

PARTNERSHIP NEWS

WINTER 2016

NEWS • REVIEWS • FACULTIES • CHARITY • PERFORMANCE • SUCCESS



featuring...

NUMBER WEEK
LANGUAGES DAY
RAINBOW READING
GROWTH MINDSET
MU FOUNDATION
STUDENT LEADERS

**SIR BOBBY
CHARLTON
VISITS WRHS**



Aspire • Believe • Achieve

HEPBURN

• PARKS

• ANGELOU

• GERMAIN

• FRANKLIN



WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER AND THE ACADEMY HEADTEACHER

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



It has yet again been an action packed term, as you can see from this Winter edition of Partnership News. There are a wide range of features in this edition showing all the exciting opportunities there are for the students in the school. We were absolutely thrilled to welcome Sir Bobby Charlton to the school to launch our partnership with The Manchester United Foundation and the students were praised for their confident presentations on the leadership and sporting activities that take place in the school. This year we are focusing on Growth Mindset across the school as we feel this will help students further develop a love of learning and encourage them to take on more challenging work and there is a very interesting article in the newsletter giving you more information in this area. I would like to thank all the staff and students who work so hard to develop our work in the school and across the community offering a wide range of enrichment activities both in and out of school.

Mrs E. Hole - Academy Headteacher

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

SSLT student senior leadership team

The Student Senior Leadership team is a group of 5 Year 11 students whose aim is to provide the students with a voice that is heard.

Aisha (Head Girl)

"I envision our school to be an area where students feel as though they have an input, are being cared for and are being educated on important issues and life lessons."

Myesha (Deputy Head Girl)

"I hope to make this wonderful school the best that it can be, through working with my team and setting goals, which I am confident we all can achieve as a hardworking school."

Arooj (Assistant Head Girl)

"Personally I believe if your actions inspire others to believe, dream and achieve more; then you're a leader, which is what I strive to achieve."

Nina (Assistant Head Girl)

"I am here to create a safe and healthy environment for students and open up as many opportunities and changes as possible to benefit them."

Beriz (Assistant Head Girl)

"I want to help create and maintain a healthy and safe environment that nurtures the students"



During this year we have already increased awareness of issues through creating a stress awareness video, presenting the Make Your Mark Campaign Vote, organising a debate on the freedom of speech of presidential candidates. Also we have delivered many presentations on numerous topics for example: Manchester United Foundation, Open Evenings, and School Standards. We have begun running the gold award shop every break time and have changed certain prizes due to students request. To allow easier contact with other students we have set up an email, where students can voice their concerns privately. Throughout this year we are going to be focusing more on the education of social issues, improving our environment and providing you with more opportunities.

As we want to provide you with a voice we are going to offer many opportunities to tell us about any queries, concerns or ideas.

We will introduce half termly clinics in the bistro where you can approach us or leave a comment in our suggestion box. We will also be launching an SSLT frog page with all our ideas, polls, achievements and comment section.

Or you can contact us by emailing us at [wrange-StudentSLT]



MU FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP LAUNCH

Whalley Range 11-18 High School were thrilled to welcome Manchester United and England legend Sir Bobby Charlton and his wife, Lady Norma Charlton, for the official launch of our partnership with the Manchester United Foundation.



- The event saw Sir Bobby, one of the greatest footballers of all time, launch the partnership with staff, students, representatives from the Manchester United Foundation and MUTV. Our Student Senior Leadership Team (SSLT) welcomed our guests with a wonderful multimedia presentation, which covered our values, leadership opportunities and recent school projects such as raising the profile of Stress Awareness Week. Confident demonstrations followed from our student leadership teams as well as a tour of the school's sporting facilities, allowing the couple time to observe PE activities in the stadium and converse with staff and students.

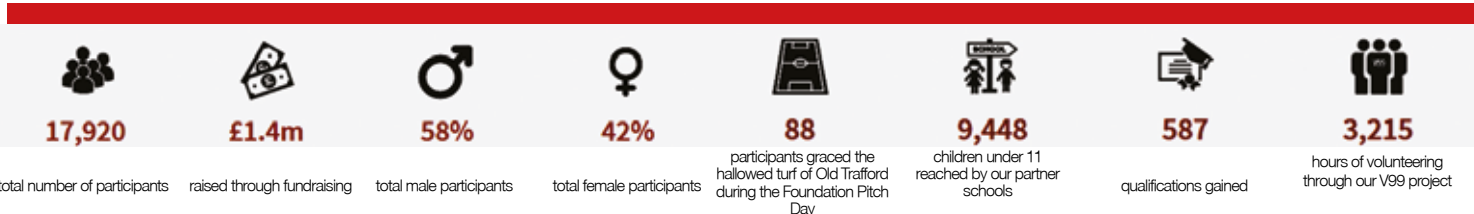
Jason Williamson, Foundation Coach and Hub Development Officer here at Whalley Range said this of the launch event:

