

voice

ISSUE No.5

SADDLEWORTH SCHOOL MAGAZINE

AUTUMN 2016-17

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Teacher of the Year

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Over 130 take part,
and the winners are...

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Win prestigious
Pride in Oldham Award

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ACTS of KINDNESS

Why our students
really are special



Oldham Schools' Cross Country Champions

Sophie Southern, Beth Speak, Ayla Hewitt, Kate Leddy & Zahra Mirza

- W E L C O M E -

Welcome to the first edition of our school magazine for the academic year 2016-2017. It has been a busy start as always with absolutely loads of great things going on.

With the launch of our new 'Fill your Potential' initiative we have many students contributing to the magazine in order to gain their aspire petal by having their work published. I hope you enjoy the personal touch this brings as the students share their own achievements and experiences.

Claire McMurdo
Assistant Head, Community & Operations

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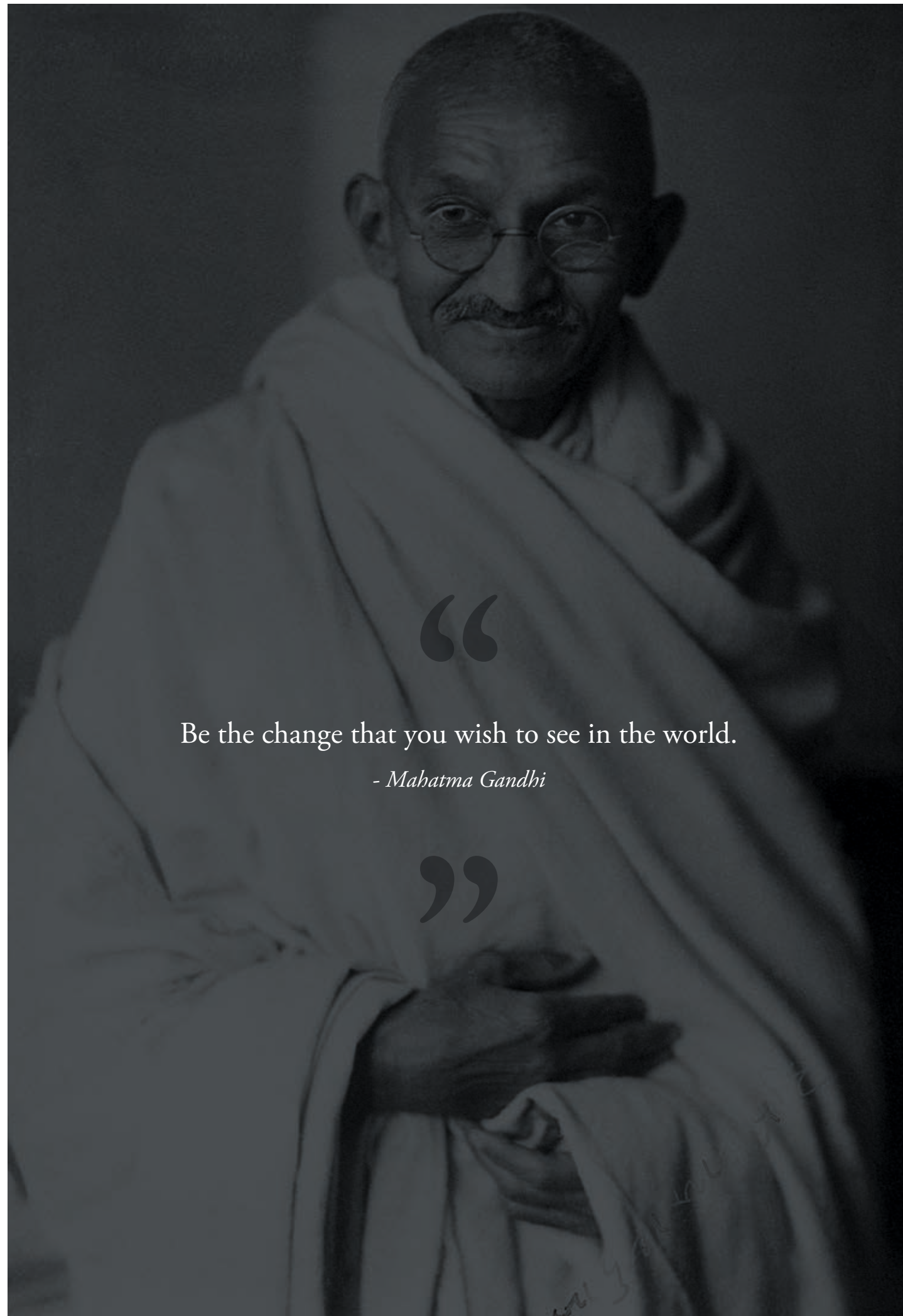
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“

Be the change that you wish to see in the world.

- Mahatma Gandhi

”

- LETTER FROM THE HEAD -

A firm foothold in uncertain times.

We aim to provide children at Saddleworth with a “humanising education,” a really strong sense of self. We seek to enable them to discover their values and what they and others in our world really believe in. We do this by ensuring that all children study English and Philosophy in Year 7 and Year 8 and then progress on to do a course based on big philosophical ideas in Years 9-11. We also do it by the way we operate outside the classroom, encouraging pupils to engage in community service, work to raise money for charity and consider the views and needs of others via assemblies.

2016 has been a year of shocks and surprises which have made many of us question what is really going on in the world. What odds would we have got on Leicester City winning the Premier League, Britain voting to leave the European Union and Donald Trump becoming the President of the United States? In such an unpredictable and rapidly changing world, young people need to feel centred and secure in themselves. When the future is uncertain, there is a risk that some will become disorientated or even feel disillusioned or depressed. By seeking to develop in young people a strong sense of self, we are seeking to give them a compass by which they can navigate their way through the rapidly changing world. We are trying to give them reference points that help them to feel more secure and confident so that, regardless of what the world throws at them, they are able to adapt, adjust and find their way.

One way in which we can help to build this sense of confidence and empowerment is by encouraging pupils to work hard and recognise their potential. It's been a joy over the last few weeks to have been at a series of Presentation Evenings that have been designed to upgrade and really value the achievements that pupils have made. Nearly half of the pupils at school have been given awards or commendations for excelling in some aspect of school life.

It's been fantastic to share these successes with colleagues and families and I know the impact that such events can have on bringing families together and enabling parents to be able to authentically express the pride they feel in their own children. This publication is

another tool that we use to celebrate the rich learning that takes place in lessons and way beyond at Saddleworth School.

2016 has been a challenging year for the school and yet we come to the end of it with better results, enhanced staffing and even stronger support from the wider community. It isn't OfSTED, buildings or budgets that make a school. It's the people who are involved in it, be they pupils, teachers, parents or the wider community. During some challenging times, I have been inspired by the energy and commitment of our staff team and the determination and resilience of the children we serve. There are of course times when we feel frustrated by the tragedy of loss, by the lack of resources, the apparently perverse decisions and demands of leadership. It's at such times that we refer back to the same strongly held values that I mentioned earlier. We keep moving forward because it's the right thing to do. Indeed, nothing is more thrilling than helping young people to flourish and find their way in life.

Enjoy this magazine and have a wonderful 2017.





- C H I N A T R I P -

Students enjoyed a stunning 17 day long trip to China. Flying from Manchester to Dubai and then Dubai to Beijing (on the giant Airbus A380) students saw The Arabian Desert as well as The Himalaya before touching down in busy Beijing.

Students walked through The Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square, wondered at the site of the magnificent Heavenly Temple before climbing The Great Wall. They saw the Pandas eating bamboo and sailed across the lake at the Summer Palace. In the evening they ventured into old Beijing to really experience China the way the locals do. Our students then flew north for 2 hours to Harbin to study Mandarin Chinese at Heilong Jiang University which is located near the Russian border and has a whole mix of Chinese and Russian influence. Living on campus, they studied every morning and visited sites every afternoon such as the Ice Sculpture Park and St Sophia. Students played sports such as badminton and basketball with the locals and even went to visit local Chinese families for a meal. Students quickly learnt the art of haggling at the Silk Market and by the end of the trip they were experts when let loose on the night markets. Eventually students

took the international Youth Chinese Test at level 1 and level 2. Everyone passed-well done! It was then time to cram all the bargains into bags and fly home via Beijing and Dubai. It was the trip of a lifetime!

A big thank you goes to The Hanban Institute and the IOE for organising and sponsoring the itinerary.

Eleanor Meek

"I am incredibly grateful for being given the opportunity to visit China; it is a trip I will treasure for the rest of my life. One of the things I found the most amazing was the unparalleled friendliness of the people. Every single person we encountered was incredibly kind and welcoming, especially the students of Heilongjiang University.

Another remarkable thing I noticed during the trip was the way that China is a country of huge contrast. For example, one minute we were breathing in fresh air on the top of the Great Wall, admiring spectacular views, then, an hour later we were in the midst of a bustling, congested road in a built-up city. This was all part of

what made it such a breath-taking country to visit. China is like a whole new planet compared to England and I am so privileged to have been able to experience all of its wonders. This includes learning the language. It was certainly not easy to learn in so few days but it felt amazing to be able to ask Kitty, my homestay partner, 'Ni hao ma?'

I hope that one day in the future I can travel to China again as it was the most amazing 17 days of my life."

Katherine O'Donnell

"Going to China was a once in a lifetime opportunity and a fantastic experience. We learnt a lot about Chinese culture in Beijing and Harbin which we wouldn't have done without the help of Hanban and the University students .

We visited a number of famous sights in Beijing including The Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, which were impressive and told us a lot about the history of the old Peking. We got to visit places of the past and the present (like the 798 Art District) which really allowed us to experience developing Beijing.

The trip was a completely different experience for me because I enjoyed seeing the new culture and listening to the language being spoken.

When we arrived in Harbin we stayed at Heilong jiang University and were shown around by students from the University. As well as sightseeing in places like St Sophia Church, Central Avenue and Sun Isalns we also attended Chinese classes every morning with teachers from the University which improved our pronunciation and aural skills as well as comprehension leading up to us taking our YCT 2.

This is a trip I will never forget and has left me with lots of amazing memories."

Poppy Foster

"Going to China was a great experience made even better by doing it with my friends. Whilst I was there I learnt a lot about the culture which I would otherwise not have known about. We visited many interesting places in Beijing and Harbin, where we stayed in Heilong jiang University campus.

The university students were all so kind to us, telling us about the city's history. In Beijing we visited well known sites such as the Great Wall and the Temple of Heaven. They were amazing places to visit as they were so different from everything in the UK. It left us with great memories we will never forget."



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

Presentation Evening this year had a little twist. Not only did we have a new venue but it grew from a single event to 5!

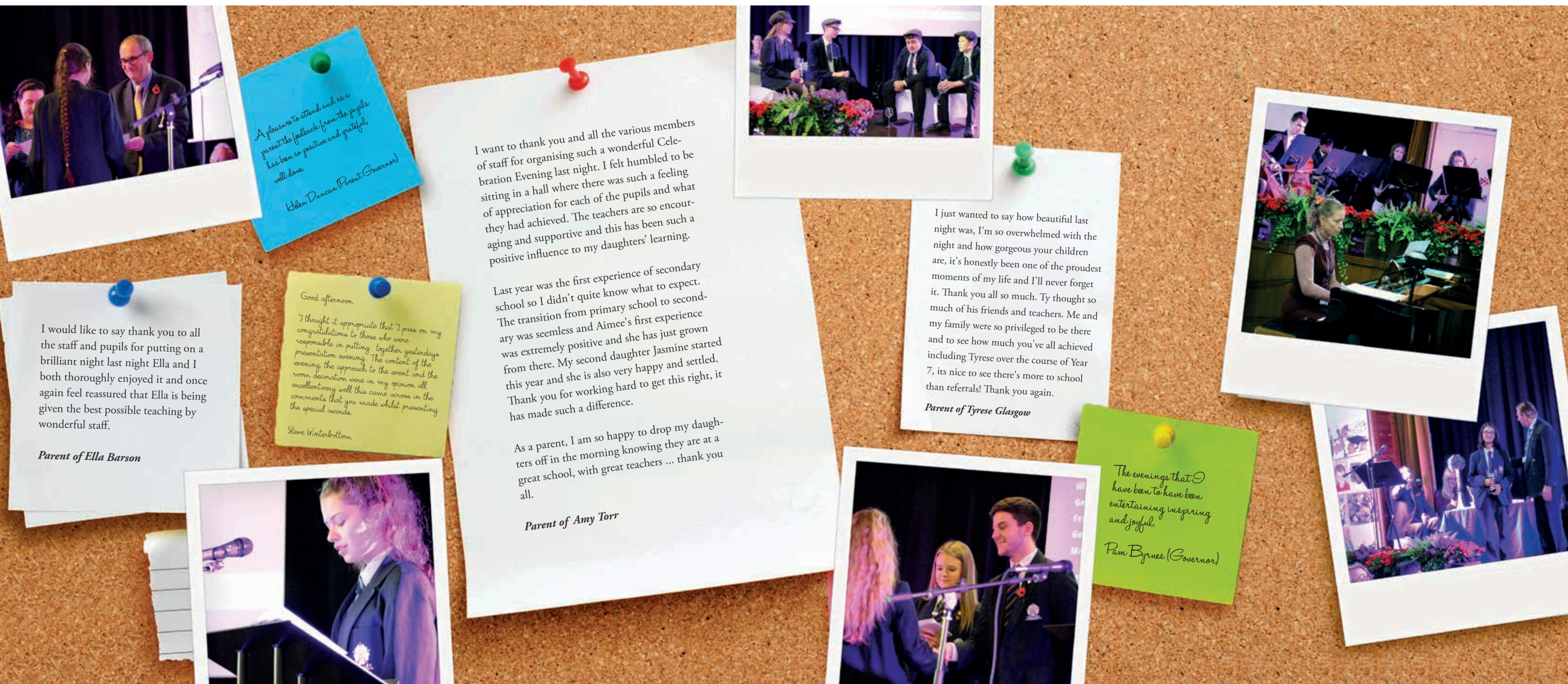
Crazy I know, especially considering the amount of work and planning that goes just

into one but it was something that we felt passionately about and worth every minute.

By allowing each year group its own opportunity to celebrate its achievements we were able to recognise far more of our

deserving students. We were also able to showcase the amazing talent within each year group as they kindly provided the entertainment for the evening.

The response from the students, staff, governors and parents has been remarkably positive and this is something we will definitely be building on next year.



- STAFF RECOGNITION -

It is always lovely to recognise the students achievements and ultimately celebrate the impact that the staff have made. I have never worked at a school where the staff give so freely their time to support students and offer additional enriching opportunities.

I suppose sometimes it is taken for granted and almost 'becomes the norm' but the hard work and tireless efforts of all staff need to be acknowledged.

Each year we are able to nominate 2 members of staff for the Oldham Education Awards. They compete

against staff from across the borough to be recognised for their impact.

This year we nominated Mr Beckwith (Curriculum Leader for Music) and Mr Healey (IT Manager) for the difference they have made.

We were very proud when both were shortlisted and invited to attend the Awards evening.

Mr Beckwith was successful in being awarded **'Teacher of the year'**



GARATH BECKWITH

It was a real surprise and a great honour to be nominated for an award that highlights my contribution to teaching at Saddleworth School, but to be shortlisted for an award and to win the outstanding achievement award at the Oldham Education Awards was a great honour and a very humbling experience.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for all the lovely messages I have received - I really am just doing my job. I attended Saddleworth School as a student and it is wonderful to now teach at the school and be in charge of the musical future of Saddleworth School - I am a very lucky man.

