENCE



HELEN BOADEN

Head of BBC Radio gives an inspirational speech

Helen Boaden delivered an inspiration speech for Year 10 students on her role as a woman in the media as well as her work around AIDS. Helen has overall responsibility for BBC Radios 1, 2, 3, 4 and the digital-only stations 6 Music, 1Xtra, Radio 4 Extra and the Asian Network. She also oversees the five BBC orchestras in England, the BBC Singers and the BBC Proms. In the UK, her network news responsibilities included flagship programmes like Today, Newsnight, Question Time and Panorama as well as the BBC News website, the BBC News channel, BBC Parliament, BBC Radio 5 Live and news on local and national radio. In 1997 Helen became Head of Business Programmes and a year later she was also made Head of Current Affairs, the first woman to do the job. Her distinguished BBC career has been recognised with some of the top industry awards. An inspiration to all our students.



KEY 103 APPRENTICESHIP BUS

Once again the Key 103 bus came into the car park of Whalley Range, giving our students the opportunity to consider Apprenticeships as a viable option for their future. The Key 103 Media Bus is a fully-equipped resource, in partnership with Greater Manchester IAG (Information, Advice and Guidance) Project, with spacious work benches, laptops and internet access and provides a fantastic way to raise awareness around Apprenticeships. The bus provided the opportunity for a small group of students to use state-of-the-art recording facilities to create podcasts and vox-pops about Apprenticeships, and allowed our students to utilise the resources and explore the Apprenticeship option in more detail. Here at Whalley Range the students are given impartial advice and guidance this helps them explore every option for their future careers.



Apprenticeship

fairs are a fantastic way of finding out about apprenticeship opportunities. We hosted an apprenticeship fair for our Keys Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 students where local providers of apprenticeships were on hand to offer advice and guidance on the different apprenticeship routes. This was an opportunity for students to ask questions and figure out which apprenticeships appealed to them and allowed them to weigh up the differences between an apprenticeship and degree course.

Two lunchtime sessions were organised and as usual students were keen to learn new skills from the Unite representatives. The students were engaged with the activities and when they completed a skills assessment activity they were very supportive of each other. The sessions allowed students to understand the role of a union in the work place as well develop the key employability skills such as communication and decision making. The staff from Unite were full of praise for our students and commented on their support for each other during the group tasks.



Monique is a Postgraduate researcher at the University of Manchester. She delivered a lunchtime talk to a group of students about her route into science. The talk offered students the opportunity to learn not only about a degree in Physics with Theoretical Physics but also about student life and the opportunities available to them when they progress onto University. The talk was lighthearted yet informative breaking down the gender stereotypes of women in science.



“what a pleasure it was to do the sessions with your students. They really engaged with the activities, asked some really interesting questions and were very supportive of each other when completing the skills assessment activity.”

RELIGION IN FOCUS.....

Two Year 7 Project Day classes went to visit many local religious places of worship as part of the RE curriculum. They have been studying how Britain has become a multi-faith country.

St Werburgh's Church

Another group of students visited St Werburgh's Church and enjoyed a real 'hands on' experience as they explored the building, looked at artefacts and even got to try on the vestments worn by the priest to symbolise the different seasons in the Christian calendar.



"It was pleasing to hear him make reference to all the links and similarities that exist between the major world faiths"

The Sri Guru Gobind Singh Gurdwara

The Sri Guru Gobind Singh Gurdwara in Whalley Range hosted a visit for another group of students where they were given a presentation about Sikhism, daily life and worship in the faith community. Once again thought-provoking questions were put to the guide taking him out of his comfort zone once or twice! It was pleasing to hear him make reference to all the links and similarities that exist between the major world faiths; this really extended the learning for our students and made them think.



Gita Bhavan Hindu Temple

Other students enjoyed the sunshine as they walked to the Hindu Temple to explore the nature of worship for Hindus along with their contribution to the local community.

Students commented on the vibrant colours inside the Temple as well as the ornate decoration exterior of the building that certainly catches everyone's eyes!

Menorah Synagogue

The students learnt about the Jewish calendar, language and clothing and they were able to see the exquisite detail of The Torah Scroll containing the entire text of the Five Books of Moses, hand-written in Hebrew. One student commented:

"I was very excited to learn something new because I didn't know much about the Jewish religion before this trip".

