

voice

ISSUE No.2

SADDLEWORTH SCHOOL MAGAZINE

AUTUMN 2015-16

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Friends of Saddleworth School formed to help bring our community together

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School awarded prestigious title and becomes regional flagship school

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HALLÉ

Year 7 get the chance to perform with Hallé musicians at the magnificent Bridgewater Hall

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STEVE McCORMACK

Scotland's Rugby League Head Coach visits school to lead three coaching sessions to Y7 & Y8 pupils



Left to right:

Emily Rawsthorne, Isabelle Ward,
Zoe Parry, Katie Ball, Emma Gregory,
Roshni Parmar-Hill & Katie Agarwal

- W E L C O M E -

To the 2nd edition of our school magazine
Hopefully this has made it safely home and you are able to enjoy it in print for the first time.

I have tried to capture everything that has taken place in school so far this year and I hope you will agree that there are lots going on.

Our students continue to make us proud everyday and to be able to show you why in producing this is a great honour.

We hope you enjoy your read and it offers you a true insight into Saddleworth School.

Claire McMurdo
Assistant Head, Community & Operations

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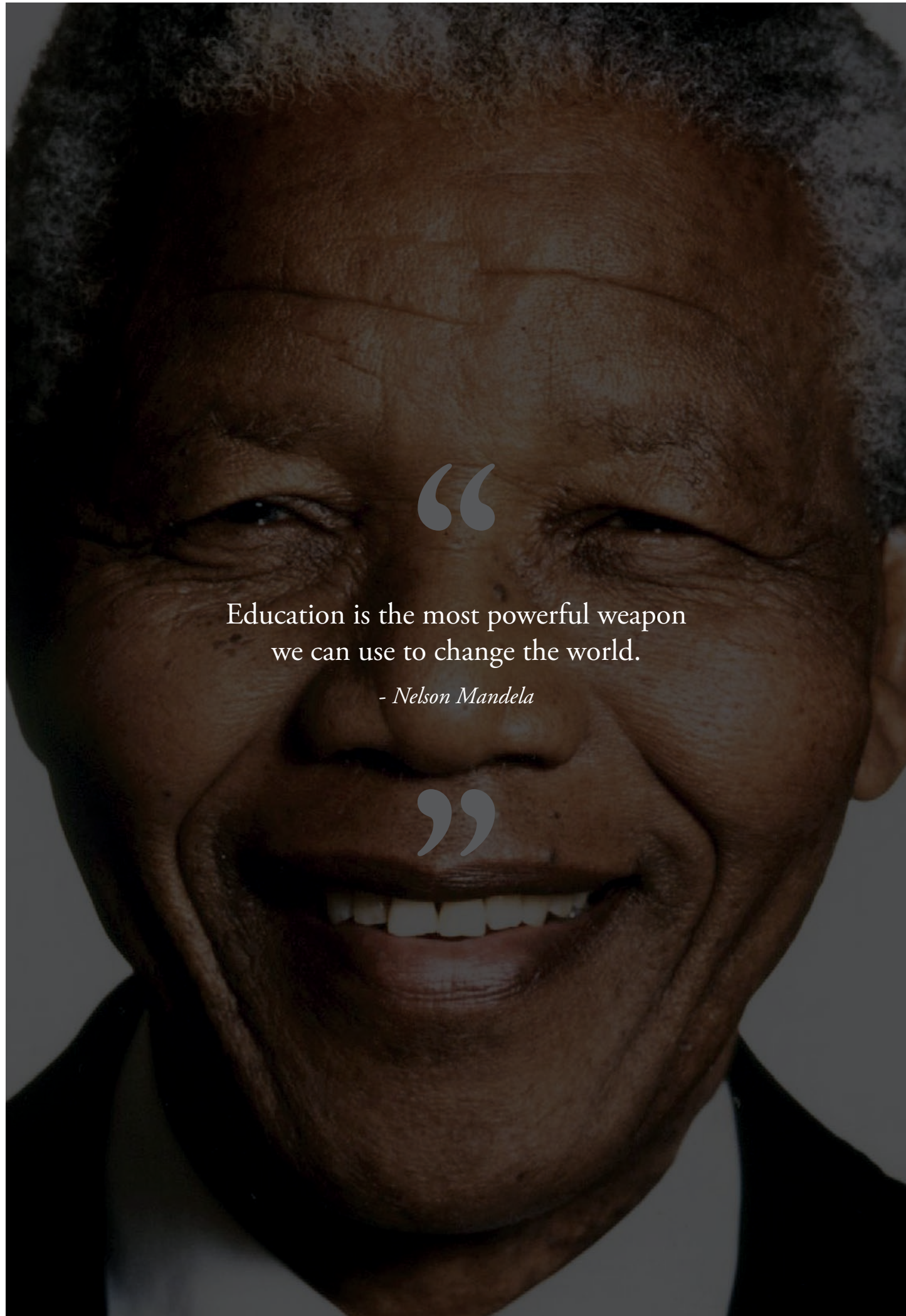
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“

Education is the most powerful weapon
we can use to change the world.

- Nelson Mandela

”

- LETTER FROM THE HEAD -

Sometimes people suggest that life in school is not like life “in the real world.” I’d beg to differ. What could be more “real world” than working on a day to day basis with 1350 young people and their families, drawn from a broad cross section of society? It’s a privilege to work with Saddleworth children particularly at Christmas but equally, we deal daily with the realities of the world in which we live. Over the last few months we’ve all been reeling from some fairly dramatic world events.

The Prevent Agenda is about ensuring that educational professionals are able to spot the signs of radicalisation early. Over the last term, all governors and staff have been trained to enable them to be able to identify and deal with early signs of such behaviours.

We held a minutes silence in classrooms for the victims of the Paris attacks and prior to that fateful Friday, we held a very moving and well observed silence for all those who have been affected by loss in conflicts on Armistice Day. I also attended a moving ceremony at which former pupil Jack Unsworth was honoured by St John’s Ambulance for the generous donation of his organs following his untimely death earlier this year.

As well as educating children about the realities of the world and current events, we also seek to celebrate the remarkable achievements of Saddleworth pupils. Our Presentation Evening held in November was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the exceptional abilities of the children we work with. A number of parents commented on the fantastic quality of the many musical performances and it was a joy to present so many certificates to such a broad range of youngsters.

PE held their own Presentation Evening and amongst the guests of honour was Huddersfield Town player and former Saddleworth Pupil Harry Bunn. Inspired by the success of the evening, we are investigating the possibility of bringing our whole school Presentation Evening closer to home, with Uppermill Civic Hall suggested as a possible location.

Over a hundred of our Year 7 pupils participated in Dance Factor towards the end of November. Older pupils acted as choreographers and leaders helping to shape some wonderful performances. We have also hosted a series of tea parties to help strengthen further our links with partner primary schools. Each party has been attended by Year 7 pupils all from the same primary school. As well as serving

them tea and cakes, they shared their work with parents and their former teachers.

The school remains a calm and focussed learning environment. The inclement weather has tested our tired buildings and we are all looking forward to the comfort, convenience and efficiency that a new building will bring. Year 11 have been very focussed and many of them are working incredibly hard attending revision sessions after school. They benefited from a visit from a motivational speaker who distributed a copy of a study skills book that he’d contributed to. We are confident that with continued hard work, they are in a great position to break records next summer.

We are blessed to work with some extremely talented colleagues in what is a very stable staff. We wish Miss Sunderland and Mrs Jones well as they both start maternity leave over Christmas. They are replaced by Miss Draper and Mr Shokanmbi both of whom have already been into school to gain an insight into classes so that they can hit the ground running in January.

In reading this magazine you’ll appreciate that there is a great deal going on at our thriving school. That said, we cannot ever lose sight of how our school relates to the wider world events. I really hope that over the Christmas period you have been able to relax and enjoy the time spent with your family.





- O P E N E V E N I N G -

This year we were busier than ever. A wonderful turn out and a wonderful range of activities on offer.

Prospective students got a chance not only to see school in action but to have a go at lots of activities. Staff and students were on hand to help answer questions and provide an insight into Saddleworth School.

The Headteacher talks outlined the schools achievements and his vision for even greater success in the future to help support parents make an informed choice.

With more first choice applications being made than we have places for 2016, we continue to grow from strength to strength.

- P O P P Y A P P E A L -

Thank you to every one for supporting the Poppy appeal - £286.69 was collected by the school.

- N O T E F R O M T H E H E A D -

I thought that the pupils responded brilliantly this morning to our own, very unique, Saddleworth School moment of remembrance.

It never fails to move me when we gather together as one community of over 1500 souls, to acknowledge the sacrifices made by so many on our behalf.

The silence was respectful and impeccably observed. Even the squawking of the birds seemed somehow symbolic, sorrowful and appropriate.

Lauren was brave and brilliant, playing the Last Post and there will have been very few pupils who will have failed to appreciate the significance of the moment.

Much of this is down to the superb work that goes on day in day out in classrooms enabling children to understand the value of humanity and the true horror of war.

Thank you all for pulling together and creating such a special moment of reflection.

- F R I E N D S O F S A D D L E W O R T H S C H O O L -

Earlier in the year we launched the idea of a parents group. We have since met twice and have a group of 10 amazing people keen to make this a great success.

Our chosen name for the group is 'Friends of Saddleworth School'. We decided on this because we felt it was friendly and welcoming. We also recognised that there maybe people that are not parents that were able to get involved and support. The name also implied the positivity of the group and the supportive nature to help school which is key to our aims.

So far we have:

- worked with the HR department to process everyones DBS checks to allow them to work in school.

- looked into charity status and made arrangements with the finance team to support by auditing our accounts in the first instance.

- identified a few initiatives for the new year.

At the next meeting we will be establishing the group formally and setting up the constitution. When we write to you in the next edition we will be able to introduce everyone formally in their appointed positions. As always everyone is more than welcome to get involved. Please feel free to get in touch c.mcmurdo@saddleworthschool.org

Planned for the new year

We will be present at each of the upcoming consultation evening so we can introduce ourselves and allow you the chance to put friendly faces to the names. We will be running the refreshments in the canteen so please pop in and say hello. For each of the consultation evenings we will select a 'smaller' project that has been submitted for funding support that is relevant to that year group and the proceeds of the refreshments will be donated directly towards it.

We will also have a chance to share with you upcoming events, initiatives and ideas, as well as answer any questions you have and allow you a chance to share your ideas.

We are looking to set up a 100/200/...500 club (dependent upon the popularity!!). Costing only £12 a year this will entitle you to entry into the monthly draw. The money raised will be shared equally between the winner and the school fund.

We are planning a range of whole school events that we would like to host, starting with a disco next term for students in year 8/9. Every single penny raised will be placed into a Friends of Saddleworth School fund.

Every single penny will be protected for and spent on the children. Friends of Saddleworth have full control over all monies and the spending of all monies. They will consult parents and students in identifying on what this may be.

The school has support financially with the set up of the group, recognising its value to the school and the time being kindly given by its members.

So how can you help?

The groups success depends on your support so we hope you are able to get involved whenever possible. We appreciate both time and money are precious commodities in a busy family life. However you can help, whenever you can help, we will be grateful.

Could you donate any old books suitable for students aged 11-16?

Could you donate any unwanted items to be sold on a carboot to raise funds?

Do you have a 'present drawer' with some unwanted items that you would be happy to donate as raffle prizes?

Do you know any businesses that would be able to donate raffle prizes?

Could you give your time to help at one off events?

Could you spare a few hours to come to an event?

Do you have any business links that would be able to support the curriculum delivery?

Do you know any local businesses that would like to get involved in sponsoring an event, a prize at an event or the school magazine in return for publicity?

Would you like to be part of the 100/200. . .500 club and stand a chance of winning every month?

Would you like get involved in our 'Friends of Saddleworth' group?

Thank you in anticipation.



School marked Anti-Bullying week in assemblies. Led by Miss Craddock and our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors they raised the profile of their work and the campaign.

Stand up to Bullying wrist bands were sold in school to allow students the chance to show their support and solidarity against bullying.

We are delighted to announce that Saddleworth School has been appointed a showcase school by the Diana Award Trust in recognition of our anti-bullying work.

This is a huge privilege as only nine schools are chosen in the country, so congratulations to all those students who have taken a stand against bullying.

We are now the - **Anti-Bullying Ambassador School for the North West.**

We are hosting an Anti-Bullying event on 19th January 2016 to showcase the anti-bullying work we have been doing in school where schools from the local area are invited to come and look at our anti-bullying strategies.

'AN INSPIRATIONAL Saddleworth School pupil has been picked out of 100 applications to be a National Anti-Bullying Ambassador Youth Board Member.'

Saddleworth Independent, 19th October 2015

Congratulations to Kirsten Fletcher in 9E who has been appointed the Regional Anti-Bullying Champion for the North West. Kirsten fought off stiff competition from hundreds of applicants, so we are delighted with her achievement. Kirsten will be running anti-bullying activities within school, and with local primary schools

as well as sharing her fantastic ideas with students from schools across the country.

Kirsten was invited to be on the panel at the National Anti Bullying Conference in Blackpool. You can watch a video of the event at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PYHQXesOuA>

We asked Kirsten to write a reflection on the event for us:



“On Tuesday, 10 November I went to Blackpool as a National Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Youth Board Member for an Anti-Bullying Week event, which was part of the Diana Award. As soon as I arrived I was on the Question & Answer panel, where any member of the audience (which was made up of school children and staff from across the country) could ask any question about the topic of bullying to be answered by one of the experts on the panel. It was great to be able to talk to the audience about issues that they were concerned or curious about. After being on the panel, I took part in some of the workshops led by celebrities who are involved in the National Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. The workshops were all about expressing yourself and expressing your feelings in creative ways. At the end of the day, everyone discussed anti-bullying project ideas to take back to their schools and we held an anti-bullying wish balloon launch!

- *Kirsten Fletcher in 9E*





- STAFF UPDATES -

We welcome 4 new staff to Saddleworth School

- 01 *Ian Duncan* - joins the Science Department
- 02 *Emily Cooling* - joins the English Department
- 03 *Heather Bateson* - joins the Science Department
- 04 *Amy Morgan* - joins the English Department
- 11 *Sarah Armstrong* - joins the English Department as Curriculum Leader

We welcome 3 visiting linguists who will be spending the year with us

- 08 *Cora Schubert* - German Foreign Language Assistant
- 05 *Mrs Aimin Chen* - Mandarin Chinese Assistant
- 06 *Kevin Viader* - French Language Assistant

We have 2 staff that are taking some time out with their new born babies

- 09 *Miss Sunderland*
- 14 *Mrs Jones*

Congratulations to *Mr Nazir* and *Mr Airnes* whose wives have had babies

We have 3 staff who have been successfully appointed as Specialist Leaders in Education for Oldham in their curriculum areas

- 13 *Mr Jones* - Art
- 12 *Mr Elliott* - Geography
- 10 *Mr Anderson* - English

- 15 We welcome 2 special additions to school, kittens *Tom* and *Jerry*

We say thank you for Service to the School following his retirement from the governing body for 32 years

- 07 *John Broadbent*

- PROF BRIAN COX -

When we heard Brian Cox - Physicist, lecturer and host of Stargazing live was coming to town, we jumped at the chance of recruiting our youngsters in science to come along and meet their idol!

The event was organised by Madhlo Youth group and a consortium of secondary schools in Oldham. We knew our science hungry pupils would be lining up to go!