It is a daily privilege to work with the fine young musicians we have at Saddleworth School and it will always be my goal to provide high quality, professional, exciting and engaging musical opportunities for our talented young students.

We are currently in discussion with this year's visiting artists and also have a series of further exciting professional links to bring to the school in the not too distant future that will enable our musicians to take their musicianship to the next level. against staff from across the borough to be recognised for their impact.



- STAFF RECOGNITION -

We were also very proud to receive notification from Caroline Sutton, Director of Education and Early Years that Miss Auchterlonie had been acknowledged for all her hard work.

This came as a great surprise to her as this is not an award that school is able to nominate towards. Instead the nomination has to be personally made by a family that has benefitted from their support.

Dear Saddleworth School,

I am pleased to inform you that Tracey Auchterloine has been nominated by Tracy Haslop for this year's TOP Awards under the category Employee of the Year.

She has been nominated for providing an excellent service to the school. Tracey provides the support and peace of mind that every parent needs whilst their child is in the school's care. She is fair but firm, and understands the children's behaviour and motives. Tracy can't thank Tracey enough for the excellent support of her own child whilst adjusting to his first year at high school.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your nomination and to thank you for living and displaying our values.

It however, didn't come as a great surprise to us at school as she really is amazing. Miss Campbell, the Home School Leader that works alongside her had this to add:

Tracey is an extremely experienced 'sign-poster' – she possesses an excellent intuition and makes sound referrals to external agencies which in turn support/challenge all with the aim of removing barriers to learning.

“Tracey fully understands the complexities of working within the Pastoral side of school. Tracey will never leave a job 'incomplete' and often goes beyond her expected working hours in terms of 'clearing her desk' on a daily basis. Tracey is the most supportive employee I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Nothing is too difficult; she has a 'can-do' mentality.

She is warm, compassionate, caring and just what our pupils need. She fully embodies the different aspects of Pastoral, particularly the 'shoulder to cry on' and 'the child's advocate'.



Tracey has a very professional approach to all aspects of her work. Tracey is committed and communicates well. Pupils are fond of Tracey and trust her. She is often the first port of call for parents/pupils in crisis (and on occasion teachers). Integrity (and trust and honesty) are a core value associated with the PSA role. Parents and pupils alike trust and confide very sensitive information in Tracey and she handles these disclosures with a huge amount of kind-heartedness and the necessary (and appropriate) response.

Parents are lucky to also have support from Tracey parents regularly thank Tracey for her intervention and they really do see her as the 'first port of call'. Tracey is most willing and able to work as part of a team, often making valuable contributions. Colleagues around school comment upon Tracey's support and empathy and she communicates well with other members of the school team regularly. Tracey forms part of many wider-school teams (Tutor, Pastoral, PSA, Duty Teams and Year 7, to name but a few) moreover, Tracey plays a vital role in the Safeguarding & Attendance meetings. In addition, she works in liaison with our SEN/Behaviour Improvement/PSC teams to secure positive outcomes for our vulnerable pupils.

It has been my pleasure to work with Tracey this year. Tracey is very motivated, has a warm personality, is well-organised, efficient and has excellent inter-personal skills. These traits combined lend themselves perfectly to her role in working with young people at school.

Tracey is very confident with systems at school. Her timely updates ensure that all stake-holders are fully aware of any interventions. Tracey models how the PSA role should be deployed.

Charlotte Campbell

- SPECIAL MENTION -

Congratulations to the following students for 100% attendance at their Instrumental lessons for the Autumn Term 2016.

Percussion

Bridget Belcher, Lucy Haddock-Williams, Oliver Vance, James Divett, Ted Hunt, Molly Smith, Euan McCorquodale, Isabelle Kowalczyk, Niamh Simpson, Hope Moynihan

Lower Strings

Delphine Alsop-Parsons, Lewis Fowden

Upper Strings

Lucy Beaumont, Imogen Cox

Voice

Daisy Dewsnap, Neve Slingo, Lucy Viella, Natalie Woolhouse, Melissa Demstader, Megan Bruton, Madison Holt

Woodwind

Lola Gladwin, Erin Pereira, Maisie Reece, Kirsten Fletcher, Leah Tissington, Isabelle Kowalczyk, Lucy Johnson, Jessica Leigh, Katie Lee, Isabella Cook

Brass

Lucy Haddock-Williams, Sam Smithies, Jeremy Knight, Sally Gibson, Imogen Adams-Gibb, William Yarwood, Sam Bowden, Ellie Jones

Guitar

Neve Slingo, Jack Collinge, Isabelle Lenehan, Jack Varley, Ben Wylie, Lusindy Liang, Eve Matley, Connor Perry, Hannah Smith, Denzil Brown

Keyboard

Poppy Stafford, Olivia Cornes, Lusindy Liang

- EXAMS -



KIRSTEN FLETCHER

Grade 4 Oboe ABRSM
(Merit 125)



ELEANOR WHITEHEAD

Level 4 Flute
(Highly Commended)



PENNY ALLSOPP

Grade 2 Piano ABRSM



DELPHINE ALSOPP PARSONS

Grade 3 Cello
(Distinction)



OLIVIA PATE

Level 4 Flute
(Highly Commended)



ROWAN HEYWOOD

Grade 3 Theory
(Distinction)



CAOIME PRESBUR

Level 2 Clarinet
(Commended)



BRIDGET ATKIN

Grade 6 ABRSM Cornet
(Distinction)

- REMEMBRANCE -



11th November is always a special day at Saddleworth School. With all 1350 students and over 200 staff assembling on the astro turf to show their respect and observing the minutes silence.

Veteran Alan Wrigley, honorary organiser for the District of Saddleworth joined us in marking the occasion. All students stood immaculately throughout the last post which this year was played beautifully by Bridget Atkins.

In addition to this all students watched a presentation prepared by the History department showing the significance of this day and students in year 8 completed an art project to produce the display for the main reception.

Students in the cadets were allowed to wear their uniforms to school and staff with serving family members their medals.

With so much in place to mark this special day it was disappointing that on social media that a post was made condemning school for not allowing students to wear poppies. We of course sought to correct this and share the work that we do in memory of those soldiers that gave their lives to serve their country.

WE DID IN FACT RAISE £368.87 FROM THE SALE OF POPPIES AND WE WERE VERY PLEASED TO RECEIVE POST CARDS OF THANKS FROM THE BRITISH LEGION IN RECOGNITION OF THIS.

Social media is a wonderful tool for sharing good news. It is however, sometimes used for other purposes. We won't always get everything right and there are times when things are shared they are misrepresented. What we would ask is that you take the time to contact us first to clarify the facts concerned this prior to making possibly the wrong assumption.

What is heart-warming is the pride that our students have in school. Head boy Joe Wheeler read the post and immediately responded to address this. He told of how he had returned the week prior from the battlefields where he laid a wreath on schools behalf. The story on social media was picked up by the Saddleworth Independent where he was given the opportunity to share this with others.

- STAFF UPDATES -



We welcome 18 new staff to Saddleworth School

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <i>Chris Beckenham</i> - Science Teacher | 12 <i>Sarah Winspear</i> - Geography Teacher |
| 2 <i>Jade Rogan</i> - Science Teacher | 13 <i>Stephen Wales</i> - Geography Teacher |
| 3 <i>David Rowan</i> - 2nd in Science | 14 <i>Beth O'Leary</i> - Curriculum Leader History |
| 4 <i>Charlotte Bowskill</i> - Science Teacher | 15 <i>Tim Parkes</i> - Languages Teacher & EAL |
| 6 <i>William Hamilton</i> - Science Teacher | 16 <i>Sam Scorey</i> - Languages Teacher |
| 8 <i>Richard Twigg</i> - English Teacher | 17 <i>Natalie Lees</i> - 2nd in Languages |
| 9 <i>Nik Jackson</i> - English Teacher | 18 <i>Ellen Green</i> - Curriculum Leader Drama |
| 10 <i>Luke James</i> - RE Teacher | 19 <i>Carole Pounder</i> - SENCO |
| 11 <i>Jenni Roskin</i> - RE Teacher | 21 <i>David Smith</i> - Technology {1 Year} |

- STAFF UPDATES -



Congratulations on the new additions to the family

- | |
|-----------------------------------|
| 22 <i>Sarah Owen</i> |
| 23 <i>Caroline Roberts</i> |

Congratulations on your marriage

- | |
|--|
| 24 <i>Miss Briggs</i> now <i>Mrs Powell</i> |
|--|

We say a fond farewell to

- | |
|---|
| 25 <i>Pippa Burgess</i> |
| 26 <i>Charlotte Campbell</i> - Promoted post to Assistant Head back home in Plymouth |
| 27 <i>Susanna Hegarty</i> - Promoted post to Curriculum Team Leader for BLITE |
| 28 <i>Christine Salah</i> - Following a different career pathway |

Congratulations on their new role

- | |
|--|
| 5 <i>Rachel Sunderland</i> - Curriculum Leader Mentor |
| 7 <i>Holly Clements</i> - ITT Coordinator |
| 20 <i>Adam Cree</i> - HSL Year 7 |

- CAREERS -

It is important to us that we help prepare students for the next stage of their journey when they leave us. Our school motto is 'Aim High' and we want all our students to do that and have high aspirations for what their future holds.

We work hard to support them in doing just that.



Careers Fair

This year we invited over 30 representatives from Colleges, Sixth Form Schools, Apprenticeship Training Providers, Universities and local companies to speak to our students about their plans for the future. Students from Years 9 and 11 visited the fair to find out about their post-16 options, pathways to



universities and what apprenticeships are available to them when they leave school. The students were fantastic and showed a real interest in their future and what steps they now need to take to fulfil their ambitions. The representatives were full of praise for the young people at our school and were impressed with their confidence and inquisitiveness.

Please can we extend our thanks to those that supported the evening



Colleges

Oldham Sixth Form College, Oldham College, Clarendon Sixth Form, Greenhead, Hopwood Hall, Kirklees College, Ashton Sixth Form, The Blue Coat School, Crompton House, The GM UTC (Engineering), and Tameside College. Access to Music. GM Higher (Higher Education/University)



Modern Apprenticeships

Skills Company, YMCA, QA (ICT Apprenticeships) and OTC (Oldham Training Centre), Manchester Dental College



Representatives from Industry

Walker Symes (Quantity Surveyors), Limetree Productions (PR), Ryder and Dutton (Estate Agency), Oldham Community Leisure, Howgate Sable (Recruitment), North West Ambulance Service, Bright Futures (Specialist Education/ Psychology), Pennines IFA (Financial Advice), Representatives from Institute of Civil Engineers (Network Rail, Costain, Jacobsons); Engineering Futures, Law, Armed Forces, Pennine Acute Trust (NHS)

Careers newsletter

Understanding that this time of year is very important for Year 11 and families we are keen to support them in making informed decisions, we have produced a weekly career



newsletter. With key dates, important information and tips to support we hope this has helped make the process a little easier.

Apprenticeship Show

In October, twelve of our Year 11 students visited the Apprenticeship Show at Manchester Central. There were over 100 employers and apprenticeship training providers showcasing opportunities for young people in the North West. They were able to speak to apprentices to find out why they decided to follow the Apprenticeship route, how they applied for their job, how they are trained and what their future plans are. Many apprenticeships are provided by some of the



largest companies in the UK including BAE Systems, Aldi, IBM and KPMG to name just a few. There will be additional workshops in school to support students with their applications in the New Year.

Will Sowden, Hannah Mayall, Karim Spencer-Goodyear, Sam Scott, Luke Bamber, Mackenzie Young, Harriet Donoghue, Chloe Andrew-Willis, Jake Hill, Joe Ireland, Eva Carter, Dylan Hey.

College Visits on Wednesday

We were delighted to invite into school representatives from many of the colleges in the area to speak to students about their facilities, subjects offered and application processes. This gave students an overview of the college and what they need to achieve in their GCSE and BTEC qualifications to move onto further education. We were pleased to see some of our



ex-students at the assembly to speak to the students about their experience of college life.

Please can we extend our thanks to all those that visited to help inspire our students.

7TH SEPTEMBER- OLDHAM COLLEGE

14TH SEPTEMBER- GREENHEAD COLLEGE

21ST SEPTEMBER- OLDHAM SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

28TH SEPTEMBER- ASHTON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

5TH OCTOBER- HOPWOOD COLLEGE

12TH OCTOBER- CROMPTON HOUSE SIXTH FORM

19TH OCTOBER- TAMESIDE COLLEGE

OSFC-Motivation Talk/Enrichment Talk

We welcomed OSFC who came into school to offer two talks to our students to help raise aspirations and help them identify how they will achieve their true potential.



It was great to see Laura Barlow (2015 leaver) who is currently studying at OSFC as part of the delivery team.

Motivation

Callum Bradbury, Billy Burns, Adam Butler, Dylan Crane, Adam D'Souza, Marco Duarte, Alex Fitton, Bradley Frost, Brandon Halliwell, Marshall Hilton, Joshua Lomas, Billy Royle, Ross Schofield, Karim Spencer Goodyear, Matthew Whipday, Mohammed Azeem, Harry Wild, Kaden Bennett, Lorcan Farrelly, Joshua Herring, Adam Howarth, Brandon Ratcliffe, James Shallcross, Matthew Barlow, Kieron Owens, Peter Dunleavy, Jack Heeley, Bradley Sykes-Quarmby, Dylan Hey, Dylan Fitzgerald.

Enrichment

Abigail Williams, Roshni Parmar-Hill, Daisy Shepherdson, Emma Brewster, Bradley Hampshire, Beth Collins, Emma Gregory, Harry Kelly, Wilfred Bangham, Roxanne Norris, Katie Ball, Oliver Geener, Emily Power, Anna Leslie, Elijah Wolstenholme, Sophie Molyneux, Ellis Brooks, Thomas Douglas, Katelyn Hanss, Samuel Ackroyd, Callum Ormerod, Alanna Rudd, Jack Titley, Katie Agarwal, Johnjo Beckwith, Joseph Ellison, George Hatton, Amira Mirza, Zoe Parry, Hannah-Louise Siddiqui.



- CHETHAM'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC -

by

Bridget Atkins



Film Music composition workshop at Chetham's School of Music:

On the 9th of November 2016, seven year 10 GCSE music students travelled to Manchester to attend a workshop at Chetham's School of Music. This workshop focussed on film music composition and was led by Neil Brand; author, composer and film music expert! Brand's knowledge of the relationship between film and its music has led to many successes in his field. This includes his career as a silent film accompanist as London's National Film Theatre, his past career of acting and writing plays for the BBC, and composing scores for the recently restored films called 'The Wrecker' and 'Anthony Asquith's Underground' for the 1920's. To top it all off, Brand has written the book 'Dramatic Notes', which describes the art of composing for the radio, television, cinema, and theatre.

Firstly, we were introduced to the vast importance of music in film and how it is that, more than anything, which brings any film alive. His enthusiastic explanations ranged from how the use of tonality, texture and tempo can create an endless variety of moods, to how film music is intended to stir the same emotions and expectations in every individual who views it. He clearly described how it can foreshadow the impact of the story on the viewer, and not necessarily the outcome of the film.