"It was a dream for pupils and staff to welcome such a hero and legend like Sir Bobby to Whalley Range. The buzz around the school has been incredible! We are so excited about the partnership with Whalley Range 11-18 High School and the amazing opportunities we will get to partake in through the Manchester United Foundation."



We are one of the latest schools to benefit from the Foundation's partner school programme, which sees full-time coaches like Jason spend time working with students in our school community. They deliver a schedule of innovative projects, providing support with activities such as enrichment, personal development, sports team coaching and after school clubs.

It was a fantastic honour to meet Sir Bobby Charlton and we look forward to a strong and fruitful partnership with the Manchester United Foundation.



STUDENT COUNCIL

News

The student council at Whalley Range High School is an integral part of the school. They use their position to help and support all students, to try and make our school the best it can be. We regularly work with student councils from other schools on challenges, and deliver assemblies and pass on information to students. We recently took part in the launch of the I Matter resource. This is a new resource which has been created by the Healthy Schools team and focuses on topics such as bullying, stress, forced marriage, relationships and much more. Whalley Range High School was proud to host the launch of I Matter to Manchester high schools, with one of our students, Remsha, performing a poem that she had written specifically for this event. The whole room was moved with the passion that Remsha showed whilst delivering this.



The student council also worked on a charter for all the girls in school. This is a list of promises for students and copies of this are posted up around school. Once again, the girls worked hard, collectively and individually to produce excellent work. Their presentation skills were excellent, and a number of staff from the visiting schools commented on how professional and confident they were. Mrs Davies, staff link for the student council said, 'It is a pleasure to work with these students. They are so focused and driven it makes my job easy!'



MAKE IT MANUFACTURING

On Monday 17th October a group of our Year 9 students made the journey to the AJ Bell Stadium to take part in the North West Championship of the 'Make it in Manufacturing' Enterprise Challenge.

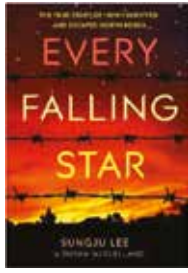


The challenge this year was extremely difficult and certainly pushed all the girls, challenging them to be creative, think on their feet and meet deadlines. It was non stop from the moment they arrived, but they never gave up and kept pushing and supporting each other to complete the task. They delivered an excellent presentation and the judges were extremely impressed with their ideas! They were competing against 10 other schools, and the competition was tough. Only 2 schools could go through to the National Finals. Whalley Range High School were successful in securing second place, in a very competitive field, and are safely through to the grand final! Mrs Davies, who accompanied the girls, said 'These girls never fail to impress me! The way that they focus, encourage each other and deliver is amazing! They really are a credit to the school.' Look out for details of how they do in the grand final in the next edition of Partnership News.



AUTHOR VISIT

SUNGJU LEE



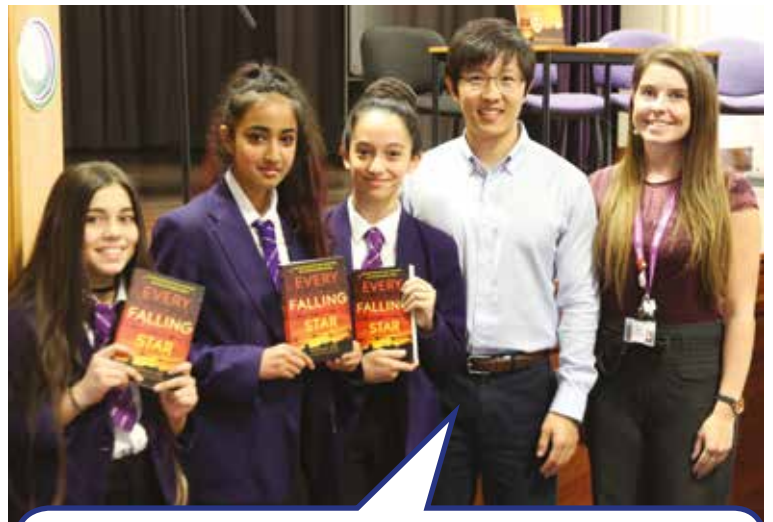
Debut author and North Korean defector, Sungju Lee, visited Whalley Range High School on Friday 14th October to talk to Year 9 students about his eagerly awaited novel for young people *Every Falling Star*.

