

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

PARTNERSHIP NEWS

WINTER 2014

NEWS • REVIEWS • FACULTIES • CHARITY • PERFORMANCE • SUCCESS



**DON'T FEED THE
PLANTS!**

LITTLE SHOP

OF HORRORS...PROP-MAKING!



**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**

WRHS SCHOOL REUNION

INTERVENTION SUCCESS

SCIENCE LEADERS TRIP

MATHS RESIDENTIAL

U.S. EMBASSY VISIT

STEPPING BACK IN TIME



Year 7 student Safa Al-Faraj (pictured) with her unique Little Shop of Horrors creation.

WWW.WRHS1118.CO.UK



It has been a very action packed exciting term once again. The students and staff have worked extremely hard and are continuing to achieve success at all key stages. The Summer results showed that students in our school are achieving above national averages in many areas. The students have had a wealth of opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom, as you will see from all the different articles in this edition of Partnership News.

May we wish everyone a restful and peaceful holiday and the all very best for 2015.

Elizabeth Hole - Academy Headteacher

Patsy Kane M.A. - Executive Headteacher

The Daily Telegraph

Six students from years 10 to 13 were interviewed by a writer from Stella Magazine which is part of The Sunday Telegraph. The students were Faith Chamapiwa, Lauren Tunstead, Hamda Shahzad, Javairia Peerzada, Haneen Eljabri and Ashia Khan. The idea was inspired by a recent article in The New York Times called 'The Tale of Two Schools'.

Stella
* magazine

The article appeared in Stella Magazine on Sunday 23rd November 2014. It created a thoughtful, touching portrait of teenage students from different backgrounds attending two contrasting schools: one state funded and one fee paying. After interviewing the students Julia Llewellyn Smith commented:

“What struck me forcibly after spending half a day at Whalley Range and half at Manchester High wasn't the differences between the girls, but the similarities. Both schools appear to be moulding ferociously ambitious, hard-working and articulate young women”.

Stella Magazine photography courtesy of Kate Peters ©2014



My experience visiting the **AMERICAN EMBASSY**



FOURTEEN STUDENTS FROM WHALLEY RANGE AND OUR NEW PARTNER SCHOOL LEVENSHULME HIGH, recently visited London for a talk on Middle Eastern relations at the United States Embassy. These fourteen students included: our new House Captains, Ambassadors and also our Head Girl. They were accompanied by Mrs Connolly of Whalley Range and Mr Longden of Levenshulme High School. During our tour we also had the opportunity to see Buckingham Palace. We walked through Hyde Park then on to the exclusive streets of Mayfair, before arriving at the Embassy where we were welcomed and taken to a lecture room to meet Dr Dhagat.

The debate commenced with the Doctor introducing himself and details of the discussion outlined before we were all asked to give our opinion and views about the topic.

A few of our girls raised great points which were extensively discussed within the room. At the end of the lecture we stopped at Downing Street, conversing with some of the Guards; dropped by Big Ben and the River Thames; finally ending our tour and heading back to Euston Station.

Despite the populated streets, at a level we don't often see in Manchester, and the overcrowded train, I profoundly appreciated the experience of the trip because it gave me an idea of the role of the American Government, and gave me an understanding of a wide range of opinions concerning this highly talked about subject.

Throughout the course of my role in school I am enjoying the opportunity to learn and understand more about the interpretation of various leadership roles in society.

Adna Mahamed 10SW5B

MEDIA MUSEUM TRIP

The Year 13 Cambridge Tech Media students spent a day at the fantastic National Media Museum in Bradford as part of their studies.

The students analysed the exhibits currently on show at the museum, looking at the history of the television, the creation of internet and the development of photographic technology. They documented the day using our state-of-the-art DSLR cameras and analysed the design and layout of the exhibits in preparation for the STEM event they are planning for the end of the winter term. We'll hopefully look at arranging for more students to visit the museum in the very near future and highly recommend it.



60 Year 9 Students of WRHS were selected to participate in an exciting Engineering STEM Day sponsored by the 'High Speed Two' (HS2) rail network, who have teamed up with Smallpeice Trust to engage with schools on STEM skills.