On the evening of October the 8th 2015, we alongside a hall full of people, took our 45 starry-eyed students to listen to Brian Cox talk about "The Universe and Oldham". Once Harry and Jamie had finally joined us and our group was complete, we were ready to take it all in - from the procession at the beginning, that jacket, to the anecdotes and well, the vast knowledge that Brian Cox has! The personalised journey through our universe had all of us at the edge of our seats.

Brian talked about his own journey into science and spoke about rings of Saturn and life on Mars and every word that he uttered oozed his love of Astronomy

and Physics. "When you observe nature carefully, when you learn more about it, it becomes more magical,"

Brian Cox's quote of the night had to be "The great thing about science is that you know when you're wrong but you don't know if you're right." - work that one out!

Another underpinning message from the talk was the accessibility for all to science education! Brian Cox said "If you live in Oldham, whatever you want to do, you have a leading university five miles down the road," he added in reference to the University of Manchester, where he is a lecturer. "The doors are always open,".

Our pupils commented on the night:
"amazing"
"brilliant"
"yeah, wow"
"some of his statements baffle us"



We wanted to provide students with regular opportunities to get involved, whether by giving time, giving money, donating or purchasing items to benefit others. So far this year we have

We have asked the students to get involved in nominating the charities they would like us to adopt for the new year. A button on the VLE is live for students to share their ideas. Once short listed the most popular ones will be placed to the student on line vote so we can identify our future projects.



- S E P T E M B E R -

M a c M I L L A N

I just wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone that supported in any way. We raised an amazing £1062.04 which off cup cakes ranging from 10p to £1 really is staggering. Apologies Miss Craddock as I am sure we didn't quite fulfil your Health Schools Gold Award that day.

We were truly overwhelmed by the way everyone got involved, the kindness of everyone that donated and how much cake we received. I would love to thank everyone who brought cakes in or bought a cake on the day to make it the success it was

It really does show why Saddleworth is such an amazing place and how wonderful our students are when they are asked to get involved.

Teacher Lead: *Mrs McMurdo*



- O C T O B E R -

P R O J E C T P A D D I N G T O N

Pupils of Saddleworth School showed their empathy and support for refugees this term by working together to support the Tearfund charity Project Paddington.

Each form donated numerous teddies that were labelled and boxed to make their long journey to the refugee camps in main land Europe. The teddies, numbering over 200, were labelled with messages of love and well wishes and showed families in times of desperate need that people care. Over £500 was also donated directly to Tearfund to support the work of aid agencies during the refugee crisis. The generosity and compassion shown by the pupils was heartening.

Teacher Lead: *Mrs Kernohan*



- N O V E M B E R -

C H I L D R E N I N N E E D

Friday 13 November was the Children in Need Appeal. We were excited to be participating in a new initiative for BBC Children in Need called Champions of Change. Supported by Lloyds Bank, Champions of Change saw students from across the school take ownership of their own fundraising activities.

It was a great day with lots going on. A big thank you to everyone that got involved in whatever way they could. From those who held a raffle, baked and sold cakes, dressed up for charity, completed a sponsored silence, had sponges thrown at them, allowed their legs to be waxed or even paid to watch. Every penny really makes a difference.

We raised an amazing **£1543.83** which really will make a difference to the lives of less fortunate children.

Teacher Lead: *Mrs McMurdo*



- D E C E M B E R -

K E Y 1 0 3 A P P E A L

I had the absolute pleasure of taking the following Yr 10 ambassadors down to Key 103 Mission central to deliver our school/community's contribution to their cash for kids - Mission Christmas appeal.

Charity ambassadors: Katie Agarwal, Katie Ball, Emma Gregory, Roshni Parmar-Hill, Isabelle Ward, Emily Rawsthorne and Zoe Parry as photographer.

The girls personally carried in an amazing '17' massive black bin sacks full of toys.

We were treated to a warm welcome and a tour of the facilities with plenty of photo opportunities, the staff were most complementary of the amount of toys we took and the way the young ladies presented themselves.

I was most humbling to see our large delivery simply disappear amongst the mountains of presents already received, these toys will be handed out in time for Christmas. Key 103's target was to be able to hand out 60,000 toys to the 1 in 3 under privileged children

living within the Greater Manchester area.

Many thanks to every pupil, parent, staff and member of the community that donated toys and helped out, with a special acknowledgement to the ambassadors.

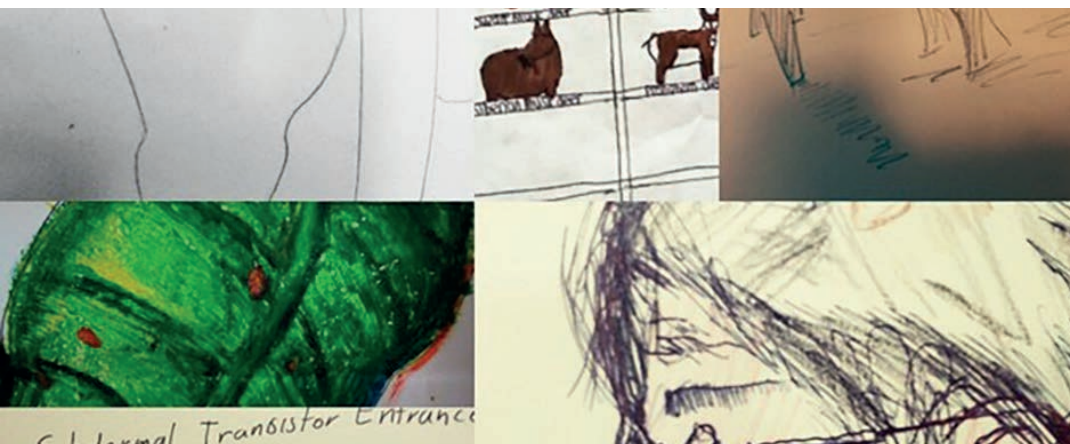
We would also like to make a special mention to Josh Wood. He helped collect money from his form and personally added a generous contribution when he went shopping with his mother. At the check out Mrs Wood topped up the funds even further that allowed Josh to hand in a full sack of products suitable for teenagers.

Teacher Lead: *Mr Simkins*



- TELLING TALES -

This exhibition aims to raise awareness by exploring the relationship between language, storytelling, identity and creativity



- DATES -

Thursday 22 Oct 2015 - Saturday 31 Oct 2015

- VENUE -

First floor, **Manchester Central Library**
St Peters Square, Manchester, M2 5PD



Well done to **Tomas Cusack** in 10N who recently presented his exhibit about Switzerland as part of the Manchester Science Festival. Tomas worked with speech and language researchers from The University of Manchester on the exhibition, 'Telling Tales' which aimed to raise awareness about social communication disorders.

Tomas chose to tell his 'Tale' about Switzerland because he was born and lived there for 10 years before relocating to Saddleworth. Tomas shared his interest in Switzerland with visitors to the exhibition in an engaging and enthusiastic way.



- CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION -

Year 10 Graphics students are entering the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation Christmas Card competition for 2016. The deadline for entries is January 18th 2016.

www.roycastle.org/support-us/christmas-card-competition

- CALLIGRAPHY -

Year 10 students in Ms Fan's class had their first focus on writing Chinese calligraphy, tutored by our new Hanban teacher Mrs Chen. This was an extremely inspiring session for our young GCSE

Chinese learners. They enjoyed writing with pen brushes and they began to appreciate the beauty of Chinese characters.



- P R E S E N T A T I O N E V E N I N G -

I would like to thank all those pupils who contributed to an excellent Presentation Evening, staged at the Queen Elizabeth Hall.

Sincere congratulations to all the award winners; your achievements are spectacular, very well done.

Thank you also to the performers, those in the bands, those who danced and those who spoke so eloquently. We were tremendously proud of all of you and the excellent contribution you made, to what was a wonderful evening.

PRIZES FOR ATTAINMENT IN YEAR 7: **JEREMY KNIGHT**, **ANDREW HEYWOOD**, **ELLIE BOARDMAN**, **TOM POTTS**, **NIAMH SIMPSON**, **KATE LEDDY**, **RACHEL WILLIAMS**, **LAUREN YATES**, **GRACE APPLEBY**, **JOSEPH ATKIN**, **MOLLY BARKER**, **AIDAN HALL**, **JOSEPH MUMFORD-LLOYD**, **POPPY SHEPHERDSON**

PRIZES FOR PROGRESS IN YEAR 7: **LUCAS CLARKE**, **ADAM DELDERFIELD**, **BETHANY SPEAK**, **FAYE DAVIES**, **AARON HILDITCH**, **CHLOE SUTHERLAND**, **MAISIE REECE**, **SAFFRON BARNES**, **THOMAS NEWTON**, **ALASTAIR ROWAN**, **MITCHELL SIRs**, **KIAN HURST-CONROY**, **MARIANA NICOLICI**

PRIZES FOR EFFORT IN YEAR 7: **LUCY CHADWICK**, **ELEANOR BALL**, **HARRY FRANGLETON**, **EVIE HANSS**, **JOSHUA TAYLOR-HUSSAIN**, **OLIVIA CORNES**, **LUCY KAY**, **SANTINO PETRILLO**, **CHLOE WHATMOUGH**, **THOMAS MOULE**, **AMBER NADEEM**, **SOPHIE SOUTHERN**

PRIZES FOR ATTAINMENT IN YEAR 8: **GEORGE SLEIGHT**, **THOMAS DOYLE**, **ADAM JONES**, **CATHERINE MYERS**, **BRIDGET ATKIN**, **LUCY GEORGE**, **ELEANOR MEEK**, **YASMIN ROEBUCK**, **LUKA BABETZKI**, **LIBBY COLLARD**, **ANGEL CURTIS**, **REBECCA BARTLEY**, **CAMDEN GRIFFITHS**

PRIZES FOR PROGRESS IN YEAR 8: **NATASHA NEWTON-MATHER**, **IBRAHIM ASLAM**, **NICOLE GARDNER-GARFORTH**, **ALEXANDRA MOLLOY**, **SOPHIE GLYNN**, **OLIVER TAYLOR**, **ELIZABETH BARTON-HOWE**, **JACK SPURR**, **REECE WOOD**, **SAMANTHA HANNAH**, **JOSEPH WEAVER**, **NIALL GRANT**, **HOLLY MUNDY**, **RUBY JONES**

PRIZES FOR EFFORT IN YEAR 8: **DELPHINE ALSOP-PARSONS**, **SAMUEL SMITHIES**, **LIBERTY EATON**, **THOMAS JEFFERSON**, **IMOGEN EDWARDS**, **KATHERINE O'DONNELL**, **MORGAN CLARK**, **AARON KENYON**, **KIEN MOLLOY**, **KIRSTEN FLETCHER**, **JACK KENYON**, **LUSINDY LIANG**, **DANI RHODES**

PRIZES FOR ATTAINMENT IN YEAR 9: **BRADLEY HAMPSHIRE**, **GREGORY SIMISTER**, **SKY HUGHES**, **HANNAH-LOUISE SIDDIQUI**, **CHLOE FIRBY**, **EMMA GREGORY**, **ABIGAIL WILLIAMS**, **ALANA RUDD**, **KATIE AGARWAL**, **KATIE BALL**, **ROSHNI PARMAR-HILL**, **ZOE PARRY**, **DAISY SHEPHERDSON**

PRIZES FOR PROGRESS IN YEAR 9: **BENJAMIN ODDIE**, **MACKENZIE YOUNG**, **SAMUEL ACKROYD**, **JOSHUA LOMAS**, **CALLUM ORMEROD**, **NIAMH BYRNE**, **MAX RAMSKER**, **GEORGE HATTON**, **CAVAN PURTILL**, **ELISABETH TERRY**, **ELIJAH WOLSTENHOLME**, **PAUL BRAMMER**, **ADAM BUTLER**

PRIZES FOR EFFORT IN YEAR 9: **LUKE BAMBER**, **MOLLY HIGGINS**, **HARVEY MOTH**, **FAY ROODHOUSE**, **VIOLET WINTERBOTTOM**, **KATE HANSS**, **SOPHIE MOLYNEUX**, **RHIANNON ARMSTRONG**, **KAYLEIGH CROWTHER**, **AMIRA MIRZA**, **TED HAILWOOD**, **REBECCA MCCUSKER**

PRIZES FOR ATTAINMENT IN YEAR 10: **JACK COX**, **CHARLOTTE STEWART**, **JONATHAN MARSTON**, **WILL BARTLEY**, **HOLLY BRENNAN**, **NATHAN BURGESS**, **ASHLEY DAWSON**, **ALLI DRONSFIELD**, **PHILIPPA HALL**, **ISOBEL HALLAM**, **FRANCES LAMBERT**, **SAVANNAH SALISBURY**, **KATIE MCGREGOR**, **EMILY PERCIVAL**, **ELIZABETH WOOLHOUSE**, **LYDIA HOOD**, **BETH GILLARD**, **THOMAS KEHOE**, **WILLIAM RICE**, **HANNAH JONES**, **FELICITY LOFTUS**, **JAMES STALLAND**, **JESSICA TOOTILL**, **JACK DUNNING**

PRIZES FOR PROGRESS IN YEAR 10: **LIAM EYRES**, **LYDIA WHITEHEAD**, **TESSA KING**, **AISHAH MALIK**, **SASKIA GIBSON**, **CHARLIE BAMFORTH**, **EMILY BEEVER**, **SAMUEL SUMNER**, **JOSHUA THOMAS**, **BARRON JONES**, **SAMUEL SODIYA**, **SOPHIE WALL**, **ERIN WOLSTENHOLME**, **BRITTANY CARTER**, **ELLIE POMFREY**, **HARRISON QUINN**, **SAM HARRISON**, **JACK SKELDON**, **AMY UGLOW**, **OLIVIA BERRY**, **JASMIN HIGHAM**, **STEVEN HUME**, **ABIGAIL DICKENS**, **WILLIAM LESLIE**, **ALEX SHAW**

PRIZES FOR EFFORT IN YEAR 10: **FREYA MAYALL**, **KATIE RICHARDSON**, **SAM STONELEY**, **ELISHA BERGIN**, **PAUL MILLER**, **DEAN PEMBERTON**, **SAFFRON HODGKINS**, **WHITNEY KENWAY**, **REBECCA BIRCH**, **SAQLAIN SHAHID**, **GEORGIA SHAW**, **NICOLA HAWKINS**, **COLE HOWARD**, **MEGAN RILEY**, **ABIGAIL TOOTILL**, **THOMAS READ**, **BRANDON ROYSTON**, **ELLIE WHATMOUGH**

DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AWARDS: **BEN BRADBURY-LORD**, **JAMES FISH**, **TOBY KERSHAW**, **HANNAH KITCHEN**, **MEGAN LOUGHLIN**, **RACHEL MINTON**, **JOSHUA MOLLOY**, **MEGAN ROSE**, **BETHANY SYKES**, **JAY TAYLOR**, **ARIANA WILLEY**