Sungju is a keen advocate of reading for pleasure and the purpose of the visit was to encourage the students to engage with

the stories presented to them both in the classroom and at home, across many different platforms and from many different cultures.

He was a truly inspiring speaker and gives a fascinating insight into how harsh life in North Korea is, one of the most isolated countries on earth.

Sungju explains why he wanted to share his story:



"My story chronicles my life as a street boy and my aim is to inspire others so that they can survive the greatest of adversities. My story is about friendship, love, and hope in terrible circumstances. Hope is never lost. No one can take it away. Only you can give it. I refuse to ever give up hope"



DEBATE MATE

This year's Debate Mate is going to be an exciting time for all the girls involved in Urban Debate League competitions. The girls will be involved in a series of challenging debates against students from other schools in Manchester. The debate competitions will allow all the girls the opportunity to showcase the excellent skills and understanding which they will be developing during their Debate Mate sessions. A Debate Mate mentor will be working with the girls to develop and build upon their skills. The themes will enhance their knowledge around various different topics to gain wider knowledge. Recently the students have attended the launch of Debate Mate; they are engaged and motivated, ready to Debate!

NUMBER WEEK

7th – 11th November 2016

WRHS students recently celebrated their numeracy skills during Number Week. Students completed 'Numeracy Loyalty Cards' whenever they used their maths skills in their non-maths lessons. Students threw themselves into recording the activities. Examples include recording times in PE, calculating resultant forces in Science and making and measuring Nets in Textiles. Over 200 students succeeded in filling in all the activities on their cards and are now waiting to find out who won the prize for each House. At the time of writing two houses, Germain and Hepburn are vying to win the prize for the most completed cards but with entries still pouring in it is too close to call.

Over 100 Students also competed in games and quizzes at lunchtime throughout the week with Roman Numeral Bingo being the most popular activity. Over 100 students have signed up to be Maths Ambassadors too.



COOKING FOR FUN

Recently the school Cook Club cooked Autumn muffins with 38 students, after securing extra funding from the Children's Food Trust and Tesco.

Cook Club helps the students understand more about food and where it comes from so they can make better decisions about what they put on their plates when they grow up. If you are interested in learning more about food and you want to take part in Cook Club please feel free to join us on Thursdays after school.

See Miss Power or Mrs Mistry for further details.



GROWTH MINDSET

At Whalley Range, we believe that everyone's abilities and talents can be developed through an increased effort in lessons and at home. We aim to create a love of learning and encourage students to undertake more challenging work as a way of strengthening the connections in their brains, thus making them stronger. Students are also urged to see mistakes as part of their learning journey, rather than as a failure. They will be praised for consistent effort and determination and not for how intelligent they are. We also encourage students to become independent learners and to reflect on their learning journey. If they have a better understanding of how their mind works, it is hoped that it will increase their overall learning efficiency.

What Kind of Mindset

Growth Mindset

I never give up

**I like my work to be difficult...
it means I am learning**

I love challenges

**I want people to praise me
for the effort I put into my
work**

**I believe I can get more
intelligent
by working hard**

**I feel clever when I'm learning
something new**

I learn from my mistakes



Student view on Growth Mindset



During the Growth Mindset lessons we learnt what the idea behind this approach was, and created alternate phrases to limiting, negative thoughts. Our learning objective was to explore our approach to learning and consider how our mind set impacts our progress. Instead of telling ourselves we 'can't do' something, we were taught the importance of adapting one's mind to a more positive state. Consequently we will start to learn that we hold the potential to achieve if we aspire and believe.

Learning about Growth Mindsets helped me recognise that I often set up limitations for myself without even realising. The lesson wasn't intended to be a miracle worker - we cannot change the entire way our thoughts are calculated after a couple of discussions. However, I now find myself approaching lessons differently. Yes, sometimes I'll still get flustered over a mistake: but then I'll identify my negativity and instead tell myself that mistakes are part of learning and I shouldn't be afraid of making them. I believe that as I develop my Growth Mindset, I will improve as a learner.