"HS2 and Smallpeice Trust came to our school to conduct an amazing STEM Day with some of our Year 9 students. The students were challenged to construct a passenger seat, a travelator (mobile walkway) and guide two model trains on a large track from London to Birmingham and back. They worked in teams to solve different issues, developed STEM skills such as financial literacy, communication, selecting appropriate tools, design and construction using Science, and engineering and mathematical principles"



YEAR 7 E-SAFETY COMPETITION

Year 7 students are enjoying developing an E-safety video; each video is allowing students to understand the risks of using the Internet and Social Media. They have developed knowledge and understand of the effects of Cyberbullying and should be able to use the internet safely.

There was a competition last half term for all Year 7 students to create an informative E-safety poster. Prizes have been won this term through creating the effective E-Safety poster. The winner was Soraya Wilson and the runner up was Neelam Kaur both posters will be placed on the school website.

If you would like to find out further information about E-Safety to help keep your child safe please use the following websites.

www.thinkuknow.co.uk
www.kidsmart.org.uk
www.childnet.com/resources/esafety-and-computing

EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE REWARDED

The start of the new academic year has seen the best ever attendance at WRHS. 96% of students were in school every day during HT1, a 2% increase across all year groups compared to the same period last year. Over 500 students achieved 100% attendance, as well as receiving no late marks or behaviour consequences.

To celebrate their fantastic efforts students were rewarded with a trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach and despite a wet start, students enjoyed Blackpool's traditional cuisine and the rides.



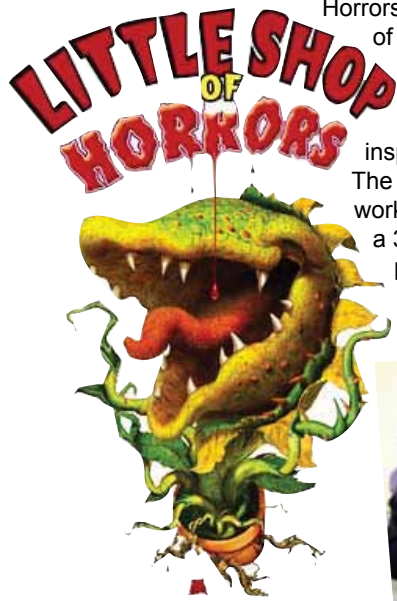
Why not be one of the lucky ones next time?

You need to be 'IN' to 'WIN'!



Don't feed the Plants!!

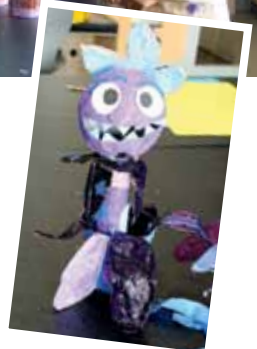
Students in KS3 Art club have been working on a project over the last term for The Royal Exchange Theatre. Their Christmas show is 'Little Shop of



Horrors' and a number of schools have been invited to make their own fantastical plants inspired by this theme. The students have worked hard to produce a 3D plant of their own using modroc, papier mache, wire & tissue and acrylic paints. They have experienced many new techniques and have taken to the challenge with enthusiasm and determination.



The plants will be 'in-situ' at The Royal Exchange throughout the duration of the show from 5th December 2014 until 31st January 2015. So, if you are in Manchester over the Christmas break do pop in and see the creations not only of our students but many other local schools.



CHALLENGE EDUCATE CHANGE



A GROUP OF YEAR 12 AND 13 LAW STUDENTS were invited to attend the "National Black Crown Prosecution Association Annual Conference 2014" supported by Miss Birchenough and Mrs Pym. The conference this year focused on breaking the chains of Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery. The girls had the opportunity to take part in discussions about the varying forms of modern day slavery and ask questions in relation to the key changes proposed in the Modern Day Slavery Bill. The conference also allowed the students to gain a better understanding of some of the challenges professionals face when bringing perpetrators to justice. The final session of the day "Exploring

the horrors of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade" culminated in guests being asked to feedback on the conference. Layla Benali (SF3) was confident and composed as she stood in front of delegates and explained how much the Whalley Range Students had gained from their experience.