In his explanations, a wide range of films and their music were used as examples. This ranged from the music belonging to 'Star Wars' and 'Jaws', composed by John Williams, to a children's cartoon movie named 'Robots'. This showed us how music has to move the pace of the film on and portray the themes, whilst still leave room for dialect. Also, we explored the use of leitmotifs, a memorable tune that helps the viewer to keep up with the film, and their importance, using 'Darth Vader's theme' as an example. As an addition, Brand used a silent film to show how music alone has to describe the character's emotions, create the right mood, and build tension.

Finally, we were given a chance to create a musical accompaniment to the silent film, "A cottage on Dartmoor". We collectively suggested the structure of the piece, whilst we got to see first-hand how themes, film and musical techniques are put together.

Kirsten Fletcher said: "Neil Brand was brilliant at delivering the workshop. He showed us a few scenes of films, sometimes in silence first to show the effect of the music. He also demonstrated the ideas on the piano. It was really interesting and I have gained a lot from it". This was a brilliant experience and a chance to make notes that will really help us with our music GCSE.

- SISTER ACT -



Saddleworth School Music Department took 30 students to see Sister Act the Musical on the 12th October 2016 at the Liverpool Empire Theatre.

The musical was very fun and energetic and was really worth going to see. The show was about the life of Deloris Van Cartier who sang at The Moonlite Lounge of the Nevada Club in Reno, Nevada. As a result of this she has to go into hiding in a nunnery where she meets all different kinds of nuns. However none of them can sing so pretending to be a nun she takes over the church choir. She gets them to sing all kinds of song she has sung back in the club. When it comes to the normal Sunday service they sing these songs and mother superior (head nun) tells Deloris to leave. Before she leaves the choir is invited to sing in front of the pope! So, they do. The show was enjoyable and I hope that I can go on future trips with school to see shows.

Joseph Taylor



- OLYMPIC CHAMPION MASTERCLASS -

A chance to try something new and to be trained by an Olympian was too good of an opportunity to miss. Four lucky students were invited to be part of the initiative and this wonderful opportunity to work alongside Sophie Cox in her sport of judo.

In her new role as an Athlete Mentor for Sky Sports Living for Sport, Sophie comments:

"I passionately believe that the power of sport can change and shape young people's life choices. I hope to share my story and the challenges I have overcome to help to inspire young people to achieve their own dreams."

Sporting achievements:

DOUBLE OLYMPIAN • BRITISH CHAMPION • COMMONWEALTH BRONZE MEDALLIST • DOUBLE EUROPEAN SILVER MEDALLIST



As soon as we got in, I was so excited. I had never met an Olympian! Sophie Cox taught us a lot about the history of judo and where it originated. She showed us how to nail people to the floor and keep them there. It was fun. We did loads of different exercises to help us improve our skills and we got Sophie Cox's signature! Over all, it was the best afternoon ever!

Rebecca Blundell



Me, Rebecca, Zarron and Oliver went to Newman College and did a bit of judo. We were taught by Sophie Cox judo Olympian. We did a task when we had to get with a partner and do different exercises e.g. Sophie would call out hand to hand and we would have to do it. We also laid out mats and threw people down onto the floor.

Matilda Byrom



- MTB ADVENTURE -

On Tuesday 6th September, a mini bus full of students set out for Manchester Velodrome. The day was roasting hot and we were all buzzing as we walked through the doors into the huge entrance of the stadium.

What we didn't realise though was that across the road from the Velodrome there was a large, exciting mountain bike course equipped with steep ramps, sharp 'U' bends and rocky slopes! We were kitted out with helmets and bikes before having our first ride. They started us off on a long, grassy slope, teaching us different techniques on how to change gears, create power and turn quickly and efficiently, before we advanced onto the first section of the course.

The first section of the course seemed awkward and tiring, and a few of us didn't quite make it up our first ramps, but with persuasion and guidance from the helpful team, we all got it in little to no time!

The second part of the course looked a little scarier. However, it was great how they did it, because it was all connected together; so when you did the second part, you then had to go do the first part again as well, which made it quite a lot more tiring than doing it separately! I would say that the scariest part of the second course was the ramps because they got bigger, and bigger, and bigger as you went over them. But luckily we only did the first two.

Nearing the end of the day we all got by with only a few bumps and grazes, and at the end everyone got a goodie bag, inside some gifts including a little plastic flag and a water bottle, which was a nice surprise. We then all had to go back to class hot and sweaty, but we had little flags to fly, and a story to tell to all our classmates!

Melissa Demstader 8G



- 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 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



TOM MOULE

Congratulations on your signing by Oldham Athletic Football Club.



FINN KALLAN

Has successfully been signed to Rochdale Football Club Academy.



MAX GODLEY

Well done on your recent hockey success. Currently playing for Huddersfield Dragons, West Yorkshire counties and your success at the regional England Trials.



MAYAH HOPKINSON

Congratulations on your selection for Greater Manchester County Netball Academy Programme.



ARCHIE CASSON

A very successful start to the year for Archie at the World Championships where he won gold and world titles in both light contact kickboxing and full contact kickboxing.



FARRAH CONNOR

Good luck to Farrah as she trains for her next belt in Karate. Farrah has been competing recently and done really well.



ETHAN HULSE

Congratulations on your 2 gold and 1 silver at the Unity Games in the various forms of Karate.



NATHAN HOPKINSON

Selected again for the British snowboard elite squad and has just completed the training camp in Austria.



MATHEW HEGGINBOTHAM

Good luck to Matthew as he joins the British squad for their training in France and competition programme.



ABIGAIL KENNEDY KATE LEDDY ZARA MIRZA BETHANY SPEAK

Well done to all 4 girls on their successful selection for Manchester County Netball Team.



SOPHIE COATES

Meet Sophie Coates in Year 7, she plays football for Manchester City. Sophie's talent in sport shows both on the football field and in other areas where she has already had good attainment scores in Orienteering and Netball in her start to PE at Saddleworth School.

However her natural ability on the football pitch proves that she is one to watch in the future. Sophie got scouted by Manchester City at the age of 9 and played one season there before going back to play for her local club North Side. Manchester City were then keen to get Sophie back and she signed once again at the age of 12. Sophie now trains three times a week down at the Etihad training centre for two hours per session. This demanding regime means that Sophie (and her parents) need to organise their time so that as well as showing commitment to her club that she also keeps up to date with her school studies.

Manchester City are a big club in the women's game as well as the men's and face opposition

such as Everton, Manchester United and as far afield as West Ham. The girls academy team play in a boys league on Wednesday evening to help to improve their strength, speed and skill and also play against other female centre of excellence clubs at weekends.

Sophie has had the opportunity to meet all of the members of the Manchester City Ladies team who are Super League Champions and are also in the Quarter finals of the Champions League in Europe. Whilst training at the complex she also sees the men's team in training which is something special in itself. Sophie plays in centre midfield or on the left wing and aspires to be the next Toni Duggan. Her proudest moment so far is winning the County Cup and scoring a hat-trick which meant getting to keep the match ball. We look forward to seeing Sophie representing our school team and for future success at Manchester City!

Miss Cook

DAISY SHEPHERDSON

Daisy Shepherdson is one of the leading sports women in Year 11 and it appears that she has been a keen athlete from an early age. Daisy can turn her hand to various sports however she has recently been successful in gaining a place in the England Rounders squad. Daisy started playing rounders at the age of 7 in the Saddleworth Olympics and was hooked from then on. Daisy is an exceptional batter and can hit with more power than you can imagine possible, her speed around the bases and the ability to read the game exceptionally well ensures that she regularly scores rounders for whichever team she is playing for. Not just a batter however Daisy is an incredible fielder usually taking up an inner position to take catches and stump people out bases as well as preventing the opposition scoring points.

Daisy was spotted by an England coach and went to her first set of trials in 2015 but was unsuccessful. Determined not to give up and also because of positive feedback that was given from the England camp Daisy

returned to trials the following year as the coaches had said that she had incredible potential. Daisy gained a much playing experience by representing school (winning two titles), playing for Gantrack gems in a local league and even playing in Rochdale in the women's league. This strengthened Daisy and as a result she was successful in gaining a position in the England Squad. Daisy has since completed her first of three training sessions and is eagerly awaiting the summer for the games to begin where she can represent her country.

As well as playing Daisy enjoys coaching younger children as well as being a competent umpire.

Daisy is a fantastic role model for Saddleworth School students and she proves that hard work, and dedication to something you love does pay off in the end.

Miss Cook



- RUGBY -

TRIP TO GRAND FINAL

Students, staff and friends of Saddleworth enjoyed the drama of the Super League Grand Final alongside 75,000 others on Saturday 8th October. Wigan defeated Warrington 12-6 to secure the 2016 crown.



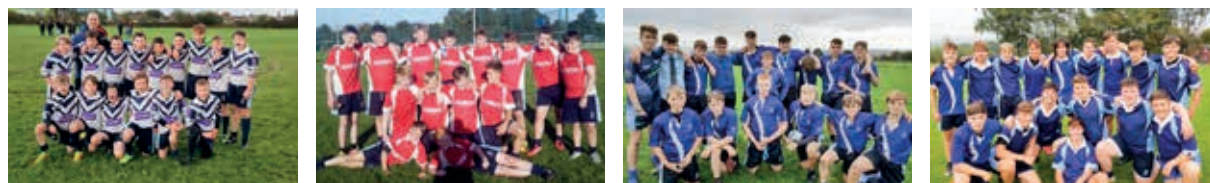
KEVIN SINFIELD

Kevin Sinfield came straight to his former school from the terminal at Manchester Airport following a trip to Chicago. This was to coach the Yr 7 rugby team in their training session prior to their Champion Schools match against Beamont from Warrington. The focus of the session was defence, tackle

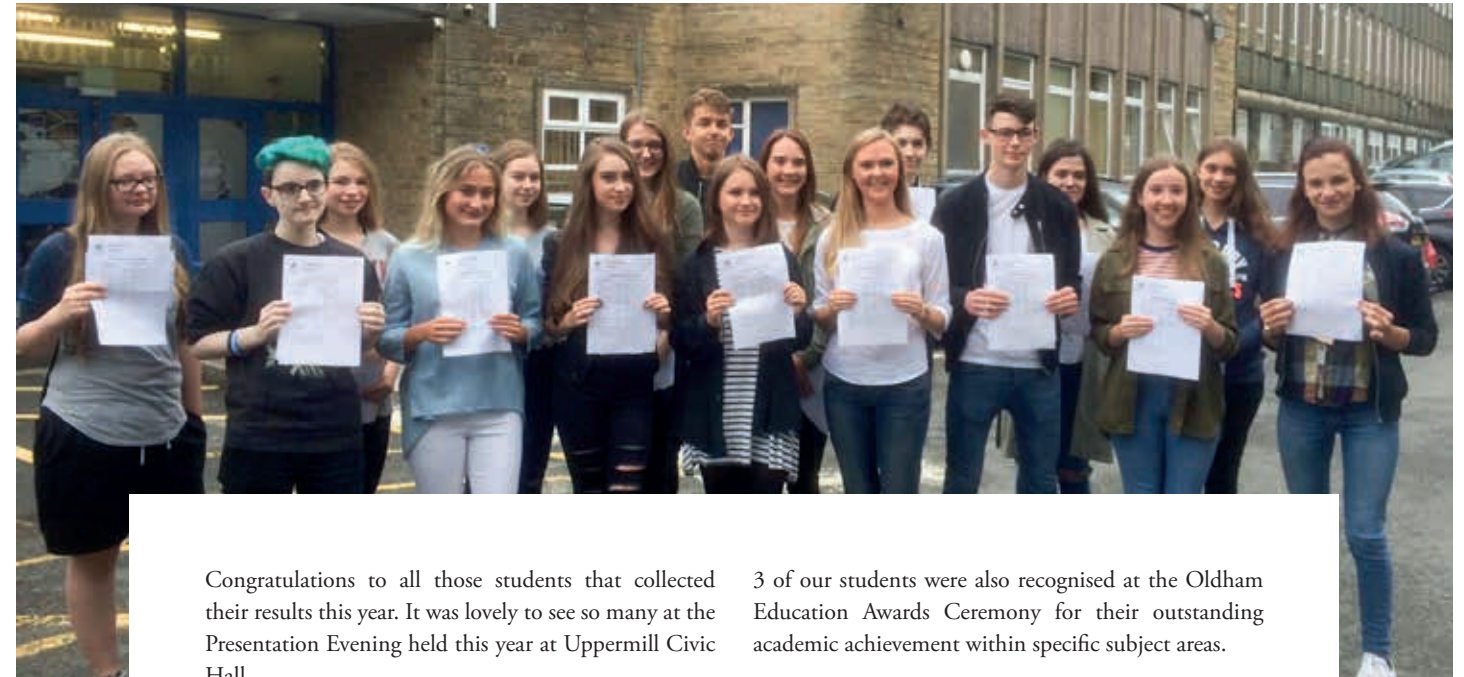
technique and line speed. Kevin's knowledge paid off as the team went on to defeat their opponents 14-12 later in the week to progress to the NW Q-Finals.



Saddleworth School steal the show as they are crowned Oldham Schools Champions in all 4 age groups.



- RESULTS & DESTINATIONS -



Congratulations to all those students that collected their results this year. It was lovely to see so many at the Presentation Evening held this year at Uppermill Civic Hall.

3 of our students were also recognised at the Oldham Education Awards Ceremony for their outstanding academic achievement within specific subject areas.

Congratulations to:

PHILLIPA HALL
TOBIAS GREEN
IRA WALL



It was great to hear how they had been rewarded for their hard work and how you are able to successfully make your way onto your post 16 pathways of choice. Information from the Move on report shows that:

90% have continued into full time education, 0.7% are in full time training, 5.9% have taken up an apprenticeship.

We have so many students that achieved so much. Not only did they achieve in line with what was expected but surpassed this. As a school we have a positive progress 8 score which for a school of our intake is more difficult to achieve.

Special mentions to those students that got 8 or more A*/A grades

Philippa Hall (9 A*'s and 2 A's), Lauren Strutt (9 A*'s and 2 A's), Beth Gillard (8 A*'s and 2 A's), Ira Wall (7 A*'s and 3 A's), Felicity Loftus (7 A*'s and 2 A's), Emily Percival (7 A*'s and 2 A's), Libby Redrup (6 A*'s and 5 A's), Lydia Hood (6 A*'s and 3 A's), Elizabeth Woolhouse (5 A*'s and 6 A's), William Bartley (4 A*'s, 7 A's), Tobias Green (4 A's and 6 A's), Holly Bedford (3 A*'s and 7 A's), Ella Carr (3 A*'s and 7 A's), Lauren Saville (3 A*'s and 6 A's), Charlotte Stewart (2 A*'s and 9 A's), Isabelle Spurr (2 A*'s and 7 A's), Catherine Stott (2 A*'s and 7 A's), Christian Maddox (2A*'s and 7 A's), Ellie Whatmough (2 A*'s and 7 A's), Megan Bradbury (2 A*'s and 6 A's), Saffron Hodgkins (1 A* and 9 A's), Ali Dronsfield (1 A* and 7 A's).