DUKE OF EDINBURGH SILVER AWARDS: **EMINE CAKIR**, **LAUREN SAVILLE**, **RICHARD WILSON**

YEAR 11 GCSE EXAMINATION CERTIFICATES, SUBJECT PRIZES AND DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS: **LUCY BREWSTER**, **CHARLOTTE LYNESS**, **LARA SHAW-CABALLERO**, **TRISTAN HEYWOOD**, **BECKY MARTIN**, **HANNAH WILLIAMS**, **RHIANNA BANGHAM**, **LAURA BARLOW**, **MEGAN BARLOW**, **ELLA GITTINS**, **NATHAN GREENWOOD**, **ERIN KEHOE**, **SEAN TOWNSEND**, **WILLIAM BROOK**, **KATIE DOUGLAS**, **THOMAS HALLIWELL**, **DANIEL WILSON**, **REBECCA HANNAH**, **ZAK HARRISON**, **CHLOE TAYLOR**, **MAISIE BUTT**, **SARAH FIELDHOUSE**, **SIDRAH KOUSER**, **JACK MARLAND**, **ELlice FRANGLETON**, **CHLOE OAKLEY**, **AMY COOK**, **CAMERON JACQUES**, **JACK KELLY**, **HEATHER SINGLETON**, **LEANNE THORPE**, **CHARLOTTE BROOK**, **BETH ROBERTS**, **JASON SMETHURST**, **HANNAH BAKER**, **JOSHUA FISH**, **EMMA HALL**, **MILLY PATON-MOORE**, **ROSS ADAMS**, **ELLA BONES**, **JONATHAN BURKE**, **SAM HILL-WILSON**, **SEBASTIAN LOFTUS**, **JOSEPH MCNAMARA**, **JAKE WILDBORE**, **ANNIE GILL**, **OLIVIA JOHN**, **KATIE LOCKWOOD**, **NICOLE STOCKTON**, **MEGAN WALSH**, **DEANNA KEATING**, **KATIE LEGGETT**, **PAIGE ROBINSON**, **ALANYA BERGIN**, **JACK BOOMER**, **TOM BRADBURN**, **ELLA CHALK**, **BENJAMIN GODFREY**, **JASMINE NEWELL**, **EMMA PILLING**, **SALLY BRADLEY**, **LILY CAMPBELL**, **MARCUS CARTER-STRUTT**, **MADELINE CLEASBY**, **MORGAN EVANS**, **SAMUEL ANDERSON**, **FREYA BARRASS**, **ERIN BELL**, **EMMA BRENNAND**, **MATILDA JONES**, **GABRIEL KIDD**, **TAEJA LUCAS**, **ELLIE MASON**, **KIRSTY WATT**, **JAKE KEARNEY**, **RUBY LAMBERT**, **VICTORIA LANDER**, **ELEANOR MCKENNA**, **JESSICA MILTON**, **PHINEAS WINTERBOTTOM**, **EMILY AGARWAL**, **BETHANY DARRAGH**, **ABBIE PERKS**, **DECLAN STAFFORD**, **CERYs WOOD**, **ABBIE HERNON**, **JOSEPHINE IRWIN-HOLLAND**, **OLIVIA HAMM**

EMMA HALL - 'THE H. A. THOMAS PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY', 'THE ARTHUR SURCH CUP FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL'

REBECCA HANNAH - 'THE CANON AIRNE PRIZE' FOR GCSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

WILLIAM BROOK - 'THE H. A. THOMAS PRIZE FOR HISTORY'

KATIE DOUGLAS - 'THE H. A. THOMAS PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE'

THOMAS HALLIWELL - 'THE MICHAEL GARSIDE MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR BOYS' PHYSICAL EDUCATION'

ELLA GITTINS - 'THE H. A. THOMAS PRIZE' FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SHORT COURSE)

RHIANNA BANGHAM - 'THE DOROTHY SCHOFIELD PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LITERATURE', THE PRIZE FOR AS LEVEL CRITICAL THINKING (SPONSORED BY OLDHAM SIXTH FORM COLLEGE)

LUCY BREWSTER - 'THE KEVIN SINFIELD TROPHY FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION'

CHARLOTTE LYNESS - 'THE KATIE SHERIDAN MEMORIAL PRIZE' FOR GCSE ART

- ROTARY CLUB -

What a fantastic opportunity one Year 7 form was offered, a chance to work alongside Radion Media Ltd on a commissioned piece of work by Rotary District Commissioner Nigel Danby for the Rotary International. The song was composed to reflect the Rotary International's mission statement for the year 2015 – 2016, "Be A Gift To The World".

Be a gift to the world is all about what we can each do to make our world a better place. Whatever we give, however little, be it time, or money, or a skill, even a kind gesture can be our gift.

The students were all asked what they thought they could do to be a gift to the world and it is lovely to see their responses. ■

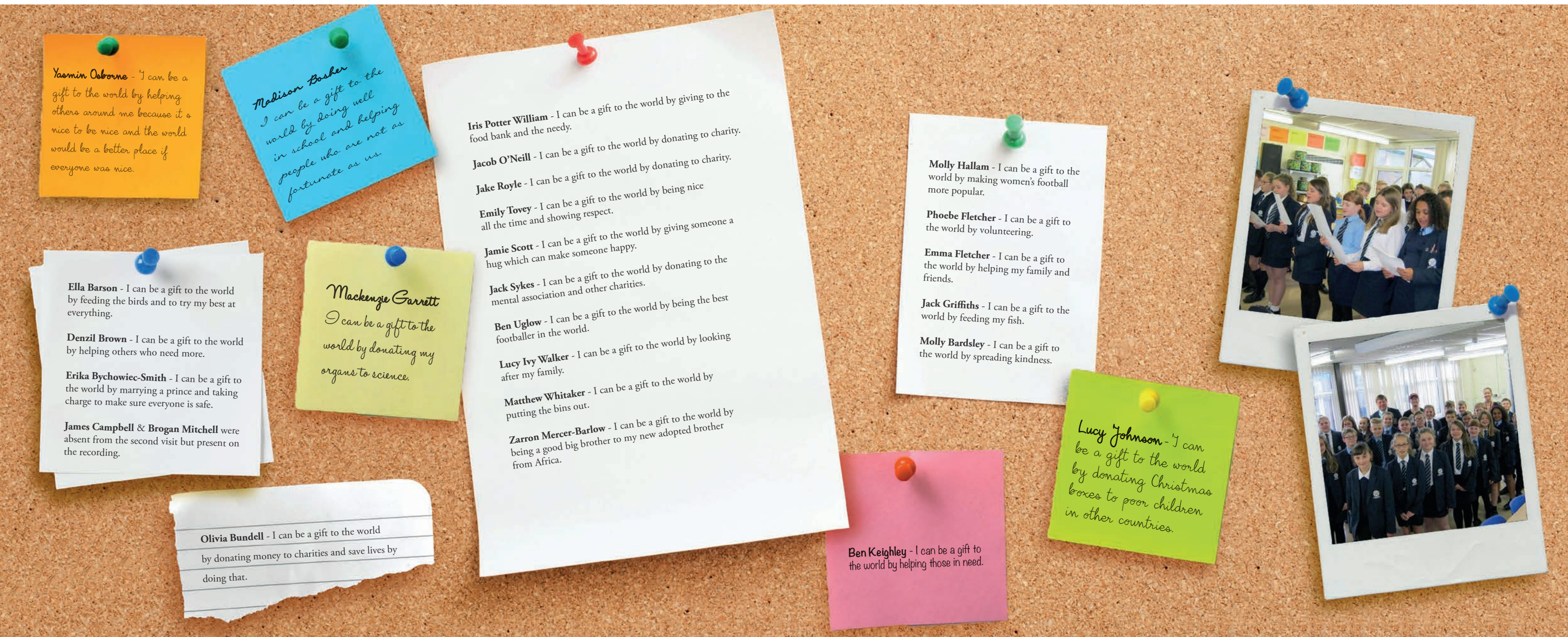
- MICHAEL DALBY -

Thank you once again for allowing us to record your Year 7 choir, they sounded wonderful and were a pleasure to work with.

As a visitor I'd also like to add how well behaved, focussed, and friendly they all were. The school staff, from the receptionist

through to the teachers I met, were extremely welcoming and supportive of the project also. Your staff and children are a real credit to you, the school, and the Town.

- Michael Dalby, Director of Radion Media



The song will be sent to the Rotary International President and then published around the world in January 2016. It will be available for download from the Radion Media website: www.radionmedia.co.uk

- P A R E N T A L C O N T R I B U T I O N -

A little earlier in the year the Chair of Governors wrote to you asking if you would be happy to support the school. The idea had come from parents as a way of raising additional funds to enhance the curriculum and wider school programme.

We apologise to anyone to whom this caused offence.

What I would like to do is say thank you to those that did. We have had 70 families kindly make a one off payment or set up a direct debit. So far these have ranged from £5 to a very generous £100. Everything is gratefully received and I promise will be put to good use.

In the aim of being open and honest what I would like to do is share with you in each edition of the magazine exactly what we have received, what this has been spent on and take the chance

to show the difference it has made.

Every single penny is protected for the students and is being spent on the enrichment of their curriculum or enrichment activities.

In order to identify the projects this was able to support we devised a funding request form. This was sent to curriculum areas to find out staff ideas, to form tutors to find out the students ideas and sent home to find out the parents ideas. Within these they need to highlight their suggestion, the impact this will have and an indication of cost to make it happen. Not surprisingly we received lots of these. We hope throughout the year we are able to make a number of these possible with thanks to your kindness.

So far we have received: **£1253.50** We have spent: **£330** Balance: **£953.50**

P E E R R E A D I N G

£100 contribution made towards the enhancement of the programme.

It is a huge thing to stand up in front of a group of students and teach. It is an even more daunting process when the students you are teaching are your peers. This term Year 10 student Alanna Rudd has successfully trained 70 peer readers from Years 9 and 10 ready for the launch of peer reading projects in Years 7 and 8. The aim of the projects is to link students in lower years, with a peer reader who will meet with them once a week to support them with their reading. Both staff and students have been incredibly impressed with the professionalism Alanna has shown, and all of the students she trained have felt confident in how best to support their mentee.

Peer readers have met with their students' for several weeks and the feedback so far has been overwhelmingly positive.

“

I love peer reading because it's something to look forward to. If I've had a stressful week it's nice to be able to meet with my peer reader and sit down and do some reading which is nice and relaxing.

- *Nathan Billington Year 7*

”

T E A P A R T I E S

£230 contribution made towards the cost of the transition tea parties.

270 students joined us in September from 27 different primary schools. As you can appreciate starting secondary school is a scary prospect for many students, moving from 1 class, with 1 teacher, in 1 room to over 10 of each. As part of the transition programme this year we launched a new initiative titled 'Primary Tea Parties'. The students from each feeder primary were invited to a tea party in their honour. The only catch was they had to help organize it and serve their guests!!!



They invited their families and their old teachers so they could say thank you for all their hard work in preparing them for secondary school, to show them how well they have settled and the things they had done since they started with us that made them feel proud.

The response from the Primary schools was amazing. Having spent 7 years with them they welcomed a chance to see them in their new uniform, in their new school and to see for themselves that they were happy. With staff attending for 252 of our students I think this speaks volumes about their keenness to do so. What was lovely to see was just how much they thought of them and missed them. We had some of our smaller feeder schools where there were more staff that took the invitation than the number of children they sent. We had some of our larger schools where 12 and 15 staff took the invitation to come and visit. To see the students responses as they saw their old teachers was heart warming.

This great response coupled with their families attending meant that we had just over 600 attend in total. As you can imagine this is a lot of cups of tea, coffee and juice, let alone the amount of cake consumed. The money from the parental contributions helped make this possible.

To help show the impact of this initiative and the money used I have included a small sample of the lovely feedback we have received;



“

Thank you very much for yesterdays afternoon tea. It was a great pleasure to see the former St Agnes pupils at your school, they seemed really happy and relaxed. All the staff were extremely proud of what they have achieved so far - well done keep up the good work!

Thank you again for organising the event.

- *Kirsten Swift, Headteacher, St Agnes C of E Primary School*

I thought that the Tea Party was a great success and a really great way for the pupils to catch up with their junior year teachers. It was so lovely to see how proud the children were of showing their work and wearing their uniform even! All grown up! I think that the staff of Knowsley school were very moved by the whole experience and for me as a parent it confirmed how well the transition has gone.

Thank you and please thank all who helped to set it up. The china tea cups were a very civilised touch!

- *Celia Jones*

”

- COMMUNITY WORK -

Putting our community at the centre of everything we do

Community is important to us at Saddleworth School. We would like to ensure that we are able to offer something positive to our local community and can support it in anyway possible.

We would love for Saddleworth School to be a community hub for the village and we are looking for ways to further enhance this. If you have any way in which we can help, any projects that we can support or any opportunities for us to get involved please let us know as we would be keen to do so.

The students at Saddleworth are truly inspiring and we would love to work with you to show you why.

CLEAN UP OPERATION

In Our Local Community

Our skillforce students went out in the cold and rain to offer a helping hand to the residents of Warburton Court and cleaned up the surrounding area. Thankful for their hard work they were treated to hot chocolate and biscuits from the residents.

'The pupils who did the litter pick were great and I think they loved our lounge so much they wanted to spend the rest of the day here. Thanks again for your support, its lovely to work together and I think the residents find it rewarding and rejuvenating.
- Sharon Guinnane, Development Manager, Warburton Court.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Age UK Christmas Campaign

Inspired by the Age UK campaign to end loneliness, our second project has seen the peer mentors making Christmas cards with Year 7 forms which will be sent out to elderly members of the Saddleworth community who may be alone this Christmas. The Year 7s have once again taken part in this project with enthusiasm and lots of Christmas carols. We are delighted that the cards will go out to help those who may not have anyone this Christmas.

Thank you to Sue Palfrey and the community team for the sponsorship of craft resources to make over 200 cards. I am sure those receiving them will be as touched as I was reading them. They have done amazing.

DROP OFF POINT

KEY 103 Mission Christmas

As well as getting involved again this year as a school we also signed up to be a local drop off point for Saddleworth to allow others the chance to get involved.

Not dampened by the rain Mr Simkins, Katie Ball, Katie Argarwal, Emma Gregory, Isabelle Ward went out to spread the news.

A big thank you to the shops we visited that welcomed us and agreed to put up a poster advertising our school as a drop off point for the Key 103 Mission Christmas toy appeal: Betty's, Little Big Shop, The Post Office, Decorating Centre, Village Pets, Moorland Books, Pause a Second, Copy Right, Paul's Quality Meat, The Flower Shop, Buckleys, Millyard Gallery, Pet Pall of Uppermill, Spar, Wilberrys, The Christmas Shop, Saddleworth Outdoors, Age UK.





- Photo by: Ceri Davies

CAROL SERVICE

Saddleworth School at St. Chad's Church

This year saw the music department embark on their first Christmas Carol Service at St. Chad's Church (Saddleworth Church) in Uppermill.

The carol service had been planned over a number of months with the support and help of school governor and church warden Pam Byrne with the intention of providing the Saddleworth community with a festive Carol service the community can be really proud of for many many years to come - it is hoped that this event will become an annual fixture in the traditional Saddleworth build up to Christmas.

The service featured the traditional 9 lessons telling the story of the birth of Christ expertly delivered by Saddleworth School students: Alanna Rudd, Rachel Williams, Hannah-Louise Siddiqui, Tom Mitchell, Erin Pereira, Isabelle Kowalczyk, as well as Saddleworth schools very own Mr Watson, Mrs Byrne and Mr Milburn.