Since the conference the girls have been enthused to make a stand against Human Trafficking and have approached staff about

delivering assemblies across the Trust as well as creating a display board to highlight their concerns.

We were honoured to be the only school invited to attend and the students were an absolute credit.



This half term the whole school had the opportunity to get involved and become the 'Eggheads' for Whalley Range. Each house including Sixth Form and teachers were very competitive with Williams House and Westwood House competing head to head in the finals. Williams House receiving the astonishing donation of £120.00 to their house charity, St Ann's Hospice. It all began by sociology students coming up with fantastic, challenging questions with multiple choice answers. Each question was featured from various categories which were Entertainment, Culture, Sport, Food and Drink and Current Affairs. It was a great achievement as this was the very first

organisation held for the school by Sociology leaders and was a resounding success.



STEPPING BACK IN TIME

Back in September the History department took almost 100 Year 10 and 11 students to Tatton Park to study the mansion there as part of their controlled assessment unit. This was an opportunity to see what life was like for the rich aristocrats of the last nineteenth century. Radia Ahsan, a Year 11 student, commented that:



'Our visit to Tatton was extremely beneficial to our completion of our GCSE Controlled Assessment tasks. Tatton Mansion is a beautiful Neoclassical country house which is surrounded by the old hall and plenty of land which was used for agriculture. The mansion has been brilliantly recreated to look like it did during our studied time period which is the 1880s. This allowed us to immerse ourselves in an era in which our city went through many important changes, and allowed us to truly see what it would have been like to be alive during this time. It assisted us when it came to writing up our coursework as we saw what architectural features the house had, as well as how it affected the lives of those who worked there. This trip was extremely enjoyable and will hopefully help us to achieve the best possible History grade.'



Year 9 Geography

students had the exciting opportunity to hold, touch and learn about tropical rainforest animals. Students are currently studying tropical rainforests so they were able to see the animals which live in the different layers of the rainforest and understand how they have adapted to their environment.

The animals included; a Giant African Land Snail, a Madagascar Cockroach, a South American Tarantula, a Chilean Python and an African Desert Rat.

Quarry Bank Mill Trip

The Terrors of the Mill

This half term, the Year 9 pupils have been studying the Industrial Revolution, paying close attention to the impact it had on Manchester. As part of the topic, the pupils got to go to Quarry Bank Mill to see how people would have lived during the 1800s.

The girls were transported back in time, looking at the developing industry of cotton making and how it changed over time, the living and working conditions of the children of the factories, and the lives of those living in the local village. Throughout the day the girls had the opportunity to experience what it would have been like at the Mill; from hearing the roar of the factory floor and the lessons the young children would have taken, to looking at the gruesome medical practices they could have endured. The girls even had time for a spot of lunch in the middle of the day, many of them grateful that they were not living at a time where all they had was a handful of porridge.

The trip was a truly enlightening experience for the girls and really added to what they had learnt in class.



WRHS SCHOOL REUNION

“ 45 years of friendship and still counting

Two ex-students give their accounts of what school life was like at Whalley Range back in 1972 and how it affected their lives. This group of ladies still meet every 10 years to recount their stories and after their recent visit they were amazed at how the school has changed and how many opportunities our students have now compared to back then when it was a grammar school.

We will be hearing more from them over the coming editions of Partnership News and on our school website.

BARBARA TAYLOR (nee Bailey)
(front right seated in all pictures)

I left **Whalley Range Grammar School** in 1972 with 6 'O' Levels and 1 'A' Level (Pure Maths with Statistics). I then completed an Executive Secretarial course at Salford College of Technology where I gained good RSA qualifications in Shorthand and Typing. There were good opportunities for women in the secretarial field and after leaving college I secured a position as a Personal Secretary with a construction company.

I had several secretarial jobs in the time before starting a family. Once my family were at school I completed a Teaching Diploma course and then taught Office Practice at Stockport College for a short while. I have since worked in 3 schools in administration and secretarial roles within the Manchester area. At present I work in an independent school where I am Secretary to one of the Deputy Heads.

My sister also attended Whalley Range and my parents were very happy when I also passed my 11+ exam and was able to join her. I made several good friends at school and we still like to meet up and reminisce about our happy days at WRGS.