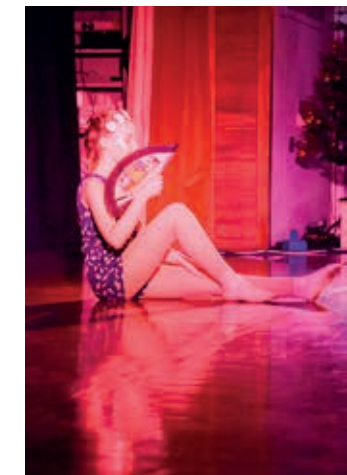
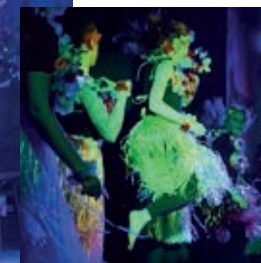
It was also lovely to see Tom Brisk, one of our 2014 leavers gained recognition for his achievements in Physics whilst studying at OSFC.

We are working with our partner Colleges to find out their leavers destinations so we can share their achievements with you in the next magazine.





- DANCE FACTOR -



The Dance Factor Show 2016 was held on the evening of Wednesday 14th December in front of an audience of 100. The show featured 26 different dance acts and involved 130 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 Bentley, Mr Twigg and Mr Beckenham. 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; Ellie Wolfenden and Holly Brennan. At the end of the evening, the judges will deliberate to crown one Year 7 form as Champions of Dance Factor 2016. Well done to all the pupils involved in what is sure to be a fantastic evening of Dance.

Winning Form were 7O with dance piece **"Reflection"** This was choreographed by Yr10 Leaders **Lucy Duncan, Emily Bradbury & Katie Atkins.**



We love to hear of our students success even when they have left us. It was lovely to receive an email from Holly Brennan's (2016 leaver) family letting us know how she has got on. We would also like to thank Holly for coming back to perform at Dance Factor 2016 to inspire our current dancers.

"Holly has gone on to study dance at The Manchester College and is really loving it, she is also still attending The Centre for Advanced Training at The Lowry where she trains in contemporary dance and ballet."

Back in July, Holly took part in a pre-audition workshop and was asked to attend an audition at Sadlers Wells for a place in the National Youth Dance Company. Across the whole of the UK, NYDC saw 400 young people aged 16-21 and only 70 were invited to the audition.

The company were looking for 30 young people and Holly has been asked to join the

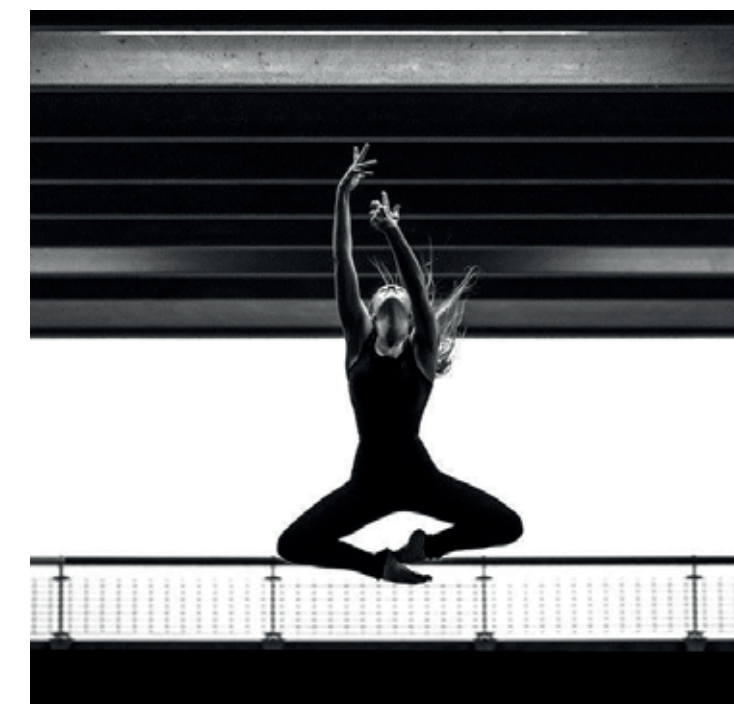
cohort for their 2016/17 company.

This means she will take up 3 residencies in London over the forthcoming months, spending 4 weeks working with the company and renowned choreographer Damien Jalet. In June and July the company tour the UK.

I know that during her time at school you supported Holly and gave her some great opportunities which encouraged her in her chosen field, so i just wanted to say thank you and to share with you this wonderful opportunity that she has achieved."

Many thanks

Clare Brennan



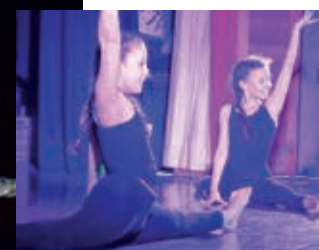
" I JUST WANTED TO SAY A HUGE WELL DONE TO MRS BLEZARD DOWNS FOR A WONDERFUL DANCE FACTOR SHOW LAST NIGHT. THE FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS AND STUDENTS ALIKE WERE EXTREMELY POSITIVE AND THE LEVEL OF DANCE TALENT THAT WAS ON SHOW WAS UNREAL TO SAY THE LEAST.

SHE WORKS HARD AND PUTS COUNTLESS AMOUNTS OF HOURS OF PREPARATION INTO THIS SHOW AND WITHOUT THE HELP OF MR HEALEY AND HIS TECHNICAL WIZARDARY THIS SHOULD COULD NOT TAKE PLACE. A SPECIAL MENTION SHOULD ALSO GO TO THE STAFF THAT GAVE UP THEIR TIME LAST NIGHT TO HELP SUPPORT STUDENTS BACK STAGE, JUDGE THE SHOW AND HELP WITH REFRESHMENTS ETC.

THIS TYPE OF EVENING REALLY SHOWCASES THE TALENT OF STUDENTS IN OUR SCHOOL ALONGSIDE THE LENGTHS THAT STAFF WILL GO TO, TO ENSURE THAT THINGS LIKE THIS RUN SMOOTHLY.

MANY THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL EVENING AFTER A LONG TERM.

Miss Cook



- 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.

BUSINESS LUNCH

In October, Mr Christopher Foster visited the school to speak to students about his role as an Independent Financial Advisor. He spoke enthusiastically about his career and specifically about the work he carries out on a day-to-day basis. The students came with a list of questions they wanted to ask including:

What do you normally advise people about?

Who needs financial advice?

What is the basic salary in this industry?

Is working in banking/accountancy a pressurised job?

He was also able to offer one of the students, Sam Smithies, the opportunity to work in his office for the day to see first-hand how his business operates.



BUCKLEY'S & TESCO

The Friends of Saddleworth School organised a disco for our students in Year 7 and 8. They were wonderfully supported by local businesses to minimise the cost.

Buckleys provided the bread rolls and Tesco the hot dogs & ketchup.



DIGGLE CHIPPY

Knowing the best way to our students hearts is through their bellies, they kindly offered to support the Key 103 mission Christmas appeal by offering an incentive to the form that supported the charity most.

SADDLEWORTH PARISH

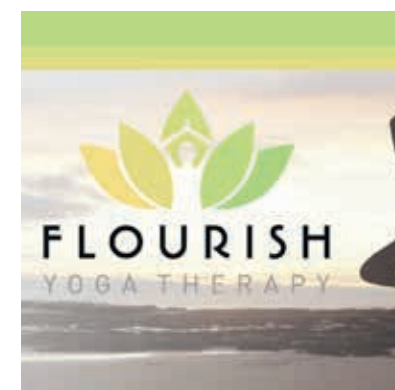
Earlier in the year Saddleworth Parish welcomed visitors from El Salvador. As part of our partnership work we were offered the opportunity to enrich our curriculum and jumped at the chance. The guests spent the morning in school, meeting our students and going into lessons.

It was very humbling for our students to meet the guests and discover the difference in the life of the visiting student currently studying at University.



FLOURISH YOGA, CROSS FIT OL1, CLUBBERCISE

Our staff work incredibly hard each and every day. To support the wellbeing in school we have set aside time for a wellbeing event each term. This allows staff time to relax, try something new and spend time with staff outside of their curriculum team. It has been incredibly well received and it is all thanks to the generosity of our local community and providers that have offered us their services to say thank you.



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

The start of the year is always very exciting for us as we open our doors to welcome prospective families for the next academic year. We are exceptionally proud of our students, what they achieve and believe they are our biggest advocates.

With that in mind they take centre stage at all of the activities. We take our year 8 students back into their primary schools to speak with the year 6 classes to

allow them to answer all the questions they have about the transition to secondary

We hold two open mornings where we offer the chance to visit and tour school during a working school day so they are able to see our student learning in class.

“ I have gone on record many times to say how proud I am to work at Saddleworth School, and this was enhanced this morning by what I saw and heard as I took a group of Year 6 children and parents around the school. They were (as was I) impressed by the wonderful welcome that they received in EVERY classroom they visited; behaviour was impeccable, uniform immaculate and engagement and the quality of learning was of the highest order!

Mr Watson, Associate Headteacher

We also then host a more traditional open evening which allows the Saddleworth students a chance to showcase their leadership and provide opportunities for the year 6 to experience secondary activities, With over 200 students offering to volunteer for the different departments it speaks volumes of the pride they have in school.

Once again we will be over subscribed for 2017. Despite increasing our pupil admission numbers to 270, we still have more first choice selections than we have places and nearly 400 students that placed us as their first or second preference.



Evan, Lily & Marley - Hey with Zion Primary



Thomas, Ellie & Darcey - Knowsley Junior School



Lucy, Melissa & Edward - Diggle Primary



- IS THAT REALLY YOU? -

by

Alanna Rudd

Does it really matter if your wearing a £100 dress or a £10 dress? Does it matter if your clothes say Michael Kors or Primark? Does it matter if you wear makeup? The answer is no. You do not have to wear designer clothes to be you. It doesn't matter, brands do not define you, your personality, empathy and how you act define you.

These days many people want to fit in. Whether that means hiding their true personality or buying that dress because the popular person wore it, even if they don't like it. You do not need to do this. When you leave school there won't be anymore popular girls that you feel you need to copy, so why should it matter so much now? You shouldn't have to pretend to be someone else for people to like you. If they don't like you for you, then you don't need them. Go and buy that £10 dress from Primark because you like it. Who cares if it's not what the popular people are wearing? Be you because you are the best version.

Unfortunately for us, we are born in the day and age where we are always being told and shown what we should look like, how we should dress and how much we should weigh. But everyone

is different. 99% of the time these pictures and statistics are photoshopped, thinned and blown out of proportion (quite literally)! This is not who you need to be! If every girl was like this, we would all look like a flock of sheep with no personality and how boring would that be?!

You don't need to have the best makeup, the newest hairstyle or trainers. What do you need? You need YOUR hairstyle, YOUR personality and YOUR style of clothes. Who cares what other people think? You shouldn't.

From the moment we are born, we are unique. That's the way God made us. Some of us have no hair, some of us have lots of hair, big nose, small nose, different colored skin, different parents but we are all beautiful. Being different is something we should be proud of, not something we should want to hide. Be proud of who YOU are and where you come from because it doesn't last forever and always remember; ignore what other people say and how they tell you how to act. Listen to yourself and how you want to act.

So remember when you next doubt yourself, just be you because everyone else is taken!



Last year we ran a project that saw students from our school appointed onto Oldham Youth Council. They have continued to be an advocate for Saddleworth School and the students they represent. Attending regularly the council meetings they have recently had the chance to be involved in 'Take over day'

- TAKE OVER DAY -

by

Isabelle Anastasiou

Recently I took part in Take over day where members of Oldham youth council took part in taking over a role in the council.

My friend Liam and I took over the communications team. I was introduced to the team and what there roles were and then was showed the incredible work that was going on. I met a man who was designing a virtual Christmas card.

Some roles consisted of looking at how the Oldham Councils website could be improved the way this was done was by using heat maps which meant that they had the capability to see what the majority was looking at so they could that link easier to access.

They also used random recordings of people journeys on the website to see if it was easy to access what they were looking for and if not change it to make it better.

I also met Fay and Liam who showed me how they schedule tweets for after the working hours. It was interesting to see what questions were tweeted from the public. There were multiple questions on which school and roads were closed as it had snowed and the team worked very hard to make sure questions did not go without answers. Liam and I helped create picture to attach to tweets and helped plan tweets for later that day. We had meeting with other people in different areas of the council and went to take picture of other Oldham youth councillors taking over a role.

My experience with the communications team was great I learnt a lot about what happen behind the scenes of the information we are given over social media and leaflets in Oldham.

I really enjoyed the experience and met some lovely people who really made me feel welcome.

- ON THE STAGE -

It always amazes me how much our students do and how many hidden talents there are. This year we will be capitalising on this with our very own production of Grease.

The cast have been practising very hard and we look forward to welcoming you to watch.

Dates for your diaries:

THURSDAY 23RD MARCH, 7.00 PM
FRIDAY 24TH MARCH, 7.00 PM



THE RAILWAY CHILDREN (M.A.O.D.S)

by **Roshni Parmar-Hill**

During the summer holidays and into the first half of the term Violet and I were part of the Mossley production of 'The Railway Children'. With a cast of both adults and children it allowed me to learn from everyone as all those that participated were so supportive. This was my first production with MAODS and it has been an amazing experience. The play



itself was based on 'The Railway Children' by Edith Nesbit and written for the theatre by Mike Kenny. The original piece was performed in London at Kings Cross with audiences sitting either side of the platform; although we did not have such a venue I believe that the play encompassed the message behind the book. Although it took a lot of work to get there, with auditions taking place in May and rehearsals before and during the summer holidays it was a very demanding piece. However, the piece showcased amazing local talent that was seen through their acting abilities and commitment to the piece. I have met some amazing people and the show was thrilling to be a part of.

Cast Members that attend Saddleworth School:
Violet Winterbottom, Roshni Parmar-Hill.

Cast members that previously attended Saddleworth School:
Tom Kehoe.

'ETTA AND ME'

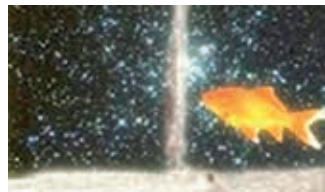
Oldham Theatre Workshop
 6-10th and 13-17th of December.

"What we see depends on how we feel..."

Once upon a time there was a girl who had a window on her world. Through it she took Imaginative adventures among the stars and journeys into fantasy. Etta marveled at the outside world with curiosity and wonder and she was happy. One day the view from the window changed. But Etta refused to accept that the world she knew and loved had gone. So alongside her friends she embarked on an adventure to rediscover a happy place where she truly belonged.

After the success of last year's production of 'Comfort and Joy' Oldham Theatre Workshop is back with a new story about courage, hope and belonging.

Well done to **Tommy Douglas, Sebastian Lowe, Megan Bruton, Eden Potter-Williams and Erin McCorquodale** who performed in this.



Erin McCorquodale

I am part of the Oldham Theatre Workshop christmas production this year. It is called Etta and Me, and involves difficult physical theatre techniques. I am enjoying it very much and I am part of the ensemble and my character is the bully in Act 2.

NATIONAL THEATRE

Congratulations also to Tommy Douglas and Ella Marshall who went to London in the summer to appear at the National Theatre when they won a national competition in their play 'Eclipse'.