Remsha Asif SG2a

Mindset Do You Have?

Fixed Mindset

I like my work to be easy

I don't like challenging work

I want people to praise me for how clever I am

I believe I cannot change how clever I am

I don't like to try new things because I won't be very good at it

I give up easily

What is Growth Mindset?

Growth Mindset is the understanding that we can develop our abilities and intelligence over time. Research has shown that our beliefs about the nature of intelligence can have a great impact on our achievement. People who have a 'Fixed Mindset' believe their intelligence or talents are fixed traits, whereas people with a 'Growth Mindset' believe that their abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work.

It has been proven that having a Growth Mindset can improve children's progress and attainment. As a result, we are teaching students at Whalley Range that by having a Growth Mindset they can grow their brains and intelligence and receive greater rewards from their work.



How can you help your child to develop a Growth Mindset?

Don't tell your child that they are smart, gifted or talented as this implies that they were born with the ability and does not encourage effort and growth.

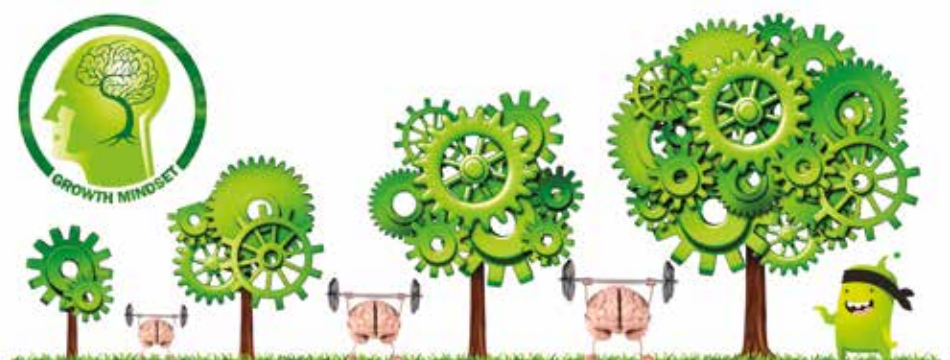
Help them understand that the brain works like a muscle that can only grow through hard work and embracing challenge.

Encourage them to embrace challenging work. Help them believe that challenge is a positive thing because it means their brains are growing.

Encourage them to celebrate mistakes and use them as learning opportunities, rather than feel embarrassed about them. If they are not making mistakes they are not stretching themselves.

Encourage them to be resilient and not give up, even when they find work difficult or frustrating.

Praise the process, not the results. Praise the effort they have made, the strategy they used, their hard work, persistence and practice.



PE, SPORT AND ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

Year 10 and 11 Athletics

We had excellent success in the Year 10 and 11 Manchester Athletics competition. Nine students attended the Athletics competition and were excellent role models to other schools. Their behaviour was impeccable. They were polite, courteous to others and really motivated each other throughout the events. I was extremely proud of being their coach. The team competed against 10 other schools across Manchester and we had some fantastic results.

Tia Rae Barton won the 800m: 2mins 35secs

Kelechi Dunn came 2nd in the Long Jump: 3m 85cms

Ngozi came 3rd in the 300m: 48.8secs

Kenita Sales came 4th in the 60m Sprint: 9.09secs



ATHLETICS

Manchester United Hub Tournament

Nine Year 10 and 11 students attended the first Manchester United Hub Tournament of the year. The girls had been working hard in training and their league matches to develop team work and the drive to keep going. The team played well, working together, playing the ball to each other, outwitting the opposing side, with many of the goals coming from Fray Bidounga. The team finished joint top of the group, narrowly missing out in the knock out stages due to goal differences. This was a great first tournament!

Well done to all involved.



CYCLING

Year 8 Gifted & Talented students have had an exciting opportunity where they have had sessions with a British cycling instructor. They have learnt how to ride a bike safely and developed their awareness of cycling. Furthermore, there is an opportunity for the students that have excelled or taken an interest in the sessions to practice at Platts Fields at the end of December.

Year 11 Curriculum

The Year 11 curriculum has been newly designed this year after the removal of BTEC Sport. The main aim is to equip students in school as to how to lead a healthy, active lifestyle throughout their lives and to fundamentally develop their holistic well-being.