JILL DAVIES

My name is Jill Davies (nee Jillian Heap) and I'm the person in the green cardigan on the left in the back row of the 2014 photo (blue jumper centre back row of the 1972 photo below).

After leaving Whalley Range I went to Leicester University to read Mathematics and gained a first class honours degree in 1975. I then joined Deloittes in London where I qualified as a Chartered Accountant. I continued my accountancy career for next 30 years mostly in Financial Services whilst also getting married, having two children and moving to Sussex. Last year my husband and I retired to Devon to enjoy the next phase of our lives.



Whalley Range 11-18 High School - The Class of 2014



Whalley Range Grammar School - The Class of 1972

Manchester Institute
of Biotechnology
Discovery through innovation



As part of Science Leaders we ran a competition to invite students from different years in the school, to build a wind turbine which was eventually judged upon the energy it produces. The participants were working together in groups of 4-6 and were given 2 weeks to design, create and present their final wind turbine. The students were so engaged with the competition that they were willing to give up their own time in producing the best possible product. This seemed to have paid off for the contestants, as they had produced extraordinary results. Well done and we hope to see other school students participating in future competitions.

*Lina Dabem KH4b &
Maryam Khan KH1b*



Eighteen of our most enthusiastic Biology and Chemistry A-level students visited the world renowned Manchester Institute of Biotechnology in November, to experience the work of biotechnology researchers first hand. The students got to visit the advanced research laboratories and had a go at using some of their air sensitive and analysis equipment worth hundreds of thousands of pounds! Some of the students even got to make biofuels which could be used to power cars in the future.

The researchers in medicine, biology and the physical sciences, engineering, mathematics and computation were on hand to show our students the kind of work they do and answer any questions about their careers. It was a very enjoyable and inspiring day.



INCLUSION faculty

The Intervention Team is busy again! Over 150 students are already taking part in Maths Challenge, Writing Challenge, Catch Up Literacy and Accelerated Reading.

MATHS CHALLENGE

68 students have started the Maths Challenge, with Mrs Bajwa and all want to significantly increase their levels. Their Sixth Form and outside mentors, including Manchester University mentors, are working hard with them to make sure they achieve this.



Baran Ibrahim VW3A said,

"I was really excited when Mrs Bajwa chose me for Maths Challenge. I was so happy that when I went home, I told my mum straight away and she was very pleased too."

WRITING CHALLENGE

16 Year 7 and Year 8 students are taking the Writing Challenge with Mrs Quinn and most are now at or above their target with four more weeks to go.



Miad Zabraith 7OW4B said, "I find Writing Challenge helpful and I think it has helped me in my English lessons. My spelling has improved a lot."

EAL ADULT CLASSES

Mrs Bajwa is taking an after school class on Tuesdays to help parents with their English. This is so popular that she has had to add another class on Thursday afternoons, 2pm until 4pm. The time extension was requested by the students. Current parents attending the classes speak a variety of languages including Arabic, Italian, Pakistani and Somali. Any parent interested should contact school and ask to speak to Mrs Bajwa.



Jawaria Yusuf said, "We like coming to Mrs Bajwa's EAL class and we had a lovely Eid party. We are looking forward to the Christmas party. We don't just party though; we do learn a lot of English!"

We would very much like to thank the Sixth Form and outside Mentors who are regularly giving up their time to help the students to reach their full potential.

INTERVENTION ACCELERATED READING

54 students have started Intervention Accelerated Reading and most are making significant improvements to their reading ages. They are working so well, we need to order more books! This takes place in A1/19 with Miss Altaf at registration time.

BREAKFAST READING CLUB

This club takes place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday before school in A1/19 with Mrs Quinn. It is popular and Mr Lazarou's pastries definitely help!

Saffron Large 7PR1A said,

"The reading sessions have encouraged me to read more. If I didn't have these sessions, I wouldn't be reading much at all."

CATCH-UP LITERACY

This is a new reading scheme aimed at targeted students and it takes place in the LRC with Mr Mustafa and Mrs Quinn during registration. All students taking part are making significant progress.

Tarza Ibrahim 8VW4B said,

"I have made a 10 month improvement in my reading age and feel that Catch-up Literacy has taught me how to break down unfamiliar words."