Musical items were provided by the Brass Xplosion 10 piece brass group, brass ensemble (brass quintet) and school choir directed by Mr Beckwith and Mrs Pickett. Each ensemble delivered wonderful performances that really suited the atmosphere of the evening including a Capella performance of "Carol of the Bells" by Leontovych, the sixteenth century "Coventry Carol", "Canzona per Sonore" by Giovanni Gabrieli and a feast of popular Christmas carols including the challenging and rousing fanfare arrangements of "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" and "O Come All Ye Faithful" by the late Sir David Willcocks bringing a touch of "Carols from Kings" to the gorgeous acoustic at St. Chad's Church. Our talented young musicians were joined by St Chad's organist and former director of music for the Oldham area Dr Eileen Bentley - the addition of the church organ to massed ensemble of brass and voices really raised the roof!

A huge thank you to everyone who attended and supported this year's Saddleworth School Christmas Carol service. A wonderful evening was had by all and the music department are very much looking forward to hosting the event and welcoming the wider Saddleworth Community to celebrate with us again next year and for many years to come.

FOOD BANK PARCEL

Thinking of Others

Kind hearted pupils in 7D have been so inspired by the issues of child poverty they have been studying in EP that they have donated goods to a local food bank. Every member of the class brought in tins and packets of food, decorated boxes and wrote Christmas cards to donate to Oldham food bank. Mrs Hughes said "It is important for pupils to understand how the issues we are discussing in EP affect those in our local area. I am very proud of their generosity".

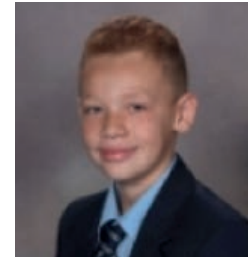
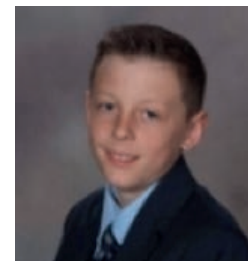


CAROLS IN THE COMMUNITY

Spreading the Christmas Joy

On the last morning of term the Music Staff and the musicians went out into Saddleworth to spread a little joy. They made numerous stops along their way performing carol services to some of our older community who may not have had the opportunity to come to the service in school or at church.

They finished their visit by playing to the community of Saddleworth in the park. For all those that stopped to listen, thank you very much and we hoped you enjoyed it.



GOOD SAMARITAN

Showing Compassion

We were touched to receive a letter of thanks on behalf of 2 of our year 8 students who had acted compassionately to support an elderly lady who fell after getting off her bus. Not only did her daughter take the time to say thank you but she also sent them both some chocolates into school for the boys.

We were proud to award these to the Ethan Walters and Connor Flanigan in their Christmas Assembly. The message about Christmas from their Home School Leader had talked about thinking of others and acts of kindness at this time so it was very apt to be able to highlight this and celebrate their support.

SENIOR CITIZEN

Christmas Party

On Tuesday 15th December we welcomed nearly 65 guests to our Annual Senior Citizen's Party. A team of students came together to organise and co-ordinate the event that took weeks to prepare. There were 8 students altogether that formed the 'Events Management' team and were responsible for Fundraising, Entertainment, Decorations and Marketing. On the day, the Jamie Oliver Cooking Skills students prepared and served the buffet to our guests. The presentation and quality of the food was outstanding and a real credit to the students and the two teachers in charge of the course, Mrs Butler and Mrs Brooks.

On the day the 'Events Management' team welcomed guests and served tea and coffee. They ran the quiz, bingo and raffle and even performed in the dance show and duet. We also were fortunate to be joined by the Brass Ensemble, who with Mrs Pickett, performed a variety of music and songs that really made the event feel really festive and special.

Of course, we also need to thank many of the local businesses in Uppermill who donated food, drink, gifts and even loaned us a tree for the event!! Without their continued support we would not be able to provide such a wonderful event. We were even helped on the day by Greg Barratt and the manager of the Tesco Store in Greenfield! Thank you to everyone who came and helped make the event a success. *We hope to see you again next year!*



"I would like to thank you and all the students for a very enjoyable afternoon at the school last Tuesday, it was much appreciated by Mrs Mc Mahon and myself. The planning, preparation, the entertainment and the meal were so well done and our attendance at the Assembly gave us so much pleasure. Thank you for providing such a excellent training and educational event. Wishing you & all the 'whole school' a very happy Christmas & continued success.

- Margaret Kehoe
(Grandmother to four students)



- ON THE STAGE -

Many of our students excel in the performing arts. It is at this time they get a chance to show case their talents as they compete for roles in local productions. It is amazing to be able

to share the additional opportunities they have been given and to recognise their success.



reinforce what we all know to be true; whatever your background or experience we all share a great gift and what we choose to do with the gift is what makes us human.

They are also very proud of their commitment and energy describing the case as truly remarkable.

Students involved: *Megan Brurton, Tommy Douglas, Seb Lowe, Ella Marshall*

Past students: *Ella Loveday (2013) & Ellie Wheeler (2014)*

GYMNASTICS SHOWCASE

Christmas Show 2015

Eclipse Gymnastics hosted their Christmas Performance this week. Many of our students attend and compete at the club. They work closely to support school in the National School Gymnastics competition so it was a great honour to be invited to the show. It really was a great night and their hardwork was evident. A special congratulations to: *Charlotte Vick, Abbie Whitley, Laura Watt, Sophie Glynn, Niamh Simpson, Gabrielle Laird, Olivia Blundell, Rebecca Blundell, Lois Russell and Evie Lambert.*

It was also lovely to see past student *Ruby Lambert (2015)* excelling as she continued their work at the club in a coaching capacity choreographing the entire junior section of the show. *Samantha Biddlestone (2014)* and *Amy Cook (2015)* still competing and also supporting younger gymnasts.

OLDHAM COLISEUM CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

This years performance Mother Goose is proving to be even bigger and better than ever.

"Keeps the seasonal warmth on permanent simmer ... rooted very firmly in the perennial loud and loony 'behind you' tradition."
- *The Stage*

"Once again the Oldham Coliseum have egg-ceeded themselves and produced a most egg-cellent pantomime"
- *Upstaged Manchester*

"Get your best boo and hiss voices ready and waddle down to Oldham; it's eggs-actly the panto be seen at this festive season."
- *The Reviews Hub*

We are proud to announce that five of our pupils; *Erin Wolfenden, Olivia Mayall, Erin Marshall, Saskia Gibson and Ellie Wolfenden*, who have all successfully gained a part in the chorus as Dancers for the Oldham Coliseum Christmas Pantomime.

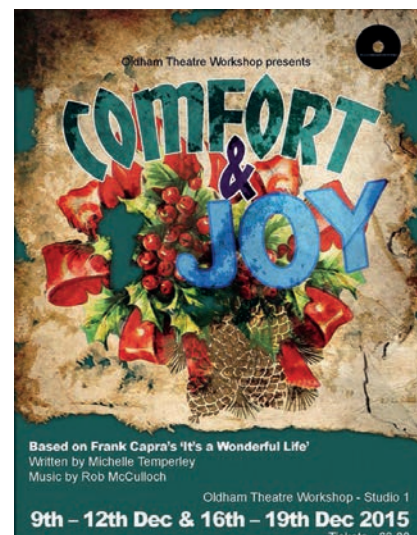
This is a fantastic achievement, over 200 children auditioned for a place and only 16 were selected, so well done girls and good luck in the shows.

OLDHAM THEATRE WORKSHOP

Presents Comfort and Joy

Based on Frank Capra's 'It's a Wonderful Life'. Oldham Theatre workshop decided to use this Christmas story as an inspiration for exploring the lives of young people in care, young people who are sometimes considered to be on the fringes of society and whose lives and opportunities can often be presented in a negative light.

The story follows a young person called Joy and through her story wanted to explore what unites us, not what divides us. They explain how the cast have been on a exploratory journey throughout the rehearsal process to learn more about the care system, to hear the stories of young people that have been through it and to



SCHOOL PANTOMIME

Spirit of Christmas

As always we do Christmas in style here at Saddleworth. A little more unconventional, the staff put on the pantomime for the students! It really is a highlight of the year and a sight not to be missed. A big thank you for the direction of Mr Wadsworth, the script writing skills of Mr Lucas, the technical masterminding of Mr Healey and the 14 staff that put themselves forward to be part of this.

No expense is spared with the costumes (quite literally), many minutes are spent learning lines yet surprisingly it is a sell out to over 1500. Feedback was amazing and students loved the chance to see so many teachers in a different light.



- RAISING BOYS' ACHIEVEMENTS & ASPIRATIONS

As a school our results match the regional and national trends with girls out performing boys. This year this is identified in our school action plan as a priority area as we drive attainment and seek to close the gap. In order to do so we have a number of programmes designed specifically to motivate boys, providing positive role models to raise aspirations.

Raising Boys' Achievement Seminar

Understanding the power of sport and the importance of good role models Mr Melling organised a Raising Boys' Achievement Seminar.

Using ex Saddleworth students that have continued a sporting career since they left us he offered the students in KS3 the opportunity to learn from their journey.

The students selected experienced a series of workshops and activities. Each sporting role model ran a session that included a chance to hear their story, a range of practicals activities and opportunities for questions and answers.



Jack Ragan



Cameron Mason



Joe Cooper



Ryan Maneely



Matthew Charters, Tom Walker, Jason Walsb

“

In the last week of term I was invited by Mr Melling to a raising boys' achievement event in the PE department. It was good to hear how some of our ex-pupils such as Joe Cooper (football player) and Jake Ragan (cyclist) have gone on to be successful in their chosen sports. However, some of the guests, such as Ryan Maneely (rugby player) explained how injury had impacted on them which meant that they had to have academic qualifications behind them to fall back on. This promoted the fact that it is very important for pupils such as me to try hard at school in all of my lessons.

- Will Marston (Year 9)

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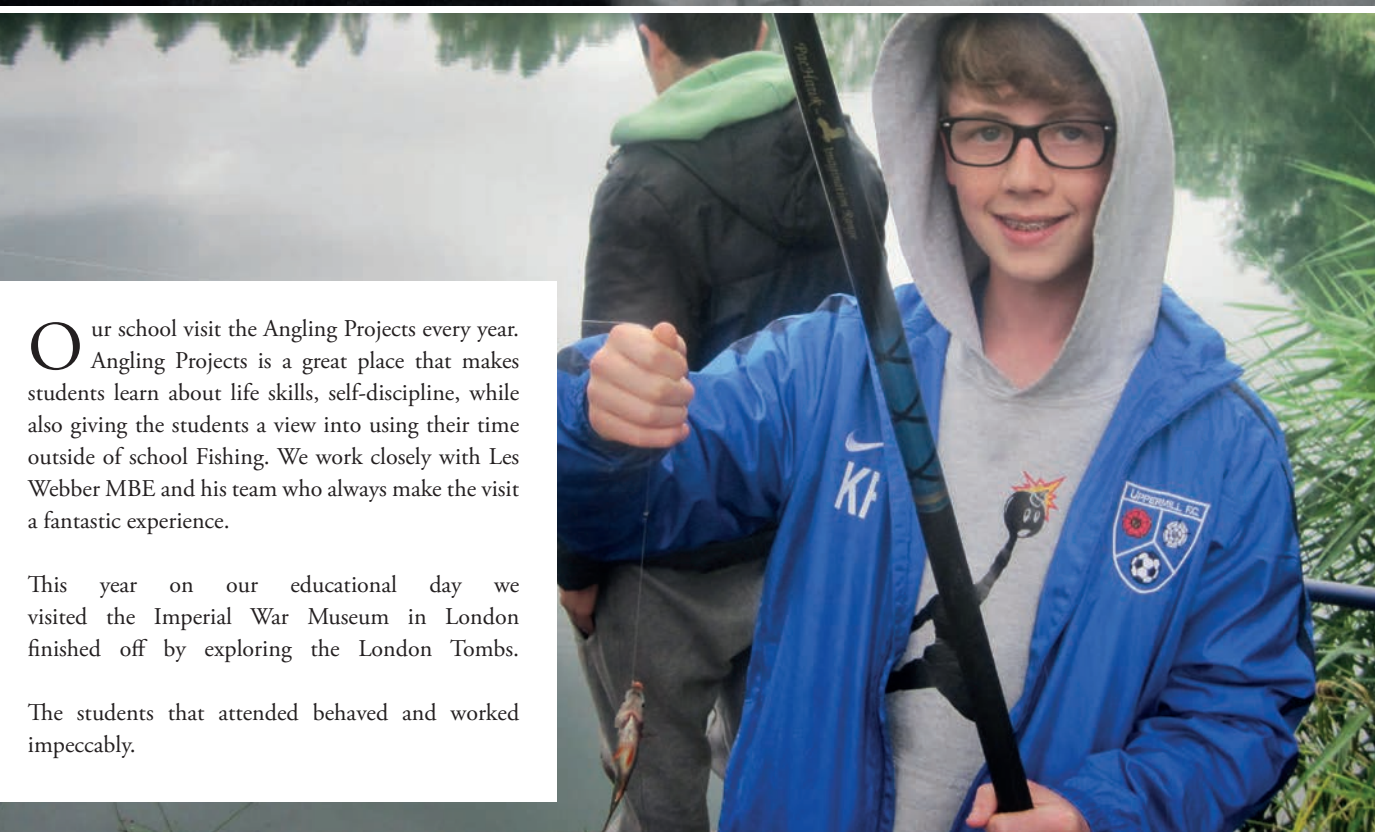
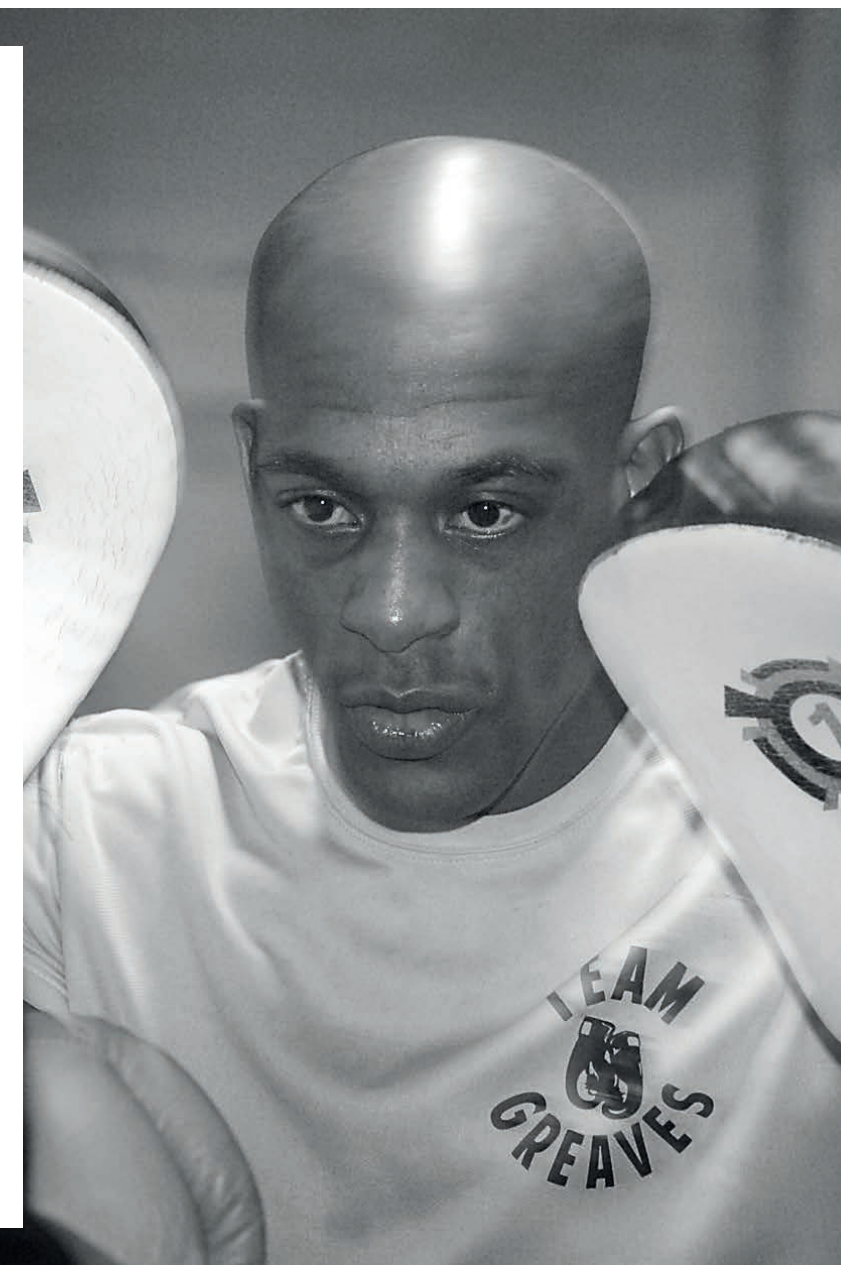
Mr Pheby wanted to show students the importance of making the right choice. He wanted to show them that it is never too late to turn things around and make better choices. To do so he invited Marvin Greaves into speak to the boys and share his story.