The Buddhist Centre

Buddhism is the smallest of the major world religions, with about 500 million followers worldwide. Nonetheless, it has inspired reflection and stimulated thought for people of all faiths for thousands of years. Visiting the Buddhist centre in Chorlton, it's easy to see why.

Students were led through a guided meditation. A first pass at meditation is always a challenge for the newbie, but it can gladly be said that the girls managed it excellently and were full of glowing reports about the experience. Indeed, the sense of openness, respect and genuine insatiable curiosity from all the students was fantastic and a true credit to the school. The Buddhist centre was more than keen for students and the school to return, an invitation we will hopefully get the opportunity to take up. One student said:

"The meditation was really relaxing and made me feel calm all the way back to school. I'd love to get a chance to do more".

Basketball success

Well done to both of the school's basketball teams who have had another committed season with a special mention going to our KS4 team who have gone from strength to strength. Earlier this year they reached the City-wide finals for the first time and came a close 2nd place losing by just 3 points in the last few minutes. They have recently won the Manchester South League and now look forward to trying to retain their title of KS4 Manchester League Champions at the final 4s on April 21st in our very own Amaechi Basketball Stadium.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Year 10 students have been working hard in and outside of lessons to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Some students have gained all relevant certificates so far and are now working towards their DofE expedition where they will spend two days and one night walking and camping. A range of certificates have been made accessible to students throughout their PE lessons and homework as part of their enrichment curriculum to gain employability skills and enhance their CV.



These DofE Awards include:

- Young Cricket Leaders Award
- Young Badminton Leaders Award
- Table Tennis Officiating Award
- St John's Ambulance Dof E Certificate
- Women Get Set Go! Sports Leaders Award
- VInspired Certificates
- Duke of Edinburgh Skill
- Physical & Volunteering Bronze Certificates



Manchester Badminton Finals

Elyza Yunus in Year 10 secured her place in the badminton singles final competition held at WRHS earlier this month by confidently winning all qualifying competitions to represent Central and East Manchester. In the final she showed excellent sportsmanship, dedication and along with her hard work she won all of her 5 games. This resulted in her becoming the overall Key Stage 4 singles badminton winner for 2016 in the whole of Manchester!



aspire

Sports Leaders Leadership Academy

We are proud to announce that we have been awarded Sports Leaders Academy status for the inspiring work we do in the field of student sports leadership, becoming only the fifth school in the North West to receive such an accolade. Sports Leaders UK set up the leadership academy initiative, which is a scheme to reward and recognise some of its best approved centres who go beyond the call of duty. Sports Leaders UK presented the award to the Headteacher, PE staff and Sports Leaders in a special presentation afternoon.



believe

Paralympian Visit

Rik Waddon, an Olympic Medal Winning Paralympian was welcomed in to our PE lessons as part of the Sky Sports For Living Project. Rik was able to work with our Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students leading an inspirational speech about his background, his career and displaying his Olympic medals. He also delivered team building activities in which students thoroughly enjoyed getting involved and learning about the teamwork, hardwork and dedication it takes to reach your goals.



GB Taekwondo visit

Through our work with the Sports Relief charity, thirty Year 11s had the chance to meet and spar with two up and coming stars from TeamGB Taekwondo. They had a chance to talk to them about their experiences and even got to try out the kicking techniques.

Netball News

What a fantastic Netball season we have had, with over 50 students coming to Netball training each week. We have seen each year group take part in the Manchester knockout tournaments and have all done exceptionally well, improving upon their skills and working together as a team. A special mention goes to the Year 7 Netball team who won their group beating MCA, William Hulme B and The Barlow, which meant going into the semi-finals. The students worked extremely hard and their confidence increased, going into the semi-finals against William Hulme A. Zahra Bukhedher, Freya Marbell and Hidiya Alhamruni worked tremendously well together and created a lovely partnership on the court. Unfortunately, they lost 2-0 but it was an excellent performance overall and they should be very proud of themselves.



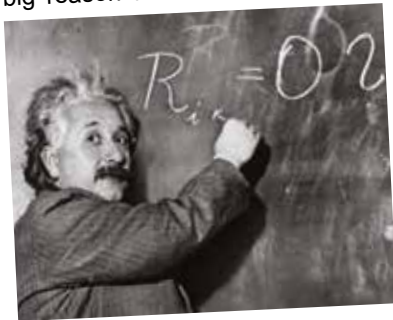
achieve

Pi Day

March 14th -- or 3/14 -- celebrated the mathematical constant of Pi (Greek letter "π"). Pi represents the ratio of circumference of a circle divided by its diameter – it is the same value for every circle. While it is often abbreviated as 3.14, pi has an infinite number of digits beyond the decimal point, starting with 3.141592653.

Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point and it will continue infinitely without repetition or pattern. While only the first few digits are needed for most calculations, Pi's infinite nature makes it a fun challenge to memorize, and to calculate more and more digits. A handful of people have memorised 70000 or more digits of Pi & it takes them nearly a full day just to say all the numbers.

Last year's Pi Day was one to celebrate since it was 3/14/15, perfectly matching the first numbers past the decimal point of pi. Last year, hardcore math fans even started celebrating the day at exactly 9:26am and 53 seconds. There was a big reason to celebrate this year too -- math enthusiasts



And if you need any more reason to geek out about March 14th 2016, here's one: it was Albert Einstein's 137th birthday.

In celebration the dining room served Pi(e) and the maths department held an inter-house competition. The quiz was attended by students from years 7, 8, 9 & 10 and was run by Khadija Sajid (RF1a) and Emily Chan (RP2a). Nineteen students succeeded in winning points for their Houses by completing the quiz. Fasiha Arshad (RP4a) achieved the highest score, closely followed by Ieman Manaf (RF2b).

The quiz was followed by a competition to see who could memorise the most digits of Pi with the majority of us struggling to remember more than 15 digits in order. Hafsa Moussaid (RP5b) memorised 21 digits, Ieman Manaf managed 31 digits but the winner was Fasiha Arshad with an amazing 46 digits remembered. Well done!

uk mathematical challenge

The national mathematical competition, UK Intermediate Mathematical Challenge, organised by the UK Mathematics Trust took place on the 4th February 2016 and ninety students from Year 7 to Year 9 sat the exam. The top 40% of participants nationally receive a gold, silver or bronze certificate. The results will be published in the next edition. If you would like to take part in future Mathematical Challenges or join the club, please speak to Miss Yang.



Problem Solving Confidence Building

Challenging Teamwork Equations

Maths Residential Highlights

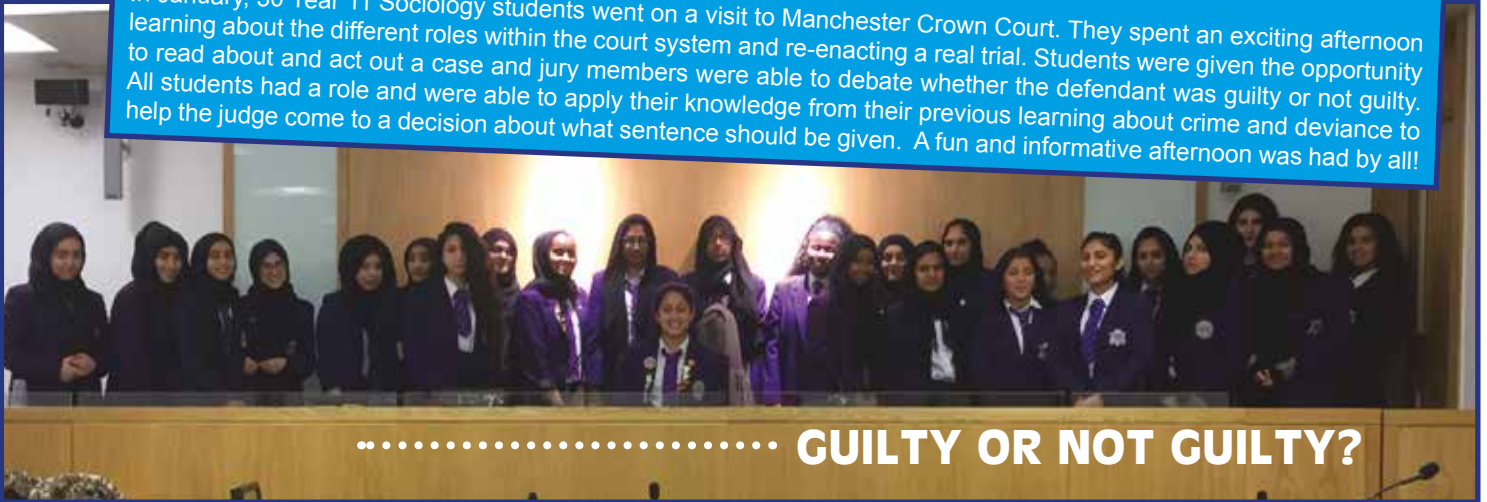


Light Festival

10 students from the UK Maths Challenge Club went to the Light Festival held at the Museum of Science and Industry. The students have explored different ways of how light is used in everyday life.