INTERVENTION KS3 CLUBS

The Clubs are being regularly attended by many Year 7, 8 and 9 students in A1/17 and A1/19 and hopefully, their end of year grades will reflect everyone's hard work. They take place at lunchtime and after school. 452 students have attended so far.

KS4 STUDY AREA

Room A0/25 has been open every break, lunchtime and from 3.00pm for any KS4 student who needed a quiet place to work or revise. Numeracy sessions take place during registration time for targeted students in Year 11.

Regular attendance to any of these sessions, means that the students get the best chance of improving in Maths and Science and they are given lots of help and advice in exam techniques from Mr Newton and Miss Abushima. 192 students have attended so far.

WRHS SPORTS UPDATE WRHS

GIFTED AND TALENTED TAEKWONDO TRIP

17 G&T students from all year groups attended the World Taekwondo Championships in Manchester before October half term. This event was a great showcase for the students to watch a sport they were unfamiliar with and see the British athletes competing against World and Olympic champions. The students were also able to take part in some Taekwondo with local coaches and meet some of the athletes from various countries.



KS3 FOOTBALL

After 3 rounds of tournament fixtures, the Key Stage 3 football team are still unbeaten after 13 games, collectively scoring 30 goals in the process! Well done to the following girls: Gan Sriphaithun, Nina Namvar, Sheneeza Ramdial, Fray Bidounga, Jemila Walker, Amy McNulty, Taesia Mack and Sian Clarke. Keep it up!



SKIPPING CHALLENGE

35 students took part in a sponsored skip which took place on Wednesday 12th November to raise money for St Ann's Hospice. The total raised was £272.67! The student who skipped the longest was Sanaa Haji in Y7 who skipped for 31 minutes 31 seconds! Well done to everyone who took part!

MANCHESTER SCHOOLS HANDBALL COMPETITION

Six Year 10 students took part in a handball competition at Parrs Wood High School earlier this year. The students had a 6 week intense training block with specialist coaching which had a huge impact on their performance. A massive congratulations for achieving 3rd place and a Bronze medal each. Jade Nisbett, Adna Mahamed, Ricceeta Minott, Lauren Tunstead, Lizelle Borbon and Kaizha Blackwood-Brown.



YEAR 10 ATHLETICS COMPETITION

7 Year 10 students attended a Manchester Schools Athletics competition. Students showed fantastic commitment to practice sessions before the competition and their behaviour was impeccable. Students supported and encouraged each other throughout the afternoon. Particular congratulations go to Kaizha Blackwood-Brown for achieving a Bronze medal in the final for Shot Put and Jade Nisbett for achieving 4th place in the Long Jump. Well done to the other girls who were involved Cimea Blammon, Lizelle Borbon, Bewene Star, Adna Mahamed, Syeda Saadi.



SPORTS LEADERS

Sports leaders club has had a flying start to the year, with over 40 students registered. The programme currently accommodates for young leaders, level 1 and level 2 sport leaders. So many events have already taken place this year, with many leaders from all year groups being involved. These events include: primary football tournament in which leaders helped organise and run the event, taking on many roles such as referee and score keepers. Leaders have also been involved in scoring for the secondary basketball and badminton competitions. Sports leaders have an exciting year ahead with many more events coming up, such as the Sky Sports for Living project in which Courtney Fry, a professional boxer, will work with selected students to develop their leadership skills.



After a year without Duke of Edinburgh it's back in force at KS3 and KS4. We have now become a licenced Duke of Edinburgh centre and with new PE staff trained to lead and assess the course we are ready to get going. This year we have 2 groups of students accessing the scheme. Both groups will be joining together in the Spring and Summer term to undertake the expedition section of the award. The 50 students will be embarking on 2 walking and camping expeditions looking to build their independence, team work and determination. We wish good luck to all participants and we will keep you up to date on their progress throughout the year.