Marvin is a local Professional Boxer who is doing tireless work in the local community working on anti bullying and deterring youths from anti social behaviour and gang crime. Marvin has seen all the above first hand after growing up on a tough council estate in a gang. It was when he was in a prison cell he decided to turn his life around and make up for the mistakes he has made in the past.

It was on Marvin's release that he focused his life into Boxing eventually turning pro. Marvin started to coach youngsters and this is where Marvin started to give back to the community by opening up his own gym and doing inspirational talks and sessions with youngsters either being bullied or on the verge of crime.

Marvin's hard work and dedication has been noticed by various organisations, his gym has been ABA Affiliated the highest profession boxing gym rating and winning the prestigious Pride of Oldham award and more recently the Key 103 Shine award.

Feedback from the students involved was extremely positive. We are hoping to work closely to inspire them further with a visit to his gym for a class.



Our school visit the Angling Projects every year. Angling Projects is a great place that makes students learn about life skills, self-discipline, while also giving the students a view into using their time outside of school Fishing. We work closely with Les Webber MBE and his team who always make the visit a fantastic experience.

This year on our educational day we visited the Imperial War Museum in London finished off by exploring the London Tombs.

The students that attended behaved and worked impeccably.

- Y11 PROM FUNDRAISING -



The Year 11 senior prefect team have been working together with Mrs Wolfenden to raise funds for their Prom, which is on 22 June 2016 at Rochdale town hall.

Due to increasing costs and an aim to keep the pupil tickets price down the team have put together a calendar of fund raising events.

November - Prom fashion show.

December - Christmas jumper/outfit/non uniform day.

January - Year 11 Got Talent Show with a fantastic raffle.

February - Cake bake.

March - Teachers verses Y11 pupils sports event in March.

- SCIENCE LIVE -

The first scientist to speak on the 30th of November, at the Palace Theatre was Professor of physics, Jim Al-Khalili. He studied physics at the University of Surrey where he gained his degree and Ph.D. in nuclear reaction theory. The title of his lecture was 'Time travel: fact or fiction?' In this lecture he discussed some of the basic ideas behind Einstein's theories of relativity, and if time travel is possible. He then went on to explain that time travel to the future is very much possible and has been achieved and proven through multiple experiments. He then explained that only time travel to the future has been proved possible as time travel to the past is much more difficult, but still a possibility. He explained the process of time travel to the future by using the example that if you were to travel around our galaxy close to the speed of light, after leaving in January 2005 (on-board calendar date) and returning in January 2009, then depending on your exact speed and how twisted your path was through the stars, you might find that the year on earth is now 2045 and everyone has aged 40 years whilst you have only aged 4. This therefore means that you would have leapt 36 years into the future.

The second scientist to speak was Professor Lord Robert Winston. Robert Winston is Professor of Science and Society and Emeritus Professor of Fertility Studies at Imperial College, where he also established the Institute of Reproductive and Development Biology. During his lecture, Robert Winston discussed the jobs of lymphocytes and phagocytes in our bodies and how they protect us from harmful bacteria. He also discussed the different roles of the egg and sperm cells in the body and then discussed the journey of the fertilized egg.

After a short break the third scientist, Professor Alice Roberts, began her lecture 'Evolution - without the fossils'. Alice is an anatomist and biological anthropologist, author and

broadcaster. In the last decade of the twentieth century, she studied medicine and anatomy at Cardiff University. Her lecture was based upon people telling her that there is no such thing as evolution/very little proof on the topic, and that fossils are irrelevant proof of evolution. She then backed up her view with various statements explaining that there is proof of evolution in every living organism regardless of fossils. One piece of evidence that backed up her point was the development of foetuses and the remarkable similarities between them as they change.

The fourth scientist was Dr Kate Lancaster who is a physicist and science communicator. She has 14 years of expertise in laser driven fusion. She is currently the York Plasma Institute Research Fellow for Innovation and Impact in the Department of Physics at the University of York. The main point of Kate's lecture was the possibility of creating an extraordinary energy source on earth, a star. This subject is often referred to as 'Star in a Jar' as it will be a star safely kept on earth. Another main point was nuclear fusion. Fusion is the process that powers the sun and stars. For earth based devices Kate's team uses two types of hydrogen- deuterium and tritium. They can fuse together if they have enough energy. When this occurs the resultant products are helium, neutrons, and a large amount of energy.

The fifth and final scientist was Professor Andrea Sella who is an inorganic chemist at University College, London. His speciality is the synthesis of new materials and compounds. Most of the materials he deals with are sensitive to air, some extremely so. His whole lecture was based on chemical reactions. He mentioned that there is more than just the simple reaction between A and B, and you must realise that there is a reason for everything and a specific way it happens.

- Joe Wheeler (Year 10)



MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER 2015

10.45am to 3.00pm

Palace Theatre

Examiner: Stewart Chenery

- RESULTS -

Congratulations to all the students that collected their GCSEs in the Summer. It was so rewarding to see the students opening their envelopes on results day and realising their hard work was all worth it. We wish everyone luck in their continued studies.



- Emma Hall

Like always there are some stand out performance and each year Oldham Education Awards holds a special Ceremony to recognise the achievements of the student across the borough. We are very proud to announce that **Emma Hall** and **Hannah Williams** were recognised for their Outstanding Academic Achievement at this prestigious event.



- Hannah Williams

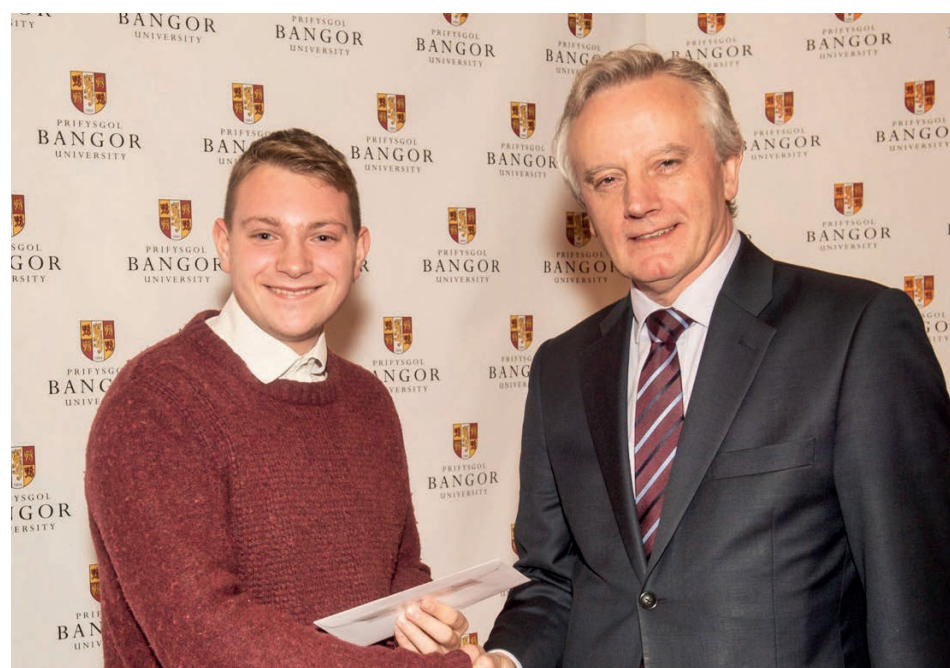
As always we continue to take an interest in the students as they leave us. It is always lovely when we receive updates on our past students.

We recently received correspondence from OSFC and Bluecoat to inform us about the success of 2 of our former students that have just recently completed their A Level's with them:

Mark Barrow went on to study at OSFC and is now studying at Bangor University. Mark is one of 7 students to be awarded the Excellence Scholarship of £1500.

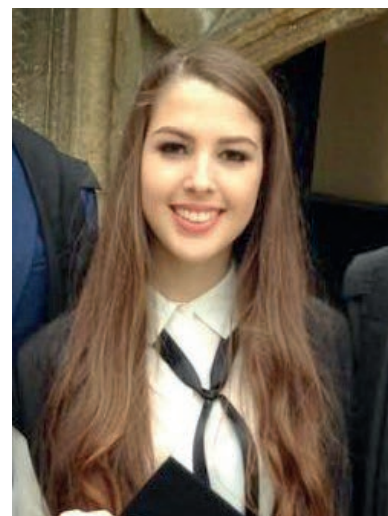
The Excellence Scholarships are awarded to any 2015 applicant who received an unconditional offer and then went on to achieve 3 A grades or above at A Level or equivalent.

Richard Lee, Associate Director at OSFC, described Mark as dedicated to his studies, academically gifted and took every opportunity to participate in college events.



- Mark Barrow

- OLIVIA BESCOBY -



Olivia went onto study at Bluecoat 6th Form and is now studying at Oxford.

Keen to raise aspirations of our other students we contacted Olivia to share our best wishes and ask if she could write us something for the magazine to inspire others. A big thank you for doing so.

“

I vividly remember one parents evening at Saddleworth: the exact moment my form tutor remarked that one day he'd hear I was at Oxford studying some kind of 'intellectual art'. At the time this produced a nervous giggle from me and probably from my mum too, Oxford? That's like real life Hogwarts isn't it? Isn't it only for rich people who attended Eton or Westminster or something? Yet that's exactly where I am as I write this. I won't lie and say that getting here was a walk in the park; my parents have put up with many an essay crisis and have lived with a revision crazed teen at least twice a year since year 10- but it was all worth it and I look upon my time at both Saddleworth School and Blue Coat Sixth-Form nostalgically. Knowing I came from a comprehensive state school never fazed me because I was aware of just how much hard work both I and my school had put into making my learning experience the best it could be. The best advice I can give to pupils now is to make the most of it: don't take days off, don't miss lessons, don't copy someone else's homework, the only person you're cheating is yourself. Hard work will get you wherever you want to go and it's never too late to start. It would be fabulous to have more Saddleworthians at Oxford.

”

We would love to encourage all our students to stay in touch so we can celebrate in their success as they continue to reach and fulfil their potential.

We are looking to establish a Saddleworth Alumni so please encourage all your known contacts to get in touch:
c.mcmurdo@saddleworthschool.org

- G E R M A N E X C H A N G E -



From 18th until the 25th October, a party of 24 German pupils from our exchange school in Rietberg along with two members of staff and their headteacher visited our school and took part in a fantastic week of events.

The German pupils were hosted by their exchange partners and by some very kind members of staff who also helped out. During their week here, we went bowling in Ashton, had a great day at Alton

Towers and a very interesting day in York.

The German pupils and their teachers also visited the Mayor's Parlour where they were given a guided tour and received some lovely gifts. The pupils also spent some time in lessons with their exchange partners and we finished the week with a party!!

A fantastic time was had by all and we look forward to our return visit in May next year. Many thanks to all who took part.

- F U T U R E L E A D E R S -



When Global Grooves announced the second year of this innovative international youth training programme in percussion, dance & visual arts for young artists aged 13-25 we decided we would find out more.

Having visited the leaders of the programme and their centre in Mossley we were suitably impressed.

We decided to invite them into school to tell the students more.

We are proud to announce the success of one of our students being selected for this programme Rhiannon Armstrong. So far this year she has attended the week long residential introductory week and this is what she had to say;

I would have to say Future Leaders is probably one of the best experiences of my life. It is definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity. I met some of the best people in that week. I went to this course with no drumming experience but was welcomed with open arms by the leaders. The leaders know so much and helped you out with everything. Already I have learnt so much and I look forward to future weekends/ weeks.

In total there were 40 people accepted onto the course from all over the world including Singapore, Brazil and Trinidad. We have grown so close in that first week and feel as though we have known each other our entire lives and that we are a family. Normally with such a big group this doesn't happen but I am so thankful it did.

I have carried on my experience on a Wednesday afternoon at The Vale and on a Saturday in Manchester at Jubacana.

- Rhiannon Armstrong (Year 10)

- P E E R M E N T O R S -

KINDNESS CHALLENGE

This term the peer mentors have been busy running kindness challenges with their Year 7 form groups. Students were challenged to complete random acts of kindness for their friends and families, with challenges including

baking cakes, giving up your seat on the bus and helping others. All of the peer mentors were very impressed by the enthusiasm shown by the students taking part.



PEER MENTORS DO US PROUD

A big thank you to the four peer mentors that visited the official opening of Delph Surgery: Megan Bruton, Isabelle Anastasiou, Louis Milburn and Joseph Weaver. The peer mentors have agreed to be the voice of the Youth in their

quarterly newsletter contributing a full page to this. It is a great opportunity to showcase their work across our local community and celebrate their achievements. Well done and good luck.



“

When my peers and I attended the doctors' opening in Delphi we learned a lot of things. First we're told to sit down then shown around the surgery. When we were shown around the surgery they told us that each room has been made to look identical. It was just a different layout, this I found very clever because they had catered to all the patients. Another thing we saw was the meeting rooms. These were very big in case there was a big meeting and they needed space.

When we were done being shown round we met two ladies that worked for the dementia friendly association. They were telling us how when people have dementia they can feel alone.

They told us what they used to stop people from feeling alone and there were some really amazing ideas.

One of them was a ball that had different sections and on each there was a question. So in the group meetings they do they would throw the ball around to different people and wherever the person

who caught its thumb landed they had to answer the question it landed on. The questions were to try to get them to remember little things like what their favourite biscuits are or what their favourite colour is.

Another thing that the ladies told us about were Twiddlemuffs. They are little scarfs that are joined. They are knitted and inside are beads and other objects for people that are older and people with dementia. This is so they can occupy their hands because sometimes they don't

“

- Isabelle Anastasiou (Year 9)

Obviously touched by the students we took, we have since been contacted by the Community Group to get involved in a Dementia Friends Project. Please come back to see how we have done in the next magazine.