PANTOMIME AT OLDHAM COLISEUM

If you went to watch Sleeping Beauty at Oldham Coliseum this Christmas then you are likely to have seen some of our students: **Gaby Leister-Smith, Darcey Graham, Olivia Forster, Eloise Jones, Erin Wolfenden and Olivia Mayall.**

Erin Wolfenden

This year, for the second time, I am performing in the Oldham Coliseum pantomime. As this is my second year and I have proven that I am committed and hard working. I really enjoy doing panto because I have learnt lots of valuable skills, met lots of new people and this year I am not only dancing I am performing as the ghost as well. While doing the performances we all have learnt how to act in a professional environment. I hope that I have the opportunity to perform in the panto next



year because I really enjoy it.

Olivia Forster

I love being in panto because I have developed various skills and made new friends. I am excited for the new opportunities and what the future will bring.

Gabrielle Lester-Smith

I'm really enjoying being in panto I've never done it before so it's an opportunity to learn more skills such as picking up dances quickly and working with others and of course making friends. I hope to do panto next year as I have loved it this year!

HARD CRAFT THEATRE PRODUCTION by Alana Rudd

This year's Christmas pantomime is Pinocchio. We started rehearsals at the beginning of November, every other weekend for two hours, where I and the three other teams learned the three dances performed in the pantomime. The pantomime was shown from the 8th to the 24th of December and was family friendly and fun. There were three teams which shared out the performances, each doing around 6 shows. As well as myself, Robyn Westphal, Bronagh McKeown and Evie Lambert, fellow Saddleworth School students were all a part of the pantomime. It was great fun and was great to be a part of something that made everyone smile.



ATHLETES PARADE

A follow up story from the Future Leaders programme that we partnered with last year. Rhiannon Armstrong was successful in being selected for this amazing opportunity. Throughout last year she had so many experiences that money could not buy and has grown from strength to strength.

Her most recent opportunity was being part of the Althetes homecoming parade from their successful Olympics in Rio.



Holy Priest, Creative director for Global Grooves has been in school already this year to look at developing some further projects for this academic year. Have a look at their exciting work at: www.globalgrooves.org

Rhiannon Armstrong

As the Olympics have finished, we as a nation have organised a wide majority of events honouring our Olympians and Paralympian's. On Monday 17th October I was invited to perform in the heroes parade in Manchester. I danced around the streets of Manchester dressed as a giant crazy blue butterfly. Danced in both the sun and the torrential rain, meeting great athletes like Jessica Ennis-Hill and Ellie Simmonds. I worked with Cabasa arts and Juba De Leao. After this 'The Kaiser chiefs' and Rebecca Ferguson performed for thousands and thousands of people. It was a once in a life time opportunity that I'll never forget.

CHRISTMAS PANTO



I am not sure where else the students all get to watch a pantomime performed by the staff. All in the spirit of Christmas the staff spend literally hours, sorry I mean minutes learning their lines, applying make up and sourcing costumes. It really does capture what is special about Saddleworth. A big thank you to all those involved

Staff stars: **Mr Lucas, Mr Jackson, Miss Clements, Mr Twigg, Miss Green, Mr Barker, Mr Wadsworth, Mr Beckenham, Mr Scorey, Mr James, Mr Nazir, Mr Moule, Mrs Powell, Mr Unsworth and Mr Ashley.**

George Hopkinson, Morgan Clark, Josh Hughes also supported the performance with starring roles and music was provided by the BTEC Musicians: **Eve Matley, Hollie Appleby, Brandon Taylor, Morgan McDonald, Jack Newell, Christian Bell and Keegan McGuinness.**

OLDHAM THEATRE WORKSHOP

Performance of 'The First Fall of Snow' by Oldham Theatre Workshop in collaboration with Positive Steps – Monday 21st November.

On Monday 21st November Year 10 Drama students were treated to an excellent performance, created in just four days by Oldham Theatre Workshop. The intention behind the show was to inform young people about the dangers of New Psychoactive Substances (known as NPS or 'legal highs'). Not only was the performance informative, it was a fantastic piece of theatre using countless techniques which can be incorporated into our own work in school. Thank you OTW!

Ms Green

Quotes from Year 10 Drama students

"The performance was exciting and interesting."

"I really enjoyed the whole production and I liked how they used an actor to represent the drug."

"The performance was dramatically informative and I learnt a lot from the talk afterwards."

"I couldn't take my eyes off the characters."



- C H A R I T Y -

Charity is incredibly important. It teaches compassion and empathy. It makes people more aware of the world. It teaches people to care about those less fortunate than themselves, and knowledge and understanding stays with you your whole life.

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

identified a charity each month that we have supported. Response from the students has been amazing and very humbling.

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 C O F F E E M O R N I N G

On Friday 30th of September, Saddleworth School held a Macmillan coffee morning. Staff and pupils were encouraged to donate all sorts of wonderful cakes and sweet treats which were then bought for a donation to the Macmillan charity. Macmillan coffee mornings are fundraising events for people facing cancer, the money raised in an event will help provide Macmillan nurses to cancer patients and make sure no one has to face cancer alone. Erin McCorquodale, a year seven student, said, "The coffee morning is a great event to be involved in and it's great to know how many people volunteered." Throughout the day, donations were being raised as cakes were selling quickly, I enjoyed helping out selling wonderful cakes at a cake stand, raising money and awareness for

Macmillan. To Katie Ball and Joe Wheeler, the head girl and head boy of Saddleworth School, I asked this question, How do you feel about Saddleworth School holding a Macmillan coffee morning? To which Joe replied "I am very proud to represent all my hard working peers who have dedicated their time to this honourable event." Katie added, "It was a great and meaningful event to be involved with, I like to be able to give something back to people in need and this was the perfect opportunity to do so, I really enjoyed spending the day helping a charity that's so close to my heart." By the end of the day, £818.13 was raised, which was an amazing effort from Saddleworth School, everyone who volunteered and donated a cake and I can't wait to take part in more events for good causes like this in the future.

Maisie Jackson



- O C T O B E R -

S T A N D U P T O C A N C E R

With 1 in 2 people affected by cancer in their lifetime it is a charity so near to everyone's heart. What is great is that 100% of the money you raise for and donate to Stand Up To Cancer will fund translational research.

We held a non uniform day in exchange for a donation to this great charity. We raised **£1157.95**



- N O V E M B E R -

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

The theme for Children in Need this year was 'earn your spots'. The students were asked to think of ways to raise money for this great cause.

Particular mention to *Grace Malone, Daisy Shepherdson, Elizabeth Barton-Howes* and *Adam Cartwright* that each personally went above and beyond.



- N O V E M B E R -

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

This afternoon I had the absolute privilege and honour of taking our school's contribution to the Key 103 drop off point at Trafford Park, a warehouse and marquee big enough to fit our sports hall in four times.

Accompanying me was nine of Saddleworth's finest ambassadors: *Katie Argwal, Katie Ball, Faye Davies, Grace Malone, Zoe Parry, Roshni Parmar-Hill, Daisy Shepherdson, Joe Wheeler and Josh Wood.*

The drive there was entertaining as the students had a sing along to Katie Ball's personal Jam; Sweet Caroline by Neil Diamond, this song will never sound the same again!

Upon arrival, we were made most welcome and received many wonderful comments from the volunteers regarding the sheer quantity and quality of gifts and the cash donation we had given.

The toy appeal co-ordinator took time to talk to our students along with a guided tour of the warehouse and explanation of how the system works. For the tour the students had to wear hi-viz jackets, I supposed just in case a teddy bear decided to attack!

It was explained to us that they issue toys to an approx. value of £30 to each deserving child in Greater

Manchester, this meant that younger children received more items whilst the older ones less but of the same cost.

The pupils were simply amazed at the sheer scale and co-ordination of the setup, there were toys stacked from floor to ceiling the full length of the warehouse.

Our contribution was quickly sorted into age range and gender then placed in the appropriate sections, they simply disappeared amongst the others. A truly humbling experience for all.

We received a personal thank you from all at Key 103 for our continued support for this charity.

For the return leg, the students chose to sing along to the 12 days of Christmas with Joe Wheeler clearly providing the low notes.

Email sent from Jay at Key 103

Thank you so much once again for all of your amazing donations, we really couldn't do what we do without the amazing help from people like yourself and Saddleworth School.

Teacher Lead: *Mr Simkins*



S A V E T H E C H I L D R E N

Our uniform looked slightly different on the 15th December as students were able to replace items from their official uniform with Christmas attire in support of Save the Children. It was lovely to see so many students wearing Christmas jumpers, socks, hair accessories and ties.

The money is still being counted but we know every single penny will be put to good use by the charity.



- FESTIVAL OF LIGHT -

by

Daisy Dewsnap & Joshua Bruton

On Tuesday the 6th December at 6:30pm, the Oldham Festival of Light took place at The Queen Elizabeth Hall. It is a place where everyone discusses and performs acts to do with their faith. There were people from the 6 different religions there: Christian, Buddhist, Hindu,

songs. Everyone was in sync and it came together well.

Why Diwali matters today – a great story with great backup reasons on why it matters.

The story of Mwalid-An-Nabbi – I learned a lot as I had never heard of Mwalid-an-Nabbi before and I now know the story of what happened. Why Mwalid-An-Nabbi matters today – lots of detailed explanation and clever reasons.

The story of Chanukkah – an informative story that made me learn many things. Why Chanukkah matters today – great reasons that back up the story even more. I learnt a lot more about the story than I knew before.

Jesus' Christmas Party – a hilarious twist on the original Christmas story. It was easy to understand and the characters in the book were great.

The Coventry Carol – it was performed by the Brass Xplosion at Saddleworth school, everyone wanted to get out of their seats and dance!

Jewish, Sikh and Muslim. Here are the views of four people: Kath Kane, from St Josephs' Church in Shaw, said, "I am a Roman Catholic and I got told about this festival. I was very interested and I have been once in the past." Ann-Marie McGinn, who works for Oldham Council, said, "I am here to spread the word about a forum called 'Your Oldham' where people get in touch with us and tell us about why they like living in Oldham and what Oldham means to them. I am Catholic." Virbai said, "I am Hindu and I am here to watch the Hindu children performing their dance and their little play". Alex Braudbent, a Philosophy Graduate, said "I am linked to the Church of England and I am a philosophy graduate. This means putting meaning to the world and tracking down and thinking about where in the world you were born". This is the largest annual event and the presenters were: Roger Gould, from Uppermill Methodist Church, and Shahin Shad, from Women Growing Together.

The performance list looked a bit like this:

The story of Diwali – it was amazing. One person read out the story in a confident voice whilst the other kids acted out the story brilliantly. It was creative and I learnt a lot more about Diwali than I used to know.

Dance Group – spectacular dancing with creative



Photography by: *Jeremy Knight*

- BBC MICRO:BIT PROJECT -



We took part in the BBC National Food Survey, which involved our students to download the program on to a Micro:Bit and used it to answer the questions which were unlocked at certain parts in the day.

The BBC then recommended us to their filming crew to create a short film featuring teachers and pupils sharing their thoughts about using the micro:bit. Filming was informal a vox pop style questions and answers format with pupils and teachers.

A group of 20 year 8 pupils benefited to experience and work with the professionals from BBC, see first hand how filming actually took place.

Malone, Abbie McCormick, Emily Park, Grace Thackeray, Hannah Sheehy, Charlie Craddock, Katy Burns-Giverny.

"Personally, I thought Microbit was fun. The best bit was taking it home, because it would ask me questions like: Food: Drink@ and snacks. When the team came in (BBC) we went online, and we programmed it. I programmed it to say "Hello, my name is Denzil" and pop up for this. Thank you Mr Nazir for this experience."

Denzil Brown

George Bedford, Daisy Richards, Denzil Brown, Sarah Gregory, Grace Martin, Mayah Hopkinson, Harvey Wilson, Keelan Corrigan, Emma Fletcher, Melissa Demstader, Shauna Kenyon, Elise

#microbit helped @saddleworth_sch students learn coding with Python. Find 100s of free @microbit_edu resources at microbit.org pic.twitter.com/8cMwFo9q0f



- SHERLOCK HOLMES -

by

Chloe Butler

On Saturday 9th July 2016, I went on an exciting and ebullient excursion to London (which was organised in accordance with last year's final English topic of Sherlock Holmes) along with Mr Lucas, Mrs Hughes, Miss Ayre and a variety of other year 9 students.

Once reaching London, the first thing we did was to visit the notorious Madame Tussauds. Here, we were given the opportunity to not only interact with over 300 astonishingly life-like figures and take home some souvenir selfies, but to also explore a range of amazing areas which not only proved to be educational, but also incredibly interesting.

The various areas were sectioned into different categories: the first was Bollywood where we met well-known figures like Katrina Kaif and Hrithik Roshan. Then we explored a floor with the theme of world leaders, where we were rubbed shoulders with famous figures such as Barack Obama, Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King, all of whom have shaped the world in numerous ways. After this, we mingled with some renowned celebrities such as Emma Watson, Morgan Freeman and Benedict Cumberbatch. Next, we met some of the biggest musicians to ever grace the stage such as Michael Jackson, Elvis, Bob Marley and The Beatles, along with more modern figures like One Direction, Rihanna, Lady Gaga and

taxi, we witnessed both the historical and the cultural events which have shaped London into one of the greatest cities in the world; this informative journey let us relive Tudor England, before allowing us to experience the time when London's streets were haunted relentlessly by the dreaded plague. Next, we were confronted with a city at war, where the vociferous voice of Winston Churchill cried out, rallying the nation. Then finally, we were transported into the 1960s, where a jubilant London was thrown into a World Cup winning frenzy!

After the fun-filled foray at Madame Tussauds, we eagerly preceded to the renowned Sherlock Holmes Museum

(a building dedicated to the life and times of Sherlock Holmes) which is located at the legendary 221B Baker Street. As we queued up outside, we were able to view the building's exterior, which had achieved an incredibly majestic and Victorian look through its black iron railings, black and white mosaic floor tiles and the bay window with net curtains.

Once we were admitted inside, we were welcomed by a woman dressed as a maid from the 1800s, who directed us towards the first floor of the building. Here, we got the chance to view Sherlock's study and bedroom. Both rooms were embellished with a variety of Sherlock's personal possessions



Beyoncé. This floor was shortly followed by the wax figures of notorious Youtubers: Zoe Sugg (Known by most as 'Zoella') and Alfie Deyes (commonly known as 'PointlessBlog.'). Afterwards, we discovered the film floor, where we were reunited with some much loved movie characters like Katniss Everdeen.

The next floor involved the theme of culture, where we got the opportunity to bump into some celebrated intellectuals, geniuses, writers and artists such as William Shakespeare, Albert Einstein and Vincent Van Gogh. This was followed by the sports area, where we were graced with the presence of Olympic legends such as Usain Bolt, Mo Farah and Jessica Ennis-Hill. Then we were greeted with famed fashion icons like Kendall Jenner and Cara Delevigne. Next, we came across the Royals section, where we encountered our reigning monarch and other leading members of the eminent Royal Family. Despite these floors being a popular experience, other students favoured the new Star Wars exhibition which was an intricate recreation of some the most memorable scenes from the saga, allowing us to see up-close the wax figures of prominent characters such as

Chewbacca, Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader and Jabba the Hutt.

However, in spite of the impressive figures, the highlight for many was the immersive 4D movie which engrossed us all into the wondrously wacky world of Marvel's super heroes and allowed us to feel as though we were personally involved in the action-packed battle concerning infamous characters such as: Wolverine, Doctor Doom, the Incredible Hulk, Captain America and Iron man. Throughout the experience, we were not only sprayed with random spurts of water and gusts of air, but also compelled to endure the jagged bumps that grew sporadically from the back of our seats (to resemble the piercing of Wolverine's razor-sharp claws!). When combined with the almost horrifying realism of massive objects seemingly flying dangerously close to our faces, we were granted an incredibly realistic and intense experience.