PHYSICAL

Commit to improving in a sport or activity (at least 1 hour per week for 6 months)

VOLUNTEERING

Give up at least 1 hour a week for three months giving back to their community

SKILL

Commit to improving a skill for 3 months (most of our girls are learning first-aid skills)

EXPEDITION

Plan and carry out a 2 day expedition in open countryside

WORLD LANGUAGES EVENTS @ OPEN EVENING 2014

Thursday 25th September

For Open Evening, the World Languages Faculty and the World Language Leaders organised different activities for students and parents who came to see our school. We had a Spanish table where there were many different quizzes, in which you could win prizes. You could learn the numbers, animals and colours in Spanish with our Spanish Language leaders!

On the Urdu table, language leaders were sharing their knowledge of the Urdu Language. On the Chinese table, students could make Chinese lanterns, paper cuttings, calligraphy and they could learn about different aspect of the Chinese culture and language.

Mrs Lang, Ms Boulesteix and a group of Year 8 students held the French café, and served pains au chocolat, croissants, baguettes au fromage and beverages which we served to our "customers". Finally, the girls could participate in language activities using different computer software such as Linguascope, Activelearn and Languages Online. This was a great opportunity to learn and try out different languages.



CHINESE CLUB

To enhance our curriculum and promote Chinese culture in school, the Chinese Club is now organised and open on Wednesdays and Fridays at lunch time in Room C111. Students can learn Chinese characters and dialogues, calligraphy, paper cutting, ink painting, and Chinese Knot. The Chinese language leaders always enjoy themselves by participating in activities and promoting the culture. Many students are enthusiastic about the fantastic opportunity. We look forward to seeing you there!



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Friday 26th September

On this day, Miss Shute organised this event at our school so that students could experience different languages. We had five different stations: Swedish in C203 held by World Language Leader, Salma Sherif, Chinese in C204 with Ms Yang and Ms Niu, Spanish in C205 with Mrs Muñoz, Turkish in C206 with Mr Mustafa and Portuguese in C111 with Mrs Barnes. Walking around each station, you could learn key phrases in each language, discover different aspects of varied cultures, taste traditional food, and participate in quizzes and activities. Taking part in the event also earned you points for the Inter house Competition. The languages corridor was buzzing with people and the sound of modern languages!

EID MUBARAK

November 2014

Our Language Leaders did such a good job in advertising our celebration of Eid that we could not fit all the students in C211! Those who were lucky enough to celebrate with us discovered the origins of the festival with a presentation, learnt some Urdu words and could get Henna paintings on their hands. Mrs Aamir's Urdu students and WLL leaders also provided some traditional music and snacks. What a success!



JAPANESE CLUB TO COME...

A Japanese club will be available soon! Bushra Elfandi one of our new Language Leaders, is passionate about Japan. She will be teaching you the HIRAGANA writing system. Interested? More information to come in assemblies. The club is planned to take place at lunchtime on Mondays.

EL DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Wednesday 22nd October

During House assemblies, we advertised our Day of the Dead celebration. With an interesting Powerpoint presentation, we learned about this Mexican festival. Then we decorated sugar skull cookies with an assortment of miniscule sugar candies and bright, eye-catching colourful fondant icing. Thank you Marketa Chvojikova for baking all these delicious cookies for us! We also decorated beautiful, dazzling masks to embrace the Day of the Dead. During the event, we raised money for the Oprah Winfrey house charity 'MedCare' and we gave a prize to the best decorated cookie. It was a really fun day!



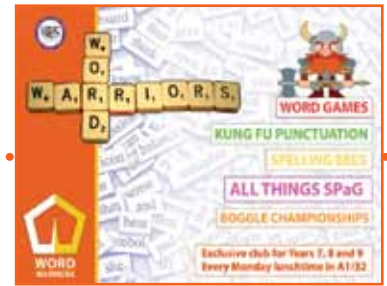
Zulekha Miah - World Languages Leader - 11OW3B

Creative Writing Club

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

So far this term we have personalised our own journals and have written a variety of poems. We have also entered two national poetry competitions: Teen Poets Competition 2014 and War of the Words, Conflict Competition 2014. Prizes have also been won this term through the Creative Writing Club's half termly competitions and we hope to win national awards following on from the success of last year!

Creative Writing Club students were taken on a trip to see an audience with David Almond at Manchester Metropolitan University. He discussed previously written books such as 'Skellig' and 'The Savage'. Students also got to ask him questions about his new book: 'A Song for Ella Grey'. It was a thoroughly enjoyable trip and students were inspired to read to achieve.