- YEAR 7 DANCE FACTOR -



The Dance Factor Show 2015 was held on the evening of Wednesday 25th November in front of an audience of 160.

The show featured 20 different dance acts and involved 93 pupils. The show featured a Dance Factor Competition, with every form in Year 7 performing their dance pieces in front of the judges; Miss Cook, Mrs Pickett, Mr Meadowcroft and Mr Beckwith.

Since September the Year 10 and Year 11 BTEC Dance pupils have been working with the Year 7 forms to help choreograph and lead a dance piece for the competition.

This choreographic work will form part of the pupil's assessment for their BTEC qualification. As well as every form in Year 7 performing, we also saw dance acts from the Year 10 BTEC Dance team, Year 11 BTEC Dance team, Infinity Dance and solo performances from two of our ex Year 11 pupils who were high achievers in BTEC Dance; Ruby Lambert and Amy Cook. At the end of the evening, the judges deliberated to crown one Year 7 form as Champions of Dance Factor 2015 and this was form 7Y whose Dance Leaders were Katie Agarwal, Katie Ball and Emma Gregory. Well done to all the pupils involved in what was such a fantastic evening of Dance.

- COMING SOON -



A sneak preview to some new and exciting changes. We are currently working hard to relaunch our website. We hope to be able to offer a more visual representation of our school and a medium with which to showcase the students achievements.

Coming Soon - Spring 2016

Where possible we communicate with parents by email. If you have not registered your account with Parentpay you may not be receiving up to date information for your child. If your email changes you must inform us on info@saddleworthschool.org and also update your Parentpay account as we are unable to update this on your behalf.

If you are not receiving emails and are unsure why please contact Angela Reece on 01457 872072 or email: a.reece@saddleworthschool.org



- ICT TRIP TO VIDEO ARCADE -



Students were enthused and benefited greatly from the National Video Arcade Museum trip. 49 students from the KS4 GCSE Computer Science & ICT visited the museum and attended a Python workshop. Which helped the students to overcome some of the barriers and attempting to code games in Python. Students

also had the opportunity to trial retro games and were able to compare them with the latest gaming platforms we have today. Students displayed excellent enthusiasm and behaviour, they were well mannered which prompted the NVA manager to email in commenting how pleased they were with our students.

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU TO MR HEALEY AND HIS AMAZING COMPUTING SKILLS. HIS INPUT HAS HUGELY BENEFITED THE DEPARTMENT IN PUTTING THE NEW CURRICULUM IN PLACE AND THE HIGH LEVEL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY GIVING UP HIS TIME ON MONDAY'S AFTER SCHOOL, TO SUPPORT STUDENT WITH PROGRAMMING REGULARLY.

It was very interesting to see the progression of video games over the last 50 years.

- Logan Aspinall

The make your own game course helped me with my functions and loops in python which I can implement in my own code assignment.

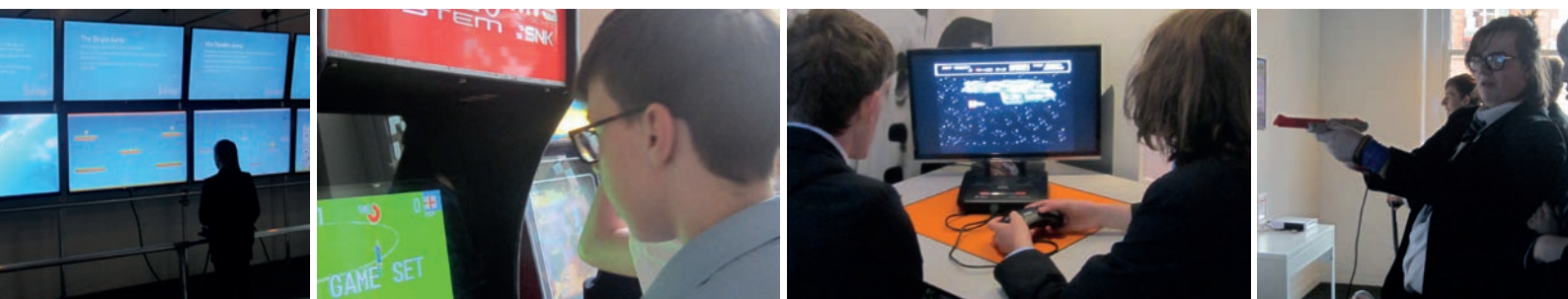
- Kieron Elkin

I feel like I have taken new skills away with me. I saw how programming could lead to a career and it intrigued me.

- Hannah Jones

It showed us how computer science will allow us to excel in the game industry.

- Steven Hume



- HALLÉ ORCHESTRA -

HALLÉ FOR YOUTH 2016: SCIENCE, REVOLUTION AND MUSIC

Testament to the hard work of the music department we have been selected to be involved in a project with the Hallé.

The project will be based on the theme and programme of the associated concerts, which this year concerns Science, Revolution and Music.

The associated schools' project is aimed at Year 7. To help identify the lucky form each class was set a brief and asked to impress the music staff. The successful class was 7L.

Helped by two Hallé musicians the school will devise its own creative music piece, using one of the works included in the concert programme as a stimulus.

Pupils will also work with student dancers from the Northern Ballet School who will choreograph a dance piece, using the same music fused with another piece chosen by the students. Both these creative pieces will then be performed on stage at The Bridgewater Hall. The dance project will involve students dancing to a recording of the set work and the creative music piece will involve the Hallé musicians playing alongside the children.

To increase the visual aspect of the performance we have arranged for Allison Clarke, a local visual artist, to come into school for one full day to help pupils create either some art work for

costumes to go with their music and dance work.

The project started on Monday 30th November 2015 when pupils visited the Museum of Science and Industry to discover and explore the topic in more detail. The day included: a creative music workshop with Steve Pickett; a fragrance workshop given by a perfumer from the Hallé's Diamond Partner, PZ Cussons; and a science workshop run by a major supporter, Siemens.

The project will receive two culminations at The Bridgewater Hall. The first occasion pupils will perform both their music and dance pieces on the main stage to an audience of families and friends. Admission to this concert will be **FREE** so please encourage families and governors to come along and support your students. The second culmination will involve the students performing just their music piece, alongside their adopted Hallé musicians, in one of the Hallé for Youth concerts from 1-4 March 2016. They will perform their music on the stage, next to the orchestra, to an audience of approximately 2,000 school children from across the northwest.

We feel sure that this will be a really enjoyable project and will hopefully provide you and your students with a very memorable experience.

- INVITED GUESTS -

Graham Unsworth, a local based author visited school to work with a group of year 9 students as part of a literacy project. Graham is currently working on his next book which will be titled "Tom O'Kell and the Curse of Amurelis".



The students had the chance to share their ideas to help him finish his book which is based on multi-dimensional time travel, people trafficking, pacts with the devil, a secret society that hunts children to death.

As you can imagine, a topic that unleashes their imagination and creativity.

We were invited by Harper Collins the renown publishers to be part of their research project to look at the impact of their work and resources. With only 2 schools being selected nationally it really is a great opportunity.

Knowing the pressures that students at this stage often feel, we wanted to ensure we supported them the best we could and naturally said yes when we were invited.

As part of the project we have the privilege of a visit from a motivational speaker, a leading artist in his field Lee Jackson. We deliberately timed this to follow their first Assessment window, the time for many when the realisation of the importance of this year really hits home.

He delivered an hour long session to all year 11 students to support them in their preparation for this important, last year. We hope that it will help further inspire them to work hard for the mock exams which they have just completed.

As part of the project the publisher brought a film crew to document the day. Feedback from the students as part of the documentary was extremely positive. We have just received the edited footage from the publishing company so when signed off and completed a link will be shared on our website.

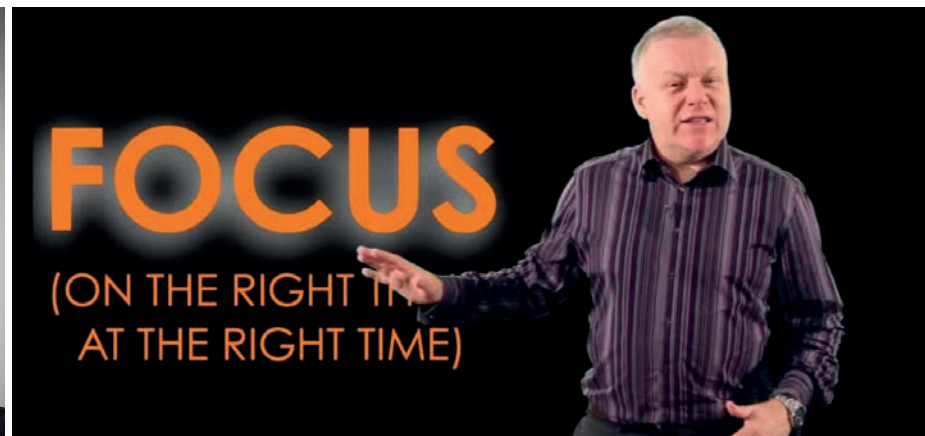
We really do want every student to gain the best possible outcomes. We continue to work hard to support them in their future aspirations.

“

Thank you for all your help on Friday - I thoroughly enjoyed my visit and it was great to meet students so eager to learn.

- Lee Jackson

”



- MAKING HOMEWORK FUN -

Making Homework Fun

Homework offers an invaluable opportunity to reinforce the learning taking place in the classroom. As a school we are trying to find ways to engage students to maximise their efforts and enthuse them to do more than just what is needed. A number of subjects would like to celebrate what they have done and recognise the hard work and achievements of their students.

1) Tic Tac Toe Triumphs in the History Department!

Each term pupils work hard on individual homework projects of their choice in History. Pupils have made model trenches, researched Sutton Hoo, visited Jorvik and the Museum of Science and Industry, made stamps commemorating the Industrial Revolution, produced World War One Weapon Reports, made art remembering WWI and completed instruction manuals for inventions of the Industrial Revolution. There have been a number of fantastic pieces of work and the teachers in the department wish to recognise this. Below are the names of the homework superstars from each form at Key Stage Three.

7N Paige Brierley, 7A Phoebe Fletcher, 7V Lola Gladwin, 7E Tony Griffiths, 7Y Ben Slater, 7T Archie Casson, 7G Grace Thackeray, 7O Harvey Wilson, 7L Harry Reeves, 7D Abigail Barraclough

8N Sophie Percival, 8A Jess Devy, 8V Sally Gibson, 8E Daniel Wilde, 8Y Josh Taylor-Hussain, 8T Rachel Williams, 8G Adam Fothergill, 8O Aiden Hall, 8L Poppy Shepherdson, 8D Ellie Matthews

9N Chloe Butler, 9A Holly Beckwith, 9V Josh Collinge, 9E Jack Spurr, 9Y Eleanor Meek, 9T Jude Kehoe, 9G Joe Lamb, 9O Amy Stott and Dani Rhodes, 9L Lydia Schofield, 9D Amy Mills

2) Languages Textivate

Languages have been trialling a new tool with their classes called 'textivate.com'. It is a homework challenge which encourages pupils to compete against each other in a bid to be a leader of the class - it is with a view to improve motivation for boys.

So far it has gone very well, and pupils have been rewarded with prizes for being in the top three of the leader board. Some pupils have really made big efforts to achieve well and it has translated to results in vocabulary tests being much higher than normal. The GCSE specification will be changing soon which will involve students having a much bigger focus on producing the language independently and accurate spelling. The classes who have trialled this so far are 7A, 8V, 8D, 9G2, 9N1, 10A1 & 11L2.

The idea is that they become prepared for vocabulary tests and much more accurate in their spelling. There have been some stand out contributions from the following.

Year 7

Brogan Mitchell, Yasmin Osborne, Denzil Brown, Lucy Johnson, Lucy Walker, Phoebe Fletcher, Emily Tovey, Olivia Blundell

Year 8

Ross Heald, Ellie Matthews, Adam Delderfield, Matthew Hulme, Tom Moule, Connor Wyatt, Harrison Hamer, Will Rowland,

Year 9

Jack Spurr, Libby Collard, Dani Rhodes, Delphine Alsop-Parsons, Reece Wood, Tom Doyle, George Sleight

3) Creative writing inspires students to enter a competition

Congratulations to Rebecca Bartley, Emily Brierley and Sophie Mull. The three girls have entered stories into a competition organised by Amberley Publishers and advertised through the Historical Association.

Rebecca, Emily and Sophie have all based their stories around true events. Emily tells the story of Robbie Burns, a Clerk in Glasgow who was 19 when the First World War broke out. Sophie's entry is also set at the time of the Great War and is based on the adventures of her great grandfather Sandyland Stockley. Rebecca's love for the Tudors inspired her to write a story based around the three Boleyn children. The girls had to write the first chapter, a synopsis of the story and a plan for each of the remaining chapters. It is obvious that they have all great talent as writers. We wish them well in the competition.

What they had to submit:

- A 200-word synopsis.
- A chapter plan with a brief description of what will be covered in each chapter.
- A 50-word biography of yourself including any relevant experience.
- 2000 words of sample writing from the opening of the book.
- Some sample images, if images are integral to the book.

4) English and Philosophy brings learning to life

Pupils in 8D really got into the festive spirit this week, when they held their own Dickensian Christmas Feast. The class have been studying 'A Christmas Carol' over the last half term and have spent time analysing the way that Charles Dickens writes descriptively. They then used their own class feast as stimulus for producing our own creative writing, describing a modern Christmas feast. Pupils really enjoyed it, with some saying it was the best EP lesson they had ever had!

- P E A W A R D S E V E N I N G -

This year the Saddleworth School PE department, welcomed students from all year groups to the inaugural Saddleworth School Sports Awards Evening. This was an amazing opportunity for the staff to thank everyone for their amazing contributions to school sport, extra- curricular PE, Pupil leadership and academic PE. The event was opened with the very talented Mr Beckwith and the school band playing a variety of inspiring songs.

The PE department has had a truly amazing 12 months celebrating a large number of successes on and off the field. We as a School have won a whole host of trophies, competitions and events in Football, Rugby, Basketball, Cricket, Athletics, Swimming, Rounders, Netball and Softball. The list of achievements by the students of Saddleworth School is long and distinguished. The PE department are also celebrating the success of last year's Y11 GCSE students who left with record results of 94% A*- C.

Saddleworth School welcomed back two guests of honour to present the awards, returning former pupils Harry Bunn and Issy Hayes.

Harry is currently playing regular first team football in the Championship for Huddersfield Town. As a pupil of Saddleworth School Harry was part of the Manchester City Academy balancing chasing his dream with his academic studies showing true professionalism from an early age it is of no surprise to the PE staff that Harry achieved his dream

of playing professional football. Harry is a true inspiration to young people and aspiring footballers as he has always conducted himself with integrity and respect for others and always goes the extra mile to help out anyone he can and in any capacity.

Issy is currently part of the Manchester City Ladies set up, having been taken into their development set up after impressive performances for Sheffield Ladies and helping them to a Women's Premier League, league and cup double. Issy is also a former Oldham school sport ambassador, young leader and Oldham community sport development officer. Issy is a true role model for girls' sport fully engaging in every activity she has ever participated in. Although if the Valencia FC coaching staff had their way she wouldn't be in England anymore as when we took Issy on tour as a year 10 girl she played in the boys' team and was so impressive they begged us to let her stay as she was head and shoulders the best player on the pitch.