After exploring the various floors, we then jumped into a black cab ride which took us on an unforgettable trip through 400 years of London's infamous history... From the comfort of the



such as his pipe and violin, which many of us took advantage of and used for photo opportunities.

We then all walked up the narrow stairs which led to the next floor. Every step you took would result in an ominous creaking noise from the floorboards which really added to both the atmosphere and the validity of the building.

The second floor held Dr Watson's (Sherlock's loyal companion) bedroom and Mrs Hudson's (the much loved landlady's) room. At this point, we were given the chance to not only write a short message concerning Sherlock into a notebook perched on the table, but to also read other people's comments on how they've been impacted by Sherlock.

Next, we travelled up to the third floor where we were met with a few waxwork models of some of the main characters in the Sherlock Holmes stories.

After regretfully exiting the museum, we then went to the gift shop located next-door. The shop sold an amazing array of quirky goods from the iconic deerstalker hats, pipes and magnifying glasses, to jewellery and novelty teapots, as well as Sherlock Holmes books and films.

Then, to top the day off, we went to Pizza Express where we were granted the choice of having both a starter and a main or, a main and a dessert from an invigorating and fresh menu which came with a refreshing drink.

- MAKING IT -

Saddleworth School's finest took part in a design competition at the AJ Bell Stadium in Salford. While we didn't win the competition, the students were certainly winners as far as I'm concerned! The behaviour was impeccable and enthusiasm levels were tremendous - plus their design (a system for coin payments was called TIMM - more anon...)

The Year 9 students taking part were:

Amelia Crickett, Faye Davies, Sally Gibson, Joe Mumford-Lloyd, Gabriel Payne, Poppy Sheperdson, Joe Taylor and Oliver Taylor.

Faye took home an individual award, for being Faye really - asking questions of the organisers and sponsors. So please do congratulate her if you see her around!



Personally, I really enjoyed the competition. We were tasked with creating the money machine of the future (e.g. a high-5 based wireless pay, an instant change machine or a bracelet used to pay for shopping). In our group we were all given a different title, which represented what we had to do in the group and different jobs in manufacturing a product.

I was the design manager. So it was my job to work with the design engineer to come up with an idea for our product and build a model of it, out of a simple block building kit we were given. I also worked with the finance manager to work out the cost of our product, but to be honest I got so engrossed with the maths problems, we had to solve to work out the cost, that I ended up doing most of the finance sheet myself.

Other member of the team created posters, our logo, team name, descriptions of the product, marketing/advertising schemes and of course there was a main leader who managed the whole group.

We called our product T.I.M.M, which stands for the intelligent money machine. We decided that T.I.M.M was an inbuilt home banking system that manages your digital accounts. It also had a smaller portable phone like devise, which would allow you to pay for things much like wireless or touch payment works today.

When we had finished all the elements needed in creating T.I.M.M, we had to present our creation to all the other students and teachers that were there. Also we only had 1min 30sec to present it!

All in all, I loved the experience and I am thankful to my teacher for choosing me to represent Saddleworth School's year 9 technology department, in that group. I learnt so much about the real world applications of design technology and I want manufacturing and engineering to be part of my future career.

Faye Davies 9Y

- WW1 BATTLEFIELDS -

In October 2016 myself, Mr Tighe and Mrs Butler took 21 year 11 students on a study visit to the battlefields of the First World War. It was a fantastic trip and the students were an absolute credit to the school. Highlights for me included watching Joseph Wheeler, Alanna Rudd and Beth Collins laying a wreath at the Menin Gate and visiting Talbot House at Poperinge – somewhere I had never been before. As always it was an extremely emotional few days and I don't think there was anyone who was not deeply moved by the things we saw and learnt. I am sure the students took away some amazing memories of the places we visited and a much better understanding of the events of the First World War.

Mrs Burgess



On the 20th October 2016 I and 20 other fellow year 11 students were selected to go on the most educational and moving trip we have ever gone on in our time here at Saddleworth School.

We were accompanied by 3 members of staff Mrs Burgess, Mr Tighe and Mrs Butler. We also had a tour guide Chris Perkins who was exceptionally good at listening to us and answering our questions. Our coach driver, Neil, was also fantastic - letting us put our music on and sharing our chocolate with.

I think I can say on the behalf of all the students when I say we all enjoyed it and are genuinely thankful to the members of staff for taking us on this most fantastic trip. I will never forget the laughter and the friendship between the staff and pupils. Above all I know that I have come away from the trip knowing more about the past and the soldiers who gave their todays for our tomorrows.

Daniel Whatmough

I went on the Battlefields trip because I was told what an influential experience it is and wanted to contribute my respect at the nightly Menin gate ceremony.

The entire trip was 100 times better than I imagined it was going to be and I'd love to do something similar again. It was definitely worthwhile and it brought everyone who went closer together. The cemetery visits were very touching and gave a new perspective on what the First World War was really like. I came away from the experience feeling better educated about the events that took place and I'm immensely proud to be able to say that I went to Ypres, Belgium and the Somme. I would highly recommend this trip to anyone.

Emily Rawsthorne

I wanted to go on the Battlefields trip because I felt that I owed it to the soldiers that fought for us. It's the kind of trip that you'll never forget because of the impact it has on you. It takes a trip like this to get you to realise the scale of the First World War when you stand in front of the graves that seem to stretch on endlessly and realise that there is a body under that headstone, a soldier who gave his life. I had originally thought that it would be quite a morbid trip and there were very touching, emotional moments but it was also really fun.

Staying in Ypres is an amazing experience with the Big Wheel, restaurants and chocolate shops. We also visited lots of interesting place like Talbot House, Menin Gate and Vimy Ridge, where we heard the amazing stories of the bravery of individuals and whole battalions. We even visited the graves of soldiers from the Manchester regiment to pay our respects and seeing their graves would make anybody proud to be from Manchester.

I would recommend this trip to anybody, even if history isn't your favourite subject because the trip really opens your eyes to a lot of things that you wouldn't expect. It completely changes the way you view everyday life.

Beth Collins





- P R O M -

The organisation for our 2016 Year 11 Prom was led by Mrs Kathryn Wolfenden, who was the Pastoral Support Assistant for that year group. Undertaking such a huge responsibility with the only remit being 'make it the best we've ever had' was going to be a challenge.

Assisted by the Senior Prefect Team, Mrs Wolfenden set out to achieve this goal. They met initially to share ideas and creative suggestions. Meeting on a weekly basis to action plan and update on progress. Some fantastic ideas were shared by our senior perfect team, for fundraising and ways to make the event more memorable. Mrs Wolfenden co-ordinated the team and put together a schedule of events leading up to the Prom to enable the ticket cost to be considerably reduced.

The senior prefect team, Ira Wall, Emine Cakir, Will Bartley, Lydia Hood, Sam Darke-Williams, Catherine Stott, Tom Kehoe and Isobel Hallam, were very proactive at approaching potential sponsors for the event, collecting raffle prizes, selling tickets, organising seating plans and much more. There was much excitement leading up to the event and it did not disappoint.

The help from school staff was invaluable many staff going above and beyond especially on the day to dress the room. The setting, room design, table decorations and ambience were perfect. On the evening staff commented that it was an event worth dressing up for, better than their own wedding and exceeded all expectations. Pupils said the room was breath taking, a perfect way to end 5 years at Saddleworth school. With comments like this we can safely say Mrs Wolfenden's goal was well and truly achieved!!!!



- PRIDE IN OLDHAM AWARDS -

When we received the information about the Pride in Oldham Awards we were keen to nominate our Peer Mentors. In school they do an amazing job and have made such a difference to so many students.

After filling in the nomination form and supplying them with lots of evidence to show their impact, we

were excited to receive a letter explaining we had been shortlisted. We received an invitation to the ceremony and then had the hard choice of which students would represent this group.



On the 15th of November 2016, Alanna Rudd, Roshni Parmar-Hill, Amelia Emmerson and I had the amazing opportunity to represent the peer mentoring scheme which had been nominated for the 'Oldham Pride Awards'. Alongside Mr Milburn and Miss Cradock we were invited to a 3 course meal and an award ceremony at the Queen Elizabeth hall to celebrate being finalists for this amazing award.

To be nominated for the award itself was a huge achievement for the peer mentoring scheme as we have only been running for a year to help year 7s transition and make Saddleworth School a better environment for people to learn and thrive.

The awards evening was divided into different sections for different categories of awards, such as: Schools, business, group, professional award etc. Saddleworth School made it as a finalist along with Springbrook School and Lyndhurst primary.

It was tough competition but Saddleworth School peer mentors received the Pride of Oldham award for all of our hard work and dedication over the past year. We won the award for our helpfulness to the year 7's as they adapted to life at Saddleworth School, some of the things we did throughout the year were: the

kindness challenge, anti-bullying, giving Christmas cards to the elderly throughout the Saddleworth community, self-esteem, setting up a peer mentoring scheme at a school in Telford, the peer reading scheme which was set up and ran by Alanna Rudd, and much more. We will carry on with our old themes, but hopefully make them even better and try new things to help more people.

As the results were read from a golden envelope we were all shocked when we heard that the peer mentors had won, but also filled with joy. The award is a great achievement that the peer mentoring scheme can add to its on-going list of awards and achievements, such as the Diana award and the healthy schools award. As the peer mentors increase in size (from 20, to 80 peer mentors!) and adapt to the new changes we hope to carry on inspiring and helping people who need it over the years to come.

We have Miss Cradock to thank for setting up the peer mentoring scheme back in 2015. Miss did an amazing job dedicating a lot of her time and effort into helping us help and other people, we know that she will carry on inspiring people at her new school.

Lewis Fowden 10E

- MAKE YOUR MARK -

Understanding what is important to our students is key to our success. When we had a chance to take part in the Councils initiative titled 'Make your Mark' we naturally said yes. Students were asked to vote on the issues.

On the 11th November 2016 Members of Youth Parliament came together to debate and decide, at the UKYP House of Commons sitting, the issues to campaign on the year ahead. The issues debated were the top 5 issues via the 'Make your Mark' public vote.

The report details the results of the 'Make your Mark' from Oldham borough down to a school level.

Hi,

IT WAS GREAT TO HAVE THE SCHOOL TAKING PART IN THE MAKE YOUR MARK CAMPAIGN, THE RESULTS ARE IN AND A REPORT HAS BEEN CREATED, I HAVE ATTACHED THE REPORT TO THIS EMAIL

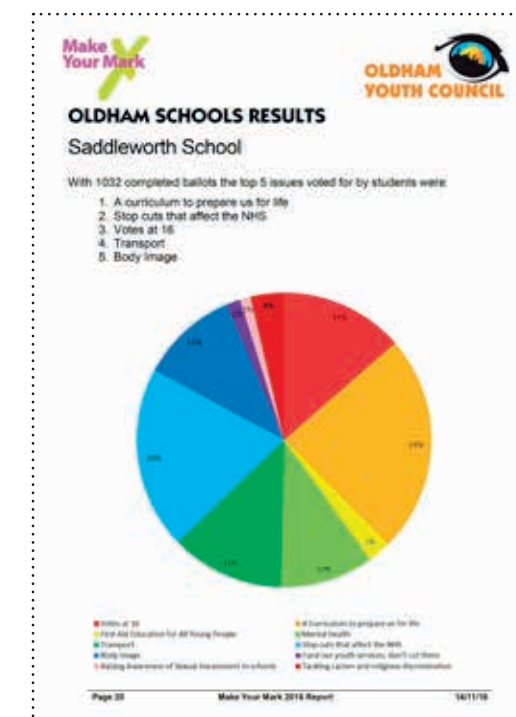
THANK YOU FOR TAKING PART IN THE CAMPAIGN!

AREETA IQBAL
YOUTH WORKER
INTEGRATED YOUTH SERVICES

For the issues that we are able to directly influence in school (number 1 and 5) we are working to follow this up through our year councils and curriculum work.

It is important to us that the students are given a voice and an opportunity to help shape their future. Each year group has its own year council made up of 2 representatives from each form. Congratulations to the successful students appointed for the academic year 2016-2017.

Thank you to **Alanna Rudd** for her article on body image.



- A B B A M A N I A -

by

Elise Siddqui

On Friday 7th October, Saddleworth School Pop choir had the honour of performing at the Manchester Opera House, in the professional show ABBA Mania, an ABBA tribute show. When we arrived at the theatre, we were allocated dressing rooms, where we absorbed the surreal atmosphere. The dressing rooms were equipped with fridges, fans, sinks and mirrors, and it was exciting to have a snapshot of life backstage! We spent the first half an hour arranging our belongings ready for the show, and warming up our voices for the rehearsal.

In the run through, we had a chance to work with some brilliant musicians, such as the guitarists, drummer and the fabulous four who were posing as the pop group, ABBA. It was great to see how rehearsals in a professional theatre show worked, and we all felt privileged to have been chosen to sing with some amazing instrumentalists and in such an amazing place.

After the practice, it was time to get ready for the show. We dressed in the regulation black and white costumes, fixed our make-up, and the singers in dressing room 12 – Eve, Lewis and Hollie – became the official ABBA Mania hairdressers, plaiting 99% of the choir's hair. However, nerves began to creep backstage as we entered the final countdown to the show.

As the first act began to start, we hurriedly began warming up, checking lyrics and making last minute costume adjustments. Finally, we were lining up outside the dressing rooms, heading down the stairs, waiting in the stage wings for our name to be announced...

The performance went like a dream. As we walked onto the stage, we were greeted by the approving roar of the audience,

excited to hear the stars of the show being accompanied by young vocalists. I had the honour of leading the whole choir onto the stage, and it was a thrilling but terrifying experience. It was amazing to see family and friends in the audience, as well as members of the public, who had paid to see skilled actors and singers as well as us. The first song we performed was Fernando. It was such a pleasure to sing out to an audience and hear our voices rise and fill the theatre. The crowd were wild and it was so much fun to sing with the band and the audience. Our second song was the lyrical song I Have a Dream. This was particularly exciting, because every single member of the choir had a chance to shine. Each individual voice was magnified above the others by a microphone at some point in the song, meaning everyone got a moment in the spotlight! When we reached the safety of the wings we could still hear the crowd cheering us!

After the interval, the choir was able to take a seat in the theatre to watch the rest of the show. We were the only ones in the circle, and were able to look down on the dancing and singing crowds. We all enjoyed singing along to some ABBA classics and having a good time. It was a truly unforgettable evening and a once in a lifetime opportunity. I really enjoyed the fantastic experience and thank you to the theatre for having us to sing. Thank you to the cast of ABBA Mania, the team behind it and the spectacular audience. Thank you to the staff that accompanied us to the theatre and supported us during the performance. Finally, a special shout out goes to Miss Radcliff, the singing teacher, who takes choir rehearsals every week and has put in so much effort into preparing us for the show. You are amazing Miss Radcliff and give so much to the music department. Thank you for making all of this possible!



ABBA MANIA commented on Saddleworth School's photo.