The curriculum is split into 4 sections: Ways to Keep Fit, Stress Relief, Relaxation and Life Skills. Students are encouraged to use PE lessons to remove built up stress from coursework and exams and learn different ways to relax at home through mindfulness sessions. There is a particular emphasis on engaging students with new opportunities and activities such as Yoga, boxercise and taekwondo sessions with specialist coaches, and taking a visit to the local gym and learning how to become a member.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES



LUNCHTIME CLUBS 1.15pm - 1.50pm

MONDAY

- Netball Stadium MHU
- Sixth Form Multi-Sports Stadium SOL
- GCSE PE Sports Hall EFL

TUESDAY

- Football Outside CSI
- Cricket Stadium Coach
- Tennis Stadium SOL

WEDNESDAY

- Badminton Stadium EFL
- Dodgeball Sports Hall JBR

THURSDAY

- Table Tennis RMC
- Fitness Sports Hall SCA

FRIDAY

- Basketball Stadium JBR
- PE Assistants Sports Hall RMC
- Boxing Dance Studio CSI
- Football Outside Coach/SOL

AFTER SCHOOL 3.15pm - 4.15pm

TUESDAY

- NETBALL Stadium MHU/RMC/EFL

WEDNESDAY

- Trampoline Gym SCA
- Sports leaders Sports Hall SOL/JBR

THURSDAY

- Football Outside SOL
- Basketball Stadium SCA/CSI
- Athletics Outside MHU



The World Language Leaders led the Day of the Dead event at lunch time, so that students could learn about this Mexican festival, a very important festival in the Spanish-speaking world. The students decorated cookies to resemble the sugar skulls that are so popular for the festival in Mexico. Hajar Eblish: 'Me and my friends enjoyed designing them and it was very delicious when we ate them.'

FASHION SHOW

Students from different groups enjoyed the Cultural Fashion Show on 28th September. Loujane Eljabri one of our students from Year 12 who took part in the activity said: "I really enjoyed the cultural fashion show as I was able to introduce my culture to others in the school. Also, I learnt about other traditional clothes of other cultures. It was a very fun experience and I would love to take part again."

FRENCH CAFÉ

Some of our wonderful Year 8 students were so enthusiastic when they helped out with the French Café in the Bistro for open evening. They greeted parents and visitors in French and showed them to a table where they were served with French croissant and drinks. Many of the parents commented on how polite and talented the students were. Superbe les filles!

LE CAFÉ FRENCH THEATRE GROUP

Year 9 students studying French saw a play by a French theatre group at the beginning of November. The students really enjoyed the comedic performance, and some were even brave enough to volunteer to get on stage with the actors!



This year, we celebrated the European Day of Languages by hosting a whole week of activities! Firstly, students had the opportunity to learn German, Chinese, Arabic and Urdu at lunch time on the day. Several students also tried out some Spanish dancing!

Our wonderful team in the kitchen created a tasty European menu, and our Facilities staff decorated the Dining Room with flags from different countries around the world.

Congratulations to the students who won prizes in the lunchtime quiz and Vocab Express competitions, and to Germain House, who won points for the Interhouse competition for the best attendance at the lunch time activities! Parks House won the points for best form quiz. Students also had fun taking part in European themed sports competitions in PE. A big thank you to all staff and students who took part in the celebrations!

INCLUSION

Our EAL team is working hard at registration, break, lunch and after school to help raise the achievement levels of our students and help build their confidence to progress even further and participate fully in school life. With the team's help, the vast majority of EAL students are on or above target in the core subjects.

English in a Flash

Twenty eight students are taking part in the English in a Flash vocabulary development programme. This programme aims to build students' vocabulary to support them across the whole curriculum. Students learn vocabulary and then the words are used in context to improve listening, speaking, reading and writing in English. This intervention takes place during registration with Ms Kamesy.

Rainbow Reading

Ms Suleiman spends her registration time with 14 students who are very new to English. The students are following the Rainbow Reading scheme and working very hard to improve their reading ages. They are making good progress and are quickly working through the levels.

Jewellery-making and knitting

This half-term has seen the successful launch on Thursday lunch-time of a jewellery-making and knitting club. Every week students attend enthusiastically and have enjoyed learning new skills. Co-ordinated by Ms Kamesy and Ms Worrell, last half-term saw the students make beautiful necklaces and earrings. This half-term, the students will be learning the art of crochet. A huge well done to all involved for having the courage to try new things!



Friday Lunchtime Craft Club

This half term, Friday Lunchtime Craft Club was a resounding success amongst students in all year groups. They enthusiastically attended each session and learned to make fabulous cards and decorations from paper by using the origami technique for the most favourite night of the year...HALLOWEEN.