90 pupils were invited to witness the totally transformed school hall to celebrate awards for Performer of the year, team of the year, Effort, commitment to Extra-Curricular, BTEC dance, progress and the top award of the night The Kevin Sinfield prize for outstanding achievement awarded to Lucy Brewster.

Thank you to Lucy George in Year 9 for her photography.



Year 7 Boys Performer of the Year - **Tom Potts**

Year 7 Girls Performer of the Year - **Kate Leddy**

Year 8 Boys Performer of the Year - **Adam Jones**

Year 8 Girls Performer of the Year - **Yasmin Roebuck**

Year 9 Boys Performer of the Year - **Greg Simister**

Year 9 Girls Performer of the Year - **Daisy Shepardson.**

Year 10 Boys Performer of the Year - **Jonny Marston**

Year 10 Girls Performer of the Year - **Isobel Hallam**

Year 7 Team of the Year - **Girls' Athletics**

Year 8 Team of the Year - **Girls' Netball**

Year 9 Team of the Year - **Basketball**

Year 10 Team of the Year - **Boys' Athletics Track**

Commitment to Extra-Curricular - **Isabelle Ward**

Commendation for Effort - **James Stallard**

Commendation for Achievement - **Catherine Stott**

Commendation for Progress - **Laura Barlow**



- K E V I N S I N F I E L D -

Former Saddleworth School pupil and Head Boy Kevin Sinfield MBE has just this season retired from professional rugby league. Having been captain of Leeds Rhinos, a former England captain, Kevin has played his entire professional career to date with Leeds and is one of the most successful players in Super League history.

He has captained the team to seven Super League championships and two Challenge Cup successes as well as achieving individual accolades as winner of the Lance Todd Trophy, Harry Sunderland Trophy and the Golden Boot.

He is one of only four British-based players to achieve the latter. He holds records as the highest points-scorer in Leeds Rhinos history, the highest points-scorer in Super League history[3] and the third highest points-scorer in British rugby league history, behind Jim Sullivan and Neil Fox.

With Kevin's agreement he has kindly put his name to the most prestigious trophy the PE Department can offer. **The Prize for Outstanding Achievement.**



- L U C Y B R E W S T E R -

She achieved the highest A* for GCSE PE and is in the top 5% nationally for PE.

- LANCASHIRE CRICKET COACH -



Year 7 and 8 students were treated to the best. Paul Green from Lancashire County Cricket has been in school coaching for a 6 week programme.

We have fortunately secured another block of coaching for the 6 weeks in the new year. This will allow even more students to benefit from his expertise.

“

‘This year Mr Melling has very kindly organised for a Lancashire county coach to come in and teach us the basics of the game to help us develop our cricket skills. The coach has gone through everything he possibly could have done from bowling to batting and in the next couple of weeks we are looking to turn soft ball cricket (incrediball), into more realistic cricket (corky). This coaching has helped many of the boys improve in certain areas of their game.

Each session we look at all aspects of the game including batting, bowling, fielding and certain warm up drills. This is definitely encouraging more people to try the out the sport of cricket. In most of the sessions we have played games and the coach has informed us of any mistakes we can improve on. A typical session consists of two captains leading or instructing warm ups for each of their team; this will loosen and relax the muscles so we can perform to the best of our ability. After that we will play a 6 or 7 over game (depending on the number of students present). Sessions are on from 12:45pm-2:00pm every Wednesday and are free of charge. We are immensely grateful for Mr Melling and the Lancashire coach for giving us this opportunity’

”

- Thomas Moule (Year 8)



- A VISIT FROM SCOTLAND -

The current Scotland Rugby league Head Coach Steve McCormack visited Saddleworth School on Thursday 26th November as part of the Embed The Pathway Scheme that the school had achieved accreditation status for earlier this year. Steve and Kieran Sherratt (part of last season's Wigan Warriors Under 19's Grand Final Champions' team) led three sessions to Year 7 and 8 pupils on the school's astro-turf pitch in which they conveyed a strong message of everything being done the "Wigan Way." This meaning it is done well, quickly and first time of asking. The pupils

thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with coaches from the very highest echelons of the sport and our pupils performed to a high standard impressing both of the visiting coaches.

The next stage of the partnership will involve us nominating some of our most talented sports students to attend training sessions at Wigan Warriors specifically designed at enhancing the skillset of elite athletes.

Well done to all pupils involved.

Mr Melling



- SAINSBURY'S SCHOOL GAMES -



Over 350 athletes competed at the 2015 Games as part of seven teams representing Northern Ireland and Scotland, with England represented by the Midlands, North East, North West, South East and South West. This inclusive format also features 20 disability events across the 58 event programme.

The Y11 girls and I arrived at the Manchester Regional Stadium at around 10.30 am. We proceeded to find seats as it was a very busy event. We sat together and watched many sports take place, the girls had a particular interest in the high jump contestants.

At around 12.00 pm, Catherine wheeled out and was warming up around the track, we all moved closer to the sideline to watch.

Catherine got herself into lane ready to race and it was at that moment she was racing against Hannah Cockcroft (MBE), who is two times Gold Medallist Paralympian for Great Britain. There were 7 contestants in total racing alongside Catherine and Hannah. The 200m race began, with Hannah finishing first and Catherine very proudly finishing in fourth place.

We all had the opportunity to take photos of Hannah as she completed her lap of honour with her GB flag. It was inspiring to all who watched and attended to see the Paralympian's performing in sports with such grace and agility.

After Catherine had competed, we decided to go for a walk around the stadium and see what extra activities were available at the additional venues. There were so many stands which were promoting their sports and health businesses, and some had even put on additional activities for the students to attempt.

One of these activities took the interest of the girls which was a 'Volleyball Speed of Spike Challenge' hosted by Ben Pipes & Maria Bertelli.

After they had all competed we decided to go over to the Velodrome. The Great Britain Cycling Team track riders have topped the medal tables at the last two Olympic Games, winning seven Gold medals in both Beijing 2008 and in London 2012.

Sir Chris Hoy is Great Britain's most successful Olympian of all time and has six Gold medals and one Silver, whilst cycling greats such as Sir Bradley Wiggins, Victoria Pendleton, Jason Kenny and Laura Trott all have several Olympic Gold medals to their name.

Elinor Barker (Sainsbury's School Games Champion in 2010) is a two-time elite world champion in the team pursuit, whilst Danni Khan (Sainsbury's School Games Champion 2010) won two junior world champion titles in sprint events in 2013. Owain Doull (Sainsbury's School Games Champion in 2009) is the current European champion in the team pursuit. Great Britain Cycling Team members from other disciplines, such as road rider Lucy Garner and mountain biker Alice Barnes have also enjoyed success on the track at previous Sainsbury's School Games and the experience of riding the track has helped their development in their respective disciplines.

After watching many laps of the athletes racing (and a few nasty crashes might I add), unfortunately the day did have to come to an end and we proceeded back to Saddleworth School with a mind full of memories and feeling extremely humbled by our experiences.

- Miss Kelly

- TALENT INSPIRATION PROGRAMME -

Running alongside the competition the Youth sports Trust developed a Talent Inspiration Programme to offer the opportunity of a lifetime to a select group of outstanding young athletes not yet at the stage of participation but clearly on their way. These are the very best athletes who consistently demonstrate outstanding qualities on and off the field. Practical and theory sessions are delivered by ex Olympic athletes or international players and experienced Team Managers; making the experience very exciting and unique.

The Talent Inspiration Programme (TIP) brought together 200 young aspiring athletes from across

the country to participate in an intense three day residential camp. Taking place in Manchester from 2 - 4 September, TIP is designed to inspire young aspiring athletes and encourage them to start thinking about how they can reach their sporting potential.

As a school we wanted to ensure that our students were recognised and we submitted applications on behalf of:

Will Marsden, Isobel Hallam, Catherine Stott

We were immensely proud when all 3 students were accepted onto the programme.



“

During my time at the talent programme I learned lots of different things that will help me achieve my sporting goals as a basketball player and athlete. We were taught about how to set short term and long term goals and how to visualise winning. An example of how this could help me is if I see myself scoring at least 20 points in every game whilst not allowing the man I am marking to have an easy game against me.

I enjoyed meeting new people and getting the opportunity to talk to sports people with similar ability levels to myself.

On the final day there was a closing ceremony during which they gave out awards. Only 8 awards were presented between a total of 220 kids and I was lucky enough to win the award for “self-belief.”

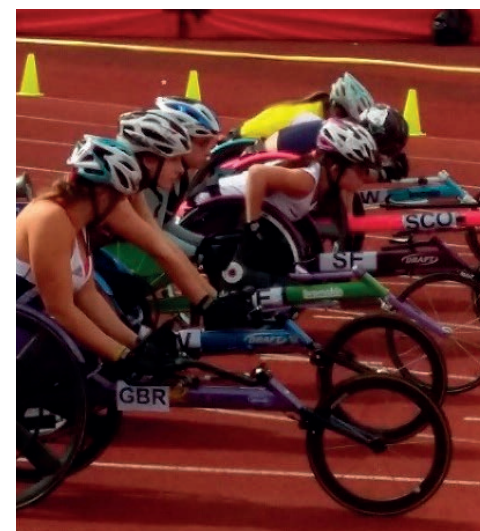
- Will Marston (Year 9)

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“

In early September I was chosen to compete in the Sainsbury's 2015 School Games; held at Sports City in Manchester. The event ran from the 3rd-6th September and I stayed at Manchester University for the duration of the games. I was selected to compete in the 100m and 800m Wheelchair for the North West, both in which I came 4th.

The whole experience was brilliant, as I had never competed at such an event and at such a high level before.



The competition in my races were fierce and support from school friends made the whole experience even better! It was great that my friends could see me perform at something I love to do, not to mention competing against Hannah Cockcroft who is the fastest racer in my classification (T34).

The Games aimed to be as close a representation to an Olympic/Paralympic event as possible and included both an opening and closing ceremony; with sporting stars Adam Peaty, Dina Asher-Smith and alumni Ellie Simmonds and Hannah Cockcroft making an appearance at the opening ceremony to talk of their experiences at the games and give advice about competing under pressure etc.

As well as competing, the four days involved a talk from Athlete Mentor Daniel Caines (Former 400m World Indoor Champion and European Champion in the Men's 4x400m relay), about his experiences and professional athlete. He was very interesting and gave some valuable advice. There were also a couple of workshops about safety in sport, including a talk from UK - Anti Doping. To top the weekend off, our team also got to watch the cycling at the Velodrome in Manchester, before heading home.

I made some really close friends at the Games and met some incredibly talented athletes; it was an amazing experience for me. Not only has it given me a taste for what Paralympic level will be like, but also taught me about coping with setbacks in competing. I hope to compete at the School Games in Loughborough next year.

- Catherine Stott (Year 11)

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- SPORTING SPOTLIGHTS -

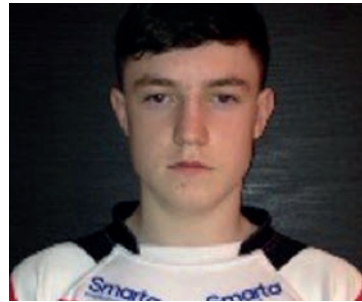
We are very lucky at Saddleworth that we have the privilege of working with so many talented students. It never ceases to amaze me though when we find out about some of the hidden talents they have. Inspired by this we thought we would be some mini spotlights on students and their achievements outside of school.

I would love to offer this as a regular feature so we can highlight everyone's achievements. Often the children are very modest and we do not get to find out about everything. I am confident there will be many more hidden talents in school and we may need your help to find out about these. Please keep us updated so we can recognise and celebrate this in school by emailing me on:
c.mcmurdo@saddleworthschool.org



JACK HARRISON - BROWN

Has been selected to join Salford Red 'Rising Stars' programme in Rugby and is now training with them and emulating his brother Joseph who was in the Salford Academy for a number of years. Jack's hard work has also just been recognised by the league in which he plays, being awarded 3rd place for Player of the Season.



JAMES PERKS

Following his hard work and commitment James talent has been spotted. Has been selected by Bradford Bulls and has just completed his first training session with them. We wish him well and hope he continues to impress.



REBECCA BARTLEY

Rebecca started doing archery about a year ago, and has loved every minute. Training twice a week her hard work and commitment has definitely paid off. Having just completed her first clout season she attended the National Competition to compete. Competing in the Junior ladies competition (open age up to 18 years) you will appreciate how amazing it is at only 13 that she finished 5th. To achieve this so young and so early in her career shows the great potential for years to come.



ISOBEL HALLAM

Isobel trains regularly each week, including a Friday morning session in Bolton before she even starts school. Last week Isobel went for trails and has been selected to be part of the Manchester Thunder netball National Performance League training squad. This is an exciting opportunity and great recognition of her ability, hard work and determination.



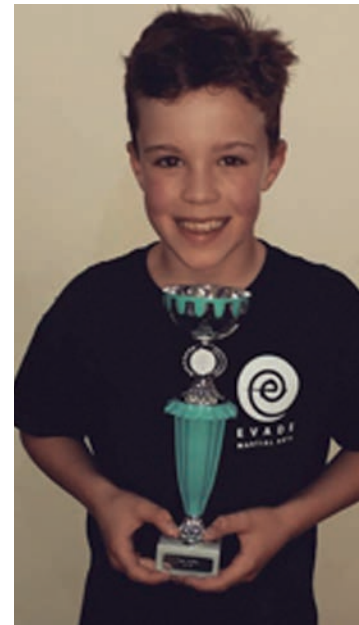
ETHAN HULSE

Was selected to compete at the WMAC (World Martial Arts Committee) world games held at Norwich 27 - 30th August 2015. Ethan competed in a number of disciplines and experienced a great level of success:

Gold (team weapons kata) - **Gold** (team kumite) - **Silver** (team kata)

Bronze (individual kata) **Bronze** (individual kumite)

In recognition of his achievements Mr Melling nominated him for the Sports Partnership Programme where he was awarded £200 towards the on going costs of his sport.



ARCHIE CASSON

My name is Archie Casson and I started at Saddleworth School in September 2015. When I was 6 years old I started training at Evade Martial Arts in Mossley and began working my way through the grades from being a white belt to a 3rd brown belt. I am currently training towards my 'black belt', which will take me another 12 to 18 months.