ABBA MANIA
5 October at 14:27

WE ARE SO EXCITED ABOUT THIS, YOU'VE BEEN A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH! WE KNOW HOW HARD YOU HAVE BEEN PRACTISING SO PLEASE JUST MAKE SURE YOU HAVE FUN, YOU'RE GOING TO BE GREAT! DON'T FORGET TO SMILE



THE
DIANA
AWARD



As a Diana Award School for our Anti Bullying work we are able to nominate a student that has gone above and beyond. Nominated students are submitted to the board and regional winners identified. We were extremely proud to receive notification of one of our students success and recognition.

AWARD HOLDER: **KIRSTEN FLETCHER**
CATEGORY: **DIANA ANTI-BULLYING CHAMPION**
ORGANISATION: **SADDLEWORTH SCHOOL**
TOWN: **OLDHAM**
REGION: **NORTH WEST**

Kirsten has not only raised the profile of anti-bullying, but inspired those around her to go beyond their own expectations. She has spent hours creating materials to spread the anti-bullying message both within her own school, and local primary schools, as well as delivering staff training and whole school assemblies, all of which have been hugely successful. Kirsten is a very positive role model for younger students and has inspired many to take up leadership roles within school, and further promote the anti-bullying message.

“ Last year I was a part of the Diana Award's national Anti-bullying Youth Board. It came with lots of opportunities for us to go to events and visit places that I never would have done without being a part of it - my favourite trip was Facebook Headquarters in Dublin.

Along with all the anti-bullying work I have been doing at school it was a great way to share ideas with the others. For all the work in school and part of the Youth Board I was awarded my Diana Award.

Kirsten Fletcher



- ACT OF KINDNESS -

Recognition & Rewards

We believe that the world will be a significantly better place if we encourage the spread of kindness in schools, communities and homes.

Kindness is contagious - it is truly a win/win/win situation. The person you are being kind to benefits through your help. You feel good for having helped someone. And the world is a better place through your kindness.

How great is it that random acts of kindness and good deeds can make someone else's entire day.

Kindness has a ripple effect that multiplies as it travels. Started by one the effects continue to touch many others, making a positive difference to their life. We would like to highlight special individuals, who through their acts of kindness have made a big difference to others.



SHANNON PILKINGTON, BEN AND TOBY KERSHAW

An example of why our students are so lovely. Having left school in the Summer the following students on the first day of term kindly popped in to donate their old uniform and PE kits.

LUCY CHAPMAN, LEAH TISSINGTON, OLIVIA CORNES, LAUREN YATES AND MAISIE REECE (and some mystery year 7 boys)

It is always nice to receive and hear how our students have shown an act of kindness, outside of school and within our community. Please see below a lovely email:



I felt that I had to let you know of mine and my fellow walkers experience with some of your pupils on Wednesday.

A group of 33 walkers, mostly pensioners, had just completed a 6 mile walk when we noticed the 184 bus passing us at Uppermill. We hurried along and your pupils saw us and they all stood aside to allow us all to get on the bus before them. They were all so friendly and polite.

We all felt that we could not let this act of kindness go un-noticed and thought that we wanted to let the school know that they were a credit to you.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Lang

Wednesday Walkers Walks Representative

We contacted them back to say thank you for taking the time to let us know and that we had identified some of the students in question to pass this on directly.
Well done girls.



JOSH WOOD

Mr Simkins who leads on the Key 103 Mission Chirstmas was very proud when he sent me the following :

Josh Wood 10D, who did a great deal of fund raising for Key 103 last year, has been to see me. His parents, who own Diggle fish and chip shop are willing to give 'chippy' vouchers as prizes! How wonderful not to mention delicious!



As well as his family's kind gesture to inspire others to be so thoughtful, Josh also took a lead collecting money from his year group to go and shop on their behalf for the project. Collecting over £200 he spent the weekend shopping on their behalf to donate to school. He also personally added an extra £60 to this to get even more.

ELEANOR WHITEHEAD

The admin and finance team were extremely touched when Eleanor Whitehead brought them a cake she had baked to say thank you for their help and support over the last term.



OLIVER TAYLOR

It was lovely to see GMP Saddleworth recognising the integrity of Oliver Taylor for handing in a wallet found and its money.



ADAM CARTWRIGHT

Adam came up with the idea of raising money for children in need by selling Meat and Potato pies to the teachers in school. He's named the idea "Friday nights Tea"!



It proved very popular with the busy staff and all were pledge in advance. I know staff have already requested to go on his list next time he is baking as they were so delicious.

GRAHAM UNSWORTH

A special mention to a member of staff, Mr Unsworth from the IT team. Having also suffered the tragic loss of a child, he and his wife kindly donated £500 to Tyrese's family to do something nice in his memory. He explained that the world is a cruel place as they are clearly very caring people who have already suffered lots.

The family were extremely touched by their generosity and kindness. They also appreciated the emotional support you gave to them when you met to help them through this difficult time.



DARCEY WHYATT & OLIVIA PATE

These two brought a smile to my face when they came to get permission to miss form from their Home School Leader, Miss Cook. When asked why they explained that they wanted to go and visit another form to take some pictures for a present they were doing. A little intrigued we asked more. They explained that their friend Rosie Naylor is currently in hospital and is not able to attend school.

They wanted to purchase a digital photoframe for her for Christmas and to fill it with pictures of all her friends, form and teachers as she missed them and school. How thoughtful and lovely of them. We are very proud of you girls.



MYSTERY YEAR 7'S BOYS

We were touched when Mrs Westwood rang to say a big thank you to some year 7 pupils. They had found her cat which had been lost, they rang her number off its collar and kept it till she arrived. She did not get any names but wanted to thank them for their compassion. We have tried to find the mystery students in question but sadly they didn't come forward.

YEAR 11 PREFECTS

We talk a lot in school about our humanising curriculum and the work we do on developing a sense of belonging and community. It is so lovely to receive such news as the letter below showing that it really is worth it.



Dear Mr Milburn,

A few weeks ago I was in Uppermill and needed to catch the bus to go home. I turned the corner onto High Street and saw two things — my bus approaching the stop and a long line of Saddleworth School students waiting to board the bus. I walked towards the back of the queue but was called by a prefect at the head of the queue. What happened next was very impressive; she and the other prefects made the queue part and I was the first on the bus. The pupils at the bus stop, especially the prefects, are a credit to your school and I wanted you to know how much they impressed me. I am a retired teacher so I know a bit about discipline and behaviour. It must be good to know that such a high standard of behaviour is being observed when students are off the school premises and out of teacher control. Very well done!

Yours sincerely,

Hilary Robinson

MILLIE CRICKETT

It was lovely to receive the following email from Kirsten Swift the Headteacher of St Agnes C of E Primary School.

‘I am writing to let you know that Millie Crickett a past pupil at St Agnes read a reading at our Christmas Carol Service last night. It was so nice of her to accept the invitation to do so, she looked extremely smart in her school uniform and conducted herself in a very professional manner. The staff were really proud of her and all are delighted to see that she is growing into a very competent young person.

Both myself and the staff would like to express our thanks to yourself and your staff for what a brilliant job you are doing in educating and preparing your pupils for the future.



On behalf of everyone at St Agnes we wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful 2017.’

- CHRISTMAS CONCERT -

It's the most Wonderful time of the year again and the vast array of hugely talented young musicians at Saddleworth School gave their annual Christmas Concert in what can only be described as a wonderful celebration of musical talent and variety.

show including fanfares, love songs, traditional music for strings, woodwind, brass and percussion – duets, soloists, quartets, chamber ensembles, choral music, pop bands, large scale ensembles and of course our wonderful guitar ensemble!

The concert started with a lovely rendition of 'The First Nowell' in an lavish arrangement by Stephen Tighe – its true what they say there is nothing quite like the sound of a brass band performing traditional music at Christmas time.

The String Ensemble were the next ensemble to feature in their tribute to the recently departed musical legend Leonard Cohen. The group's performance of 'Hallelujah' was thoughtful and emotive it is wonderful to see how the string department at the school is beginning to flourish and the string ensemble is a wonderful vehicle to showcase this instrumental development. A special thank you to Mrs Pickett, Mr Wadsworth and Mr Donald Clarke for performing and supporting the ensemble at the concert.

Our first soloist of the evening was year 9 vocalist Annalise Kingston-Taylor who chose to perform a laid back more relaxed version of the Amy Winehouse & Mark Ronson version of the Zutons classic 'Valerie'. Annalise proved exactly why she is one of the schools leading vocal students with performance that had real style.

Historically the communal singing at these Christmas events has had mixed results but tonight the audience were on fine form as everyone present joined the Brass Xplosion and School choir in three rousing verses of 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing'. Nearing this carols one-hundredth verse this Christmas season the young brass musicians and vocalists still managed to make the carol sound alive with a bold and confident performance.

Mr Adrian Smith our fantastic Percussion tutor took to the stage next with the Percussion Ensemble. The group gave a confident performance of Bobby Helm's 'Jingle Bell Rock' – the group played with great rhythm and it was lovely to see some students making their concert debut with the Percussion ensemble at the Christmas concert – hopefully the first of many.

The Saddleworth School POP choir have shown a new lease of life this academic year - something choir director Mrs Angie Radcliffe and the music team are keen to develop even further in the future. This progress is not merely a growth in numbers but a mu-

sical growth and an appreciation of musical quality. The choirs performance of 'O Holy Night' was beautiful and captured the Christmas spirit wholeheartedly gauging by the audience reaction and applause.

Mr Housley our resident Guitar guru was next to the stage with his army of guitarists to perform the first of their pieces in tonight concert 'Happy Chrsitmas (War is Over)'. This gigantic ensemble performed very well together and they are a real treat to hear at every concert – there is something captivating about the sound of a large guitar ensemble. Bravo everyone.

The woodwind ensemble directed by Mrs Pickett gave their rendition of a 'Christmas Medley' followed by 'Jingle Bells' demonstrating a lovely tone and featuring a very festive sounding Sam Smithies making a guest appearance with the nsemble on Sleigh Bells! Jingle Bell Jazz was a great addition to the programme allowing the brass quartet to demonstrate their versatility in switching styles.

Their swing playing is sounding great and the addition of the drum kit made the arrangement work just perfectly. The ensemble also performing more traditional foyer music as our guests for the evening arrived.

Year 11 star GCSE vocalist Molly Parkinson took to the stage to give yet another impressive vocal performance. The audience were given a special performance of 'When We Were Young' by the famous British pop sensation Adele. Molly gave a fantastic performance that displayed exactly why she was awarded an A* for her performance of this song in her recent GCSE mock exam.

The final soloist of the first half was year 8 brass student Chiara Eckersley. Chiara chose to perform the Czechoslovakian 'Rocking Carol' on her flugel horn and gave a confident performance that typified this young ladies musical progress so far this year. Chiara is a member of the Diggle Band, the Yorkshire Youth Brass Band, the Fodens Youth Band and is also a member of the National Childrens Brass Band of Great Britain. We are all certain that she has a bright future as a brass player and thank her for her wonderful contribution to the Christmas concert. To bring the first half to a close the concert band featured with their take on the Johny Markis classic 'Rock Around the Clock' – directed by Mrs Pickett the group gave a vibrant performance that was full of festive cheer! A special thanks must go to Mrs Walker and Mrs Roberts for the fantastic refreshments they served keeping everyone is mince pies and warm drinks! It wouldn't be Christmas without music by Leroy Anderson!

The Brass Xplosion got the second half under way in style with

the ever popular Sleighride. It's wonderful to see performers from years 8 and 9 taking this ensemble forward looking to the future, a special contribution to the ensemble has been the addition of Oliver Bates on drums and percussion – this young man is definitely one to watch in the future. The guitar ensemble returned with a tribute to the recently passed Greg Lake of Emerson, Lake & Palmer fame – 2016 has been such a dreadful year for the passing of some incredible musical artists. Yet again the guitar ensemble produced the goods in a tight performance that enabled each and everyone one of e to display their skills - wonderful to see the smiles on their faces as they played 'I Believe in Father Christmas'.

The final offering from the string ensemble was a descriptive account of the theme from 'The Snowman' by Howard Blake. The Timbre was very fitting as the ensemble played lyrically in the performance showing command of the composers intentions. This was a beatific addition to the concert, again showing just how this particular ensemble are developing.

Year 8 rock band "Deal With It" took to the stage and treated the audience to their take on the Shakin' Stevens classic 'Merry Christmas Everyone' - this group have worked tirelessly preparing for the Winter concert and Ther hard work paid off as they played and Sang their hearts out, a really great performance - well done Oliver Vance, Oliver Bates, Tom Mitchell and Ryan Connor.

A duet of duets followed next in the programme in two items that demonstrated exactly what music is about at Saddleworth School. Year 11 Hannah-Louise Siddiqui and Tear 10 Bridget Atkin gave the audience an expertly crafted performance of Adeles 'Turning Tables'- the emotion and musical interaction between the two star GCSE performers was a joy to see as they brought the Adele song to life in an instrumental form. Both Hannah-Louise and Bridget have led ensembles in the music department and been superb ambassadors for Saddleworth School. Bravo ladies.

The second of our duets was music from the musical "Oliver" by Lionel Bart - our duettists on this occasion have only been students at Saddleworth School since September and have made a real impression on music staff at the school. Year 7 students Daisy Dewsnap and Elliot Ward performed 'Where Is Love' beautifully- the pitch of this difficult song was performed with confidence, clarity and the audience loved the theatrical element to the evening - keep an eye out for these fabulous young performers in the future.

It wouldn't be a Saddleworth School CHRISTMAS Concert without the brass band playing their superb arrangement of Jonah Lewie's 'Stop the Cavalry'! Complete with a bold cavalry call by

year 8's very own Denzel Brown the band gave a wonderful and enjoyable performance and the audience joined in as principals Jeremy Knight and Sam Smithies played their roles within the ensemble perfectly.

Year 10 contains some truly remarkable musicians - Eve Matley & Rowan Heywood gave a very festive jazz inspired performance of 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas' the luscious piano accompaniment to the vocal melody line was just right showcasing both talented musicians. Our final soloist of the evening was year 9 student Maddison Potter-Farrants following Maddison's fantastic performance at the year 9 presentation evening some weeks ago this performance was hugely anticipated! Maddison's performance of Leona Lewis's 'One More Sleep' was so full of musicality for someone so young this young lady has bags of musical potential and great musical future ahead of her. The Year 10 BTEC musicians took to the stage to perform the Slade Classic 'Merry Christmas Everyone' following some recent memorable performances this talented group of students have a packed Christmas season with future performances at the Pensioners Party and also a notable upcoming performance at the Saddleworth School Pantomime – this group of musicians are growing in confidence every week as they work hard to develop their considerable musical skills.

And so we entered the finale of this year's Christmas concert... it was tie for some final audience participation in two congregational items to draw the concert close. The 12 Days of Christmas has now become a tradition at the Saddleworth School Christmas Concert- Mr Beckwith gets a vocal solo and the audience get to join in and have some festive fun! It must be said this year's sell out audience were absolutely terrific at getting involved throughout the evening and celebrating our talented young musicians achievements.

The final item was a grand rendition of the David Willcocks arrangement of 'O Come All Ye Faithful' complete with descants, majestic timpani rolls and fanfares with all the trimmings to see us into the Christmas break!

A huge BRAVO to everyone for all your hard work and dedication this term – it has been a cracker!!!



- L I T E R A C Y F E S T I V A L -

English Teacher, Miss Flint, organised a Writing Competition for Year 7 with the theme of 'Home'. The 10 winners, 1 from each form, were selected to go forward to the inaugural Saddleworth Literary Festival, organised by Graham Unsworth (IT Department) and Pam Byrne (School Governor) held at the Civic Hall, Uppermill on 1st-2nd October where the 10 finalists were judged by Award Winning Crime Writer, Leigh Russell.