WORD WARRIORS

KS3 students have been invited to attend the club to improve their spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). The students complete many exciting SPaG activities, play word games and take part in Boggle Championships! Students who have attended the club have made good progress in their SPaG skills. Also students who attended 5 times have won prizes!



MANDELA & ANGELOU Life and Legacy

Nicole May from the community based organisation, Wordsmith, has been working with a group of Year 9 and 12 students this half term. The focus has been Life and Legacy and the students have been learning about Nelson Mandela and exploring poems by Maya Angelou. The workshops have been inspirational and have encouraged the students to develop their creative writing skills as well as how to perform their work with self-confidence and expression.



DEBATE MATE

On Wednesday 5th of November, a selection of girls from Years 8, 9, and 10 went to the University of Manchester for this year's Debate Mate Launch. It was a fantastic event, where the girls received information about what Debate Mate is and they saw an exciting show debate between teams with both high school and university students. Recently we were thrilled to meet our own Debate Mate mentors, who joined us here at school, and met some of the girls that are joining us this year. We are ready to argue, stand our ground, and defeat the other teams in Manchester!



gifted + talented english leaders

A group of Gifted & Talented students were selected to attend a new 'English G+T 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.



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'.

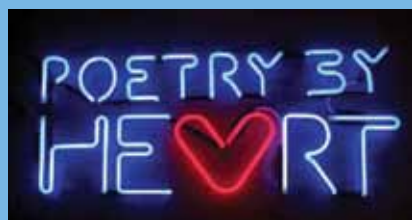
Macbeth Trip



Before the summer break, 50 Year 7 students were taken to see a performance of Macbeth at the Grosvenor Open Air Theatre, following their study of the play. The students involved thoroughly enjoyed the performance especially that of Lady Macbeth who they thought was truly terrifying. They particularly enjoyed the atmosphere within the theatre itself as we were sat outdoors to watch the play which gave the performance a very authentic feel and meant we were very close to the actual staging and Lady Macbeth herself! The girls were incredibly impressed and were enthralled throughout.

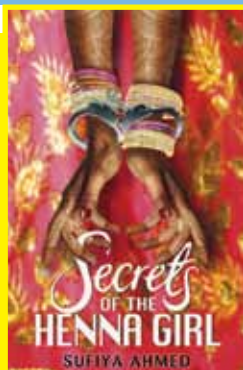
Henry IV PART 1

As part of their AS English literature course, Year 12 students went to the Lowry Theatre to watch the Royal Shakespeare Company performance of this classic Shakespeare play. Students were captivated by the performance, which included spectacular staging and hilarious comedy dialogue. The part of Sir John Falstaff was played by the famous actor Antony Sher. This was a great opportunity for the students to develop their understanding of dramatic comedy as part of their A Level course.



Year 11 students are running this national competition within Whalley Range High School. Entrants can be from Years 10, 11, 12 or 13. They are required to memorise two poems, one pre-1914 and one post-1914. Then they will be coached during lunch time sessions before they recite their poems at the competition within school. The winner of the school rounds will go forward to the regional final for a chance to win a trip to Cambridge University to take part in the national competition. This is an excellent opportunity for students to develop their confidence and immerse themselves in some amazing literary works. If you would like to take part, please see the coaching team or Miss Gledhill and check out the 200 poems on the website to make your choice. Good luck!

During the summer term, a group of current Year 11 students who had excelled in their study of English Literature were invited to attend a Q&A session and Round Table Discussion with the award winning author of 'Secrets of a Henna Girl': Sufiya Ahmed. The event took place at the Geoffrey Manton Building at Manchester Metropolitan University and so was a great opportunity for the students to have a taster of university style education. Sufiya also invited students to take part in a Youth Debate with local experts within the area of youth studies and politicians including the Greater Manchester Police Commissioner Tony Lloyd. Students had a huge variety of experiences on the day from taking part in a Henna Wedding Ceremony to debating topical issues such as youth crime and forced marriage.



PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

MATHS RESIDENTIAL

On Friday 7th November, 23 Year 11 students accompanied by 6 staff, braved the torrential rain and headed to Anglesey in Wales for an exciting weekend of developing their learning capacity and self-awareness.