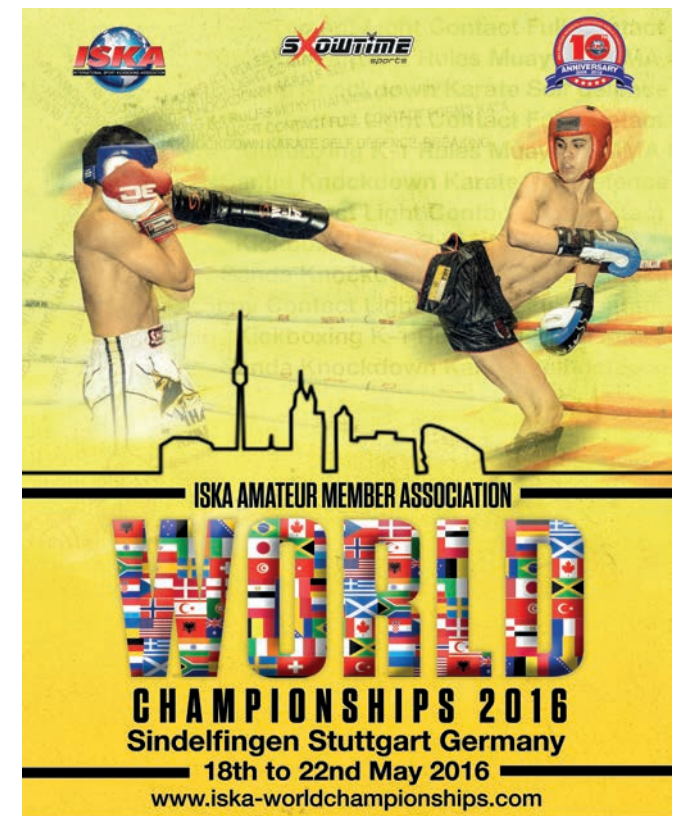
My favourite part of martial arts is sparring with other opponents as it brings together technique and fitness. Whenever possible I would attend inter club events which gave me the opportunity to spar against opponents outside my gym. About 2 years ago I started to enter competitions where I competed in the 'light continuous' category which is a full contact spar held on mats. These contests were a lot of fun and taught me about learning from opponents and trying to predict different people's styles.

Last year, I was invited to compete at a 'fight night' in Manchester which was three rounds of full contact sparring, the best bit being that it was held in a ring and I won. As the ring is a contained space, there was a whole new dynamic that makes the fight more exciting. Having had this experience I knew where I wanted to focus which was on the 'full contact' and 'K1' categories.

Following on from this, at every opportunity I would practise in the ring at the gym and started to learn more about 'ring craft' which is about using the space to your advantage. At the beginning of December this year, I was invited to attend the ISKA England selection camp in Birmingham. This was the first time I had been to a selection and was excited to go, just to learn from the experience and hopefully pick up some tips about what I needed to work on. My sensei at Evade always tells me that what I need to do more is listen to what I am being told and put the advice into action. He told me that this is the difference between a good fighter and someone who gets selected.

During the day I had to fight with other boys from around the country at similar weights to myself, complete exercises to show flexibility and stamina/fitness. At the end of the day, a number of people were called back into the ring and I could not believe it when we were congratulated on being selected to compete at the ISKA World Kick boxing Championships in Germany in May 2016. I was so excited as I did not expect to be picked at my very first selection camp and to be able to compete in two categories, 'full contact' and 'K1', against athletes from across the world is unbelievable. Now I have been given this chance I am determined to get a podium place and intend to train as hard as I can to make sure I will 'be my best'.

Martial arts is my favourite sport as it gives you the opportunity to push yourself physically and mentally, you feel high and full of adrenalin when you have worked really hard or won and can sometimes feel low when you are tired or know you have not tried.



- S H O W Y O U R S U P P O R T -



The Saddleworth School Y8 rugby league team secured a spot in the North West Schools' Cup Final with an impressive 28-10 victory over St Peter's School from Wigan.

Trailing 10-8 just prior to half time it looked as though the hosts were heading for another cup heartbreak following a series of close defeats in similar situations last season. However a faultless last 25 minutes kept the opponents from registering any further points as the Saddleworth side ran in five tries in total. Pacy Lewis Smethurst bagged a brace with opposite centre Gabriel Payne also getting over the whitewash in a man of the match performance. The strong running of Lucas Clarke caused the visitors no end of problems and the second row forward was rewarded with a vital four pointer in the second stanza. Prop Joel Cuncliffe had given Saddleworth the lead early in the

encounter and the boot of captain Tom Whitehead completed the scoring as he converted two of his team's five tries.

The prestigious final will be played at the Select Security Stadium, in Halton, Widnes where the opponents will be Wade Deacon School. Wade Deacon are coincidentally from Halton and will no doubt have a strong army of supporters in an event that last year saw over 1,000 spectators through the turnstiles of the home of the Widnes Vikings to watch the five finals played on the one day. St Peter's have reached 4 of the 5 finals in total this year so it is a mark of the level of achievement for this Saddleworth Y8 team to have defeated a school with such a remarkable record of success. Well done to all 18 players involved on the day.

Mr Melling

THE TEAM WILL TRAVEL TOGETHER TO THE EVENT BUT ALL SUPPORT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. SAT 16TH JANUARY 2016.



- R E S U L T S -

CROSS COUNTRY

ESAA English Schools' Cross Country Cup 2015

Well done to all pupils who represented the school in the above competition at Bolton School on Monday 5th October. The weather conditions were perfect for cross country but the course a little longer than usual and against some stiff competition.

Year 8 Cross Country Success

Year 8 girls cross country team crowned Oldham Schools' cross country championships at Chadderton Hall Park on Tuesday 17th November. This is the second year that the girls have won the team title. Ayla Hewitt was crowned the individual Oldham Schools' champion in the race, followed closely by Kate Leddy placing 3rd. Other team positions: Bethany Speak 4th, Zahra Mirza 8th and Sophie Southern 21st.



FOOTBALL

Saddleworth Year 10 Football

With local teams proving no opposition for this Cup Winning side last year the team progressed into the 5th round of the English School Competition, and went down to the last 64 out of a starting 628 teams.

The Oldham Academy North 4-1,
Waterhead 6-1.
Raddclyffe 3-2
Chorlton High 5-4

ESFA

Round 1 vs St Peters, 5-4
Man of the Match - Brandon Haliwell

Round 2 vs Rivington & Blackrod 3-2
Man of the Match - Harrison Jackson

Round 3 vs Chorlton High, 5-4
Man of the Match - Oliver Griffiths

Round 4 vs at Rotherham 3-2
Man of the Match - Matthew Barlow

Round 5 vs Thornleigh Salesian 1-3
Man of the Match - Cav Purtill and Brandon Haliwell

Penalty Pain as Year 10's lose out in ESFA Round of 64!

A trip to Bolton to play Thornleigh Salesian on an excellent 4G pitch was unfortunately decided by 2 penalties being saved by the opposition keeper in the second half, taking the wind out of the sails of the Saddleworth boys who played excellently against a good side. 1-0 down after 15 minutes, but the never say die spirit of the team, playing into a strong wind in the first half, scored a wonderful equaliser that would have graced any Premier League game. Harrison Jackson found Matthew Barlow in midfield, who in a single pass found Adam Howarth out wide who immediately crossed to Cav Purtill who lifted the ball exquisitely over the advancing keeper with his first touch; 4 touches from defence to attack, at pace and with great skill, wonderful to watch!

By half time Thornleigh had regained the lead when they produced a breakaway goal at pace too! After the team talk at half time, the majority of the second half Saddleworth were camped in Thornleigh's half and they were struggling to cope with the skill and trickery of the boys so much so that in the space of 10 minutes, firstly Cav Purtill was felled in the box for penalty number 1 and then Brandon Haliwell was similarly felled for penalty number 2. Captain Matty Barlow stepped up for the first one, having scored in the previous round from the spot, but his low shot to the keepers left wasn't close enough top the post and was smothered by the keeper! Oliver Griffiths stepped up for the second one as Barlow didn't fancy a second one,

and this time going for power Olly hit it high down the middle which the GK parried and Olly latched onto the rebound only to lift it high over the crossbar; gutted!! The team continued to look for the elusive equaliser, fully in the knowledge that they should be leading by now, and pushing for that goal allowed a breakaway from the opposition to seal their win 3-1 right at the end. Hugely disappointing in many ways, but well done to all players to get to the last 64 out of 656 teams entered Nationally!!



NETBALL

Congratulations to our Netball teams as they remain undefeated this season with all the games played so far, well done and keep up the good work.

Year 7

7A vs The Bluecoat Coat's School 12-10 and vs Hulme 28-3.

Team squad: Mayah Hopkinson, Grace Martin, Lily Mundy, Isabelle Kowalczyk, Sarah Gregory, Ella Dibden, Keely Miller and Olivia Madders.

7B vs The Bluecoat Coat's School 14-0, vs Hulme 9-0, vs Waterhead Academy 24-1, vs Royton and Crompton 22-0, vs Failsworth 11-6,

Team squad: Molly Bardsley, Emily Park, Ellie Brennan, Erin Pereira, Hannah Sheehy, Lola Gladwin, Chiara Eckersley, Olivia Quinn, Amelia Redford and Freya Moores.

Year 8

vs Royton and Crompton 36-0, vs North Chadderton 18-1

Team squad: Kate Leddy (Captain), Zahra Mirza, Abigail Kennedy, Bethany Speak, Georgia Smith, Poppy Sheperdson, Kelsie Green, Evie Hanss, Maddison Fish, Melissa Pritchard

- R E S U L T S -

NETBALL CONT.

Year 9

vs Hulme 20-16

Team squad: Dani Rhodes (Captain), Yasmin Roebuck, Alex Molloy, Alisha Willey, Nicole Gardner, Alyssa Hyde, Amy Stott, Lauren Sculthorpe, Charley Ward, Lucy George, Jessica McDermott, Isabelle Kinsler, Nancy Holden, Eleanor Meek

Year 10

No games yet

Year 11

There is no league set up within Oldham for year 11 recognising the importance of their final year. This year they only have the Oldham Schools Netball Rally Crowned Winners.



Team squad: Isobel Hallam, Alice Griffiths, Holly Rogers, Ruby Wilson, Sophie Eckersley, Sophie McDermott, Abigail Tootill, Brittany Carter, Jessica Tootill, Emily Beever, Alivia Ferguson

RUGBY

Year 7 Rugby

vs St John Fisher (Halifax) 26-12

Man of the Match - Sam Ratcliffe

vs Brooksbank 8-8

Man of the Match - Zach Eckersley

Saddleworth Year 7 Rugby team progress to North West Quarter Finals with win over Wigan Opponents 18-0
Man of the Match - Andrew Brierley

Year 7 B team Triumph in Cross Code Challenge

The Year 7 B team defeated Crompton House A and B teams at both rugby union and rugby league in a cross code event held at New Barn Playing fields.



Over 25 boys have now represented the Year 7 school rugby team in inter-school matches since term began in September.

Year 8 Rugby Team win Festival

The Year 8 rugby team continued their fine start to the season with a comfortable victory in the Oldham Schools' 9-a-side festival staged at Counthill. Registering 25 tries in total against their 5 opponents and only conceding 1 in return was an indication of the team's strength in depth.

Special mentions go to Harry Marland who scored a brace on his debut and to top try scorer Mason Young, who grabbed a handful of touchdowns over the course of the tournament. Year 10, Stuart Dobson, took on the role of coach for the event and is thanked for giving up his time voluntarily in the afternoon.



Year 9 Rugby

NW Championship Schools RL Cup

First Round vs De la Salle School from St Helens 26-20

Man of the match - Sam Thackeray

Quarter Final vs Hawkley Hall from Wigan 33-32

Man of the Match - Joshua Yarwood

Semi Final vs St Eddies 4-30

Man of the Match - Will Marsden

Year 11 Rugby

The year 11 school rugby team have finally secured their first silverware since their Year

7 days, way back in the June of 2012!!!

A fantastic team display despite soaking conditions saw the lads stave off the challenges of Bluecoat, Radclyffe, Failsworth and previous champions Royton and Crompton in the annual tournament staged at Counthill Road. Scintillating performances from Jay Taylor, the speedster Cameron Turner and the mesmeric James Perks led to the team remaining unbeaten on the night and proved the old mantra that "if at first you don't succeed, try, try and try again!" Well done to all of the boys who represented the school with such credit in this competition.



BASKETBALL

Senior Basketball Team crowned Oldham Schools' Champions in over-time thriller. The Saddleworth School senior basketball team defeated Failsworth 32-29 in over-time to secure the Oldham Schools' U16's title and with it a coveted place in the Greater Manchester U16's Championships in March 2016, which will be staged at the prestigious Amaechi Centre.

Ethan Buckley and Greg Simister scored the vital 3 point shots for Saddleworth that first forced the game into an extra period, before finally repelling the resistance of a strong Failsworth outfit. Radclyffe were placed third in the tournament, held at the Kaskenmoor Ball Hall.



BADMINTON

KS3 Girls, KS3 Boys, KS4 Girls, KS4 Boys all qualified to represent Oldham at the Greater Manchester Championship

KS3

Saddleworth School KS3 Girls and Boys teams have qualified for the Greater Manchester Championships in Jan 2016 for the 3rd year running. A great achievement with some stand out performances from several individuals. In the Girls Competition, held at Oasis Academy, Yasmine Roebuck was undefeated in singles and doubles, coming away with 2 gold's from the Oldham Schools Championships.

Danni Rhodes and Lauren Marston won a gold and silver medal, with Isabel Kinsler, who was a last minute replacement, due to illness, also winning a gold medal in the doubles!

In the Boys competition, Adam Jones, Archie Duncan, Luke Taylor and Niall Grant all ended up with team Silver medals, narrowly losing out to Failsworth for the Gold, but both Schools qualify for the Greater Manchester Games.

KS4

In the Girls competition held at Oasis Academy, Tara Phethean and Emma Brewster were magnificent in singles and doubles, only losing out to a very strong Failsworth pair and coming away with gold and bronze individually and silver as a pair from the Oldham Schools Championships. Daisy Shepherdson and Grace Malone won silver medals both individually and as a pair, enabling the team to finish joint 1st with Failsworth.

In the Boys competition, Johnny Marston, Toby Kershaw, Mathew White and Oliver Keane won 15 out of their 20 singles and doubles matches, ending up with team Gold medals, beating Failsworth by 2 points!!

Well done to all players, who together with the KS3 teams have swept the board again at the Oldham Schools Championships!!

“

Win if you can, lose if you must,
but NEVER QUIT!

- Cameron Trammell

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- OUR SPONSORS -

When we decided to start a school magazine it was never with the intention that it would be published. I never imagined it would grow so much and so quickly. Even working in school I was amazed just how much was going on and how many great opportunities were offered to our students.

At the beginning of term we printed the first edition to take to our feeder primaries to advertise our school and upcoming open days. Having done so we were very proud to share this and the response was amazing. It captured the true essence of school and all the additional things that make it such a special place. It was also lovely to see the response of our students that featured in this and how much it meant to be able to take a copy to keep. With that in mind, I couldn't imagine now, not getting this printed to be able to share with our families.

It is important that we are able to make this happen so we can share with you how proud we are of our students and their achievements.

To help us do this we will be looking for local businesses to offer sponsorship in exchange for advertisements. We hope that we are able to do so successfully to allow this to go to print each edition.

If you know anyone that might be interested please ask them to get in touch at: c.mcmurdo@saddleworthschool.org



Geronimo

FANTASTIC FAMILY FESTIVAL!

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MR BLOOM / ANDY DAY / ALEX WINTERS
REBECCA KEATLEY / COOK & LINE

SO WHAT'S NEW FOR 2016??

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Geronimo-theatre tent with three completely different award winning shows running through the day. Music workshops / drumming school / Bollywood dancing / Flapper classes aerial trapeze school, giant tortoise experience, a full circus, fun literary and poetry tent.

The crafts went down a storm last year, so in 2016 we are going completely bonkers with two craft tents!! Geronimo-Arena will host the very best in country show entertainment from motorcycle displays to a sheepdog rounding up geese, and our very own Wild West show, Geronimo style!

At Geronimo we hate queues so we have redesigned the field to have fabulous street performers and wacky walkabout acts next to anticipated queue points so you can watch a quality show whilst you're waiting.

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