Sociology Trip

In January, 30 Year 11 Sociology students went on a visit to Manchester Crown Court. They spent an exciting afternoon learning about the different roles within the court system and re-enacting a real trial. Students were given the opportunity to read about and act out a case and jury members were able to debate whether the defendant was guilty or not guilty. All students had a role and were able to apply their knowledge from their previous learning about crime and deviance to help the judge come to a decision about what sentence should be given. A fun and informative afternoon was had by all!



..... GUILTY OR NOT GUILTY?

SIXTH FORM WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 12 Level 2 students had the opportunity to carry out a week of work experience at the end of Half term. Students had the opportunity to experience the world of work in a range of settings from Health and Social care settings such as Nurseries, Schools, Care Homes, and Business settings such as Retail and Administration. Students have found this an excellent opportunity to develop interpersonal skills such as team work, organisation and time management skills in a work place environment. These skills are vital to the work place and are highly sought after by employers. Students returned back to the Sixth Form from their work experience inspired and highly motivated by this opportunity.



'INTO THE WOODS' art project

A group of Year 8 Art students have been involved in a collaborative project with The Royal Exchange Theatre. They were visited in lesson by an installation artist who outlined the project and then they created collages in response to the theme. They were asked to create artwork that combined two different fairy tales into one image. Some of the work was then selected to be displayed at the theatre whilst the performance of 'Into the Woods' was running. Students were given the opportunity to see their own work in a public gallery area and they also watched the performance.



DEEP LEARNING DAY

Wednesday 9 March saw our second Deep Learning Day across school where students engaged in a wide range of activities, from Financial Literacy with Sale Sharks to sessions on Forced Marriage, drug awareness, the role of trade unions and Environmental Awareness to name just a few. We are extremely grateful to have been supported on the day by colleagues from a range of agencies including the Proud Trust, Unite, Lionheart, Healthy Schools, Sexpression and our partners at the Alliance Manchester Business School.

Students are busy taking part in Maths Challenge, Writing Challenge, Catch Up Literacy, English In A Flash, First Class Numeracy, Success at Arithmetic and Accelerated Reading.

MATHS CHALLENGE

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

Khui Chiang Wee is studying Medicine and commented, *"I love helping pupils to understand different aspects of Maths and to accomplish things they have previously struggled with."*

Martin Bauer is studying Chemical Engineering and enjoying the experience of working with year seven WRHS students.



Alisha Sajid and Simran Kaur have completed the Maths Challenge with excellent results. Both said, *"They enjoyed Maths Challenge because Mrs Bajwa challenged them. They have learnt a lot and are proud of their results. Also they would like to thank Mrs Bajwa as they are now on target for Maths."*

KS4 Study Area

Room A0/25 has been open every lunchtime and after school for any KS4 student who need a quiet place to work or revise. Maths, English and Science Intervention sessions take place during registration time for targeted students for Year 11. Regular attendance to any of these sessions, means that the students get the best chance of achieving their targets working with Miss Abushima, Mr Newton and Mrs King.

Intervention upcoming events

We also have two events to look forward to. Our Intervention Reward trip is to take place on the 12th July for any student who has taken part in one of the Challenges or who has regularly attended Intervention clubs. To qualify, you must have excellent behaviour, attendance and punctuality and have good Challenge results.



COFFEE AFTERNOON

This term coffee afternoon's were arranged for parents and carers whose daughters are taking part in First Class Numeracy with Mrs Altaf, Catch up Literacy with Mrs Quinn, Miss Rathore and Mrs Maher and English in a Flash with Miss Malik and Miss Kamesy. The coffee afternoons were well attended and much appreciated by all parents and carers.



EAL Adult Classes

Mrs Bajwa is taking an after school class on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons until 5pm to help parents with their English. All parents are enjoying the classes and becoming more confident in speaking English. Any parent interested should contact the school and ask to speak to Mrs Bajwa.

Parents should also be aware of our Presentation afternoon which will be on the 22th June at 2pm. All students who have worked regularly with the Intervention team will receive a certificate. Please put this date in your diaries! **We would very much like to thank the Sixth Form and external Mentors who are regularly giving up their free time to help the students to achieve their full potential.**

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.