The weekend consisted of 3 elements.

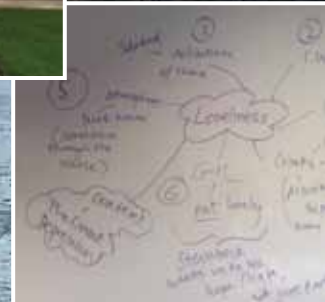
Outdoor activities, including rope courses; an assault course; canoeing; Via Ferrata; and nightline (a ropeway through the woods at night blindfolded).

The second was four classroom sessions on Self-Esteem; 'Building Learning Power', 'How to succeed in Maths' and 'How to succeed in English'. The final element was small group coaching, where the girls were asked challenging questions and had time to reflect on what they were learning about themselves and how that would impact on them when they got back to school.



SELF-ESTEEM

BUILDING LEARNING POWER



BUILDING SUCCESS



The girls threw themselves into all the sessions and worked brilliantly in teams to overcome some very challenging obstacles achieving things that they never thought possible when they started. They developed resilience, communication and knowledge of their own strengths and weaknesses; and through all of that reflected with an honesty and openness that was inspiring for staff and students alike.

CAREERS and APPLICATIONS

OneEducation
Putting children first



From the middle of September until the end of October Whalley Range students were visited by several colleges such as The Manchester College, Trafford College, Cheadle Marple, Stockport College, Salford College and our own Sixth Form – to give them advice and help on their options once they finish Year 11. Here at Whalley Range our Year 11 students are given lots of help and advice and we have Anna Browne and Jacqui Dawson from One Education in on a Thursday and Friday seeing students for their 1:1 Guidance Interviews ensuring that the students are fully aware of the choices they have once they have finished their GCSE examinations. There will be a College Fair in December and in March an Apprenticeship Fair for students in Years 10/11 & 12.



CAREERS TALK ON PATHOLOGY

23rd September 2014

Phaedra McHale and 3 of her colleagues came into school to talk about Careers in Pathology. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to listen to a Pathologist from the University Hospital of South Manchester (Wythenshawe Hospital). The talk was over a lunchtime and the girls listened intently. The opportunity to listen to such Healthcare Professionals is rare as they are extremely busy people.

YOUNG JOURNALISTS

Students from Whalley Range Sixth Form went along to the Young Journalists Conference at the Cooperative Academy of Manchester to learn about careers in journalism and to take part in a mock news conference. There were lots of interesting discussions about citizen journalism and we got to hear from journalists who had broken recent important news stories. Our students asked questions to journalists from lots of national newspapers including the Times and the Sun. They also heard lots of behind-the-scenes stories about covering the World Cup, and the strange lengths journalists go to go get their story. They received plenty of advice about a career in journalism and thoroughly enjoyed the day.



Remsha Asif auditioned for a lead role in CBBC Newsround Special. An alien (played by Remsha), comes to Earth from another planet to learn how to make friends.

Remsha auditioned along with many students from several schools in Manchester. She won the part due to her outstanding improvisational skills but also her commitment to Drama in school, fantastic attendance and attitude. Winning a role is not just about being a great actor; it's much more than that.

Well done Remsha, we are all so very proud of you!

NARNIA COMES TO WRHS

This year's Christmas production of Narnia will be in promenade style. The audience will walk through a variety of magical scenes from a blacked out air raid shelter to being immersed into a winter wonderland filled with forest creatures. You will see outstanding acting from our best performers, beautiful live music and a powerful choreographed stage fight. The students are working like true professionals, attending rehearsals, keeping detailed notes of script changes, devising characters, directing scenes and creating costuming. We're immensely proud and delighted by their efforts thus far.

Performances are on December 16th, 17th and 18th.



WEAR IT PINK BREAST CANCER CAMPAIGN

The students supported 'Wear it Pink' day by swapping an item of school uniform for something pink and paying a £1 for the privilege. The school including the Sixth Form raised a total of £646.61. Thank you and well done to everyone who took part. Our next whole school campaign "Make the world better with a sweater" in aid of Save the Children will be in December. We hope to have pictures in the next edition!



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