Students had lots of fun when they designed their own boo-tiful pumpkin faces and shaped spooky spiders and bats. All participants managed to make amazing masterpieces with a few basic supplies and huge creativity. A massive well done to everyone who crafted in minutes!

Mrs Iordache launches new challenges each half term so come along to A124 and join the Craft Club!



Catch Up Literacy

We're off again; reading has started afresh with a new reading scheme called Catch Up Literacy! Thirty five Year 7 and 8 students are working hard to improve their reading ages and are attending twice weekly sessions with Mrs Quinn, Mrs Maher, Sixth Form mentors and two Manchester University students. They all hope to do well in the next Star reading test and are looking forward to the possibility of going on the end of year trip.

Jack Hughes, one of our university mentors, said, "Catch Up Literacy is a prime example of how educational collaboration can deliver instant, tangible results and how best to put children's education at the heart of our shared mission in the wider Manchester community.

As a university undergraduate, I find the programme challenging but highly rewarding. The children I work with are eager to get everything they can out of the sessions and the results are easy to see."



Catch-up Literacy

Each day during form registration time, girls come along to B045 and here they enjoy one-to-one reading in a lovely relaxed area in school with Mrs Maher and some of the schools Sixth Form students. The aim is that as their confidence raises so does their comprehension. The end result is that the girls have gained a transferable skill for life, work and personal enjoyment.



GLOBAL AWARENESS

Geography Castleton Trip

Geography students in Year 11 had a fantastic trip to Castleton in September. The girls completed the research for their coursework and even the sun came out to make the day a real success with lots of hard work and innovative research from them.

They showed maturity all day and built up their confidence and communication skills when talking to holiday makers and locals about the effect of tourism in their small peak district village.

The day also involved a trip to the Peak Cavern where they explored ancient caverns and even learned to make rope. The students enjoyed the day to the countryside saying it was a "relaxing day out" and even promising to return in the future.



History Trip to Quarry Bank Mill

Year 9 historians had a fantastic trip to Quarry Bank Mill in October. The girls had a great day finding out about the cotton industry in Manchester and focused on the working and living conditions of workers under their owner Samuel Greg. They visited the mill itself and also experienced life for children in the Apprentice House.

The girls were well behaved, and were praised by the machine operators for their excellent questions!



History Trip to Tatton Park

The end of an era! History students in Year 11 had a fantastic trip to Tatton Park in September. The girls completed the research for their Controlled Assessment visiting the old hall and the new mansion, exploring what Tatton could tell them about the past!

The girls were an absolute asset to the school, displaying a real sense of maturity and self-responsibility, while building some excellent research material for their work. This was the final ever trip to Tatton for Year 11 and the history staff, and the trip was a really great way to wave goodbye to Tatton and Controlled Assessment!



Drama students showcase their Shakespeare

On Friday 4th November, the GCSE Performing Arts students performed an abridged version of A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Contact Theatre in Manchester.

The students were signed up to take part in the Shakespeare Schools Festival, which is a national theatre festival for Primary and Secondary schools. Rehearsals for the event started in September and the Year 11 students were extremely dedicated during lesson time, as well as attending extra rehearsals at lunch and after school.

Mrs Cartin-Hodge, Head of Drama, said:

"The evening was a great success; it was a sell-out show which was a fantastic opportunity for the Year 11's to perform on a professional theatre stage in front of approximately 300 audience members. Their final show was an energetic and comical performance that the audience absolutely loved."

Performers have received fantastic feedback from Whalley Range staff and students following a second performance of the show back in school. We would like to thank everyone for their support and we take great pride in the student's dedication and talent!



Blackpool - Reward trip

More than 800 students achieved 100% attendance, no late marks, or behaviour consequences throughout half-term 1. So to celebrate their fantastic efforts 783 students were rewarded with a place on the annual trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach, accompanied by 50 members of staff, traveling on 15 coaches!

The sun came out and the rain stayed away and both staff and students enjoyed Blackpool's traditional cuisine and thrill-seeking rides. The students behaved impeccably and were great ambassadors for Whalley Range. Blackpool staff commented on how "polite and well-behaved" our students are and they look forward to our students visiting each year- and so do we!



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.

Whalley Range 11-18 High School - Wilbraham Road, Whalley Range, Manchester, M16 8GW t: 0161 861 9727