The 10 finalists were:

7N: HASAN GHANEM
7A: IMOGEN COX
7V: JAMES COOK
7Y: HENRY TAYLOR
7E: PENNEY BECKWITH
7G: BLAKE MORGAN
7O: DAISY DEWSNAP
7L: AADAM MUSHTAQ
7D: MILLIE DICKINSON
7T: ERIN MCCORQUODALE

Leigh Russell praised the level of literacy in children so young and noted, from their use of grammar and language, that they all must enjoy reading.

After a difficult decision, one story stood out from the rest, a riveting tale of mystery and imagination, entitled 'The Girl Who Ran' by Imogen Cox of Year 7A.

In 2nd place was *Erin McCorquodale* for her wartime story – 'Reflection'

3rd place went to *Blake Morgan* for his enigmatic tale - 'Homework'

All 10 finalists received a £10 Amazon Gift Voucher, presented by author, Jan Needle, of Grange Hill and Tucker's Lot fame. In addition, Imogen, Erin and Blake

all received an engraved trophy.

The judges took time out to give constructive encouragement for each pupil to improve their writing skills and concluded the prize-giving with Leigh Russell reading the winning entry, 'The Girl Who Ran' to an appreciative audience.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable occasion and, being in the presence of such high-calibre writers, will stay in the pupils' memories for a long time.

This year, the first ever Saddleworth Literary Festival was held at the Civic Hall in Uppermill. The event was organised by Parish Council Chairman Pam Byrne and renowned author and poet Allan Graham. The event was held over two days, which were Saturday 1st October and Sunday 2nd October. The main purpose of the event was to promote literacy for all ranges of readers and writers and to inspire people to get into writing.

There were multiple authors, V.I.P's, poets, actors and even radio hosts participating voluntarily at the festival including: award winning crime writer Leigh Russell, Parish Council Chairman and church member at St. Chads church Pam Byrne, poet/stand-up comedian Marvin Cheeseman and Radio Manchester's very own DJ Mike Sweeney and those are only Four of Twenty Five main participants in the festival.

On both days there were five areas to take part in workshops, watch plays, partake in book signings and much more. There was something for young and old alike there. When asked about if there were any tips for young writers, Leigh Russell had this to say "Keep reading just read, read, read and always trust yourself when your writing, it really does help a lot"

Elliot Ward

- W E L C O M E -

At the start of October we were very happy to welcome our new Foreign Language Assistants who will be with us until the end of May. Here's what they have to say about themselves:



SARAH BOUDJADA

Hello everyone, my name is Sarah Boudjada and I am the new French Language Assistant.

I am 24 years-old and I am from Rennes, Brittany, in the North West of France. We have similar weather where I am from, so I feel at home here!

I used to play basketball for 10 years, and I have played volleyball for 6 years, both in France, and for the University of Manchester. I like walking and am always keen to discover great landscapes. I also enjoy watching films and TV series and I love cooking and especially baking. Maybe you will be able to try my famous crepes at some point this year!

This year in Saddleworth is really important for me as not only does it help me improve my English, but it will also help me to understand what it's like being a teacher in the UK, which is different to France. It is always good to discover different aspects of another culture, and I hope I will be able to give the pupils a taste of French culture!

We wish them a very happy and successful year with us here at Saddleworth!

Mrs Minihan



SEBASTIAN STEGER

Guten Tag! My name is Sebastian Steger, I'm 22 years old and I'm from Germany. I live near Augsburg in Bavaria and I am studying to become a teacher in Germany.

This school year I'm working as a Foreign Language Assistant at Saddleworth School. The programme has two major benefits: On the one hand I can support the teachers and help the pupils learning German (from the language itself to cultural aspects) and on the other hand I'm able to improve my English skills. Playing and watching football (I support FC Augsburg and Manchester United), running, hiking, walking my dogs, cooking, travelling and meeting up with friends or family are my favourite spare time activities.

I like it here very much so far! I'm enjoying living in England and working at school. I think it's a win-win situation for everyone!

- SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY -



Over 60 relatives and friends of the students and staff of Saddleworth School attended our Annual Senior Citizen's Christmas Party. Our guests were treated to a buffet lunch, entertainment provided by the 'Rock Band' and other performers and finally joined the Year 7 Christmas assembly.

It was a real treat for the students to plan and host the event. The food was prepared by the BTEC Jamie Oliver Cooking Skills group and was beautifully presented and served.

The students are a real credit to the school and the event was enjoyed by young and old alike!



“ WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE INVOLVED FOR THE LOVELY PARTY YESTERDAY. THE FOOD WAS DELICIOUS, THE ENTERTAINMENT MOST ENJOYABLE AND THE YEAR 7 CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY TRUE TO THE REAL MEANING OF CHRISTMAS. ALL THE PUPILS WE MET WERE COURTEOUS AND CHARMING - A CREDIT TO THE SCHOOL. VERY WELL DONE AND THANK YOU AGAIN. WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

The Smiths and Yarwoods



- CAROL SERVICE -

The second annual Saddleworth School Carol Service took place on Wednesday 7th December at St Chads Church in Uppermill. The beautiful surroundings of Saddleworth Church, as it affectionately known, are just perfect for such a lovely traditional event – a fantastic acoustic in which the music department enjoy showcasing our talented young musicians in the Saddleworth community.

The evening featured the traditional 9 lessons and carols service format with readings expertly executed by Elise Siddiqui, Bridget Atkin, Head Boy - Joe Wheeler, Abigail Williams, Lewis Fowden, Libby Collard, Reverend Canon Sharon Jones, Chairman of the Parish Council Pam Byrne and Saddleworth School's very own Head Master Matthew Milburn.

The wonderful festive music was supplied by the Saddleworth School Choir, Brass Xplosion, Brass Quartet and String Ensemble. The musical maturity on display on the evening was wonderful to hear – the musicians involved in the event demonstrated their talents with superb results. The choir sang with clarity and quality to support the communal singing of the carols with the audience and the Brass Xplosion performed the carols with majesty in the challenging arrangements by David Willcocks, a special mention and heartfelt thanks must go to Dr Eileen Bentley who yet again provided superb organ accompaniment to take these rousing Christmas Carols to another level.

Our featured soloist this year was year 10 oboist and GCSE musician Kirsten Fletcher. Kirsten performed the first movement of Corelli's Concert for Oboe in a setting for string ensemble that was arranged especially for the event by Mr Beckwith - this young lady has a bright musical future ahead of her and Kirsten performed beautifully on the evening to an appreciative audience.

The Saddleworth School Brass Quartet performed two pieces that suited the mood of the event perfectly; 'Pastime with Good Company' which is attributed to Henry VIII and 'Fanfare and Chorus' by the German Baroque composer Dieterich Buxtehude.

Both items demonstrated this talented young ensemble perfectly as they displayed a mature understanding of genre with musical balance. A special mention must go to Bridget Atkin for her performance on the evening leading both the Brass Xplosion and Brass Quartet with aplomb.

I feel we raised the standard from last year producing a really musical performance that showcased music at Saddleworth School perfectly. A big thank you and well done to everybody that took part in this special event that starts the Music Department's festive Calendar. BRAVO!

- FILL YOUR POTENTIAL -



Every day our students wear the Saddleworth logo on their blazer and we expect them to do so with pride. This year we would also like to ask them to earn their badge and demonstrate the pride they have being part of Saddleworth School.

We have looked on many occasions what we would want from our students in a perfect world, what qualities they would hold and how we could create resilient learners.

In wishing to create the perfect 'Saddleworth student' as someone who embraces all the opportunities offered, that takes ownership of their own learning and has a desire to fulfil their potential, we have developed a reward structure to encourage this.

You will notice from the image above, this is taking centre stage on the student planner. This will provide a constant reminder and a visual display to all their success. The key lines of the petals already there (like a sticker book) and students are given stickers as they earn them to show their achievement.

It is hoped that it will instil a sense of pride, a competitiveness to achieve and a drive to complete.

For many it will just be a chance to gain recognition for the skills and attributes not captured and measured by exam results. For others it will be a tangible means to encourage them to do the same.

Utilising the structure of our logo, there are 5 distinct categories to reflect the 5 petals. Under each petal heading there is a range of 10 ways in which they could fulfil this successfully. The broad range will allow every student to follow their own personalised pathway, utilising their strengths and interests.

Successful completion of all 5 aspects will earn students an enamel badge to wear on their uniform. This will be personalised to their year group so students are able to collect these over their years at school.

With a school motto of 'Aim High' we of course wish to encourage all students to do exactly that. To enhance the 5 petals they are asked to complete for their badge, they are offered the opportunity to receive a gold version of the enamel badge for successful completion of the arrows signified by the 'above and beyond section'. As you will notice these are not task orientated challenges that students are able to complete easily or in a single act. These are the things that are only achieved through continued hard work, commitment and effort. These are the things that make students stand out and that demonstrate their attitude to learning. All students receiving a gold enamel badge will be celebrated at Presentation evening.

Students will evidence their successful completion throughout the year in their planner. It will also play a part in their PDR presentations and their badges awarded at this time when they present to their member of staff and families.

COMMUNITY

We want our students to be considerate of others, whether that be our school community or our wider community.

The community element requires them to make a positive contribution within our community and to do something that benefits others.

- Raise £25 to support a charity
- Volunteer 10 hours of your time
- Take part in a community event
- Take part in an intra-school competition
- Represent school in a wider community project
- Regularly support someone in our community
- Take part in a charity event
- Help showcase Saddleworth School to our wider community
- Be nominated for an act of kindness
- Be nominated for a community award

LEADERSHIP

We wanted our students to be confident and resilient, to be able to take the role of a leader and the associated responsibility.

The leadership element requires them to do so within a supportive environment. We hope that it develops key fundamental attributes that will benefit them in any aspect of life.

- Lead an assembly or presentation to staff/invited audience
- Support a Primary event
- Complete a leadership award
- Take a role of responsibility in school
- Stand in a debate or vote
- Volunteer at a whole school event
- Complete 10 hours leadership experience
- Volunteer 10 hours to help support a school extra-curricular club
- Gain an officiating award
- Lead an event

ASPIRE

Our school motto is 'Aim High' and we want every single student to do just that. We want them to dream big and aspire to be the very best that they can.

The aspire element is designed to remind them of this and to help inspire them to achieve something special.

- Complete the University Progression Programme
- Attend a Business lunch
- Receive an award at Presentation evening
- Fulfil your PDR targets/good LOP
- Receive a subject award (effort, progress or improvement)
- Receive a Headteacher's commendation
- Have a piece of work published
- Take part in the Young Enterprise Programme
- Apply to a position of responsibility
- Complete a study development course

EXPERIENCE

Although academic achievement is the focus of all school we didn't want to lose sight of all the additional qualities that extra-curricular opportunities offer.

The experience element is designed to encourage students to take part in the wider life of school and create the wonderful memories that will stay with them.

- Represent School in a competitive situation
- Complete an outdoor challenge
- Go on a school trip/exchange
- Take part in a school production
- Complete a work experience placement
- Perform in assembly/debate
- Visit a show/gallery/museum/ sporting event
- Take part in a business enterprise/apprenticeship project
- Take part in a STEM project
- Attend a new activity for a minimum of 1/2 term

SKILL

Studies show that Colleges, Universities and employers are looking at more than just academic qualifications.

The skill element is designed to help recognise the attributes that will help them stand out. Not only will it provide them a chance to enhance their CV but will also show their commitment to learning a new skill and the dedication this requires.

- Commit to an extra-curricular activity for a minimum of a ½ term
- Commit to a Saddleworth Wednesday activity for a minimum of a ½ term
- Complete a first aid module
- Gain a nationally recognised skills award
- Successfully complete the Premier League Reading Stars programme
- Gain a subject recognition skill award
- Write an article for the school magazine or website
- Complete a visual project for display to improve the school environment
- Lead an interview/public speaking event
- Complete 25 hours of independent online study

- MRS HUGHES & 8D -



I would like to make a special mention to Mrs Hughes, form tutor for 8D. Determined every single one of her form would be successful in fulfilling their potential she decided they would complete the petals as a form. Together they looked at ways they could achieve each different petal and they set about planning these 5 opportunities. Amazing.



This term, our form 8D have been busy trying to collect all of our petals! At the beginning of the term, Mrs Hughes went through lists of ideas for things we could do to try and get each petal. One of the ways we have got so many is by raising lots of money for various charities.

In October, we hosted a Macmillan Coffee Morning, where we sold cakes and were amazed to raise £86! Recently, we have also brought in food to help people who are less fortunate than us and donate to Oldham Food bank. We have also made Christmas cards to send

to a local residential home and cheer up an elderly person's day. On Wednesday 14th December, we are also taking part in the 'Race for Life' at school and have all collected sponsorship money to help research Cancer cures.

Other things we have been involved in include reading a poem out at Presentation Evening, in tribute to member of our form, Tyrese Glasgow and helping out at Open Evening.

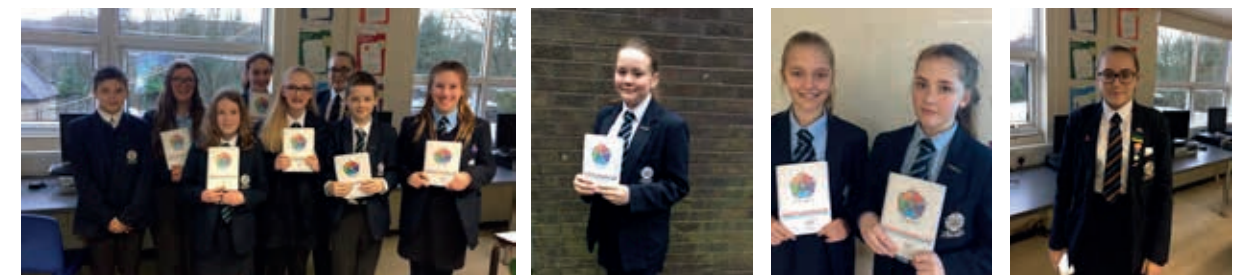
Tom Kelly

- STRIVING FOR GOLD -

For some students they absolutely relish every opportunity available in school. We have a number of students that have already filled their petals and are now striving for gold. Congratulations to you all and thank you for the difference you have made to school and the life of others.

Imogen Adam-Gibbs, Isabelle Anastasiou, Oliver Bates, Bridget Blecher, Sally Gibson, Madison Holt, Grace Illingworth, Aimee Jefferson, Hannah Kearney, Jack Kenyon, Jeremy Knight, Erin McCorquodale, Vistoria McWhirter, Eve Moynihan, Caoimhe Peshur, Freya Salisbury, Niamh Simpson, Jack Sinfield, Poppy Stafford, Joseph Taylor, Aimee Torr, Elliot Ward, Edward Warrington, Eleanor Whitehead and Joshua Wood.

The first student to complete this was *Hannah Kearney*.



HOW MANY HAVE YOU GOT?

We would hope that students at this stage in the year would have at least 2 of their petals. It is important that once you have evidenced these in your diary that it is verified by a member of staff. Once confirmed they will appear when you log onto your VLE. The coloured petals you have gained will be filled in on the logo on the top menu bar.

FREYA SALISBURY - SPOTLIGHT

I got all my petals really soon and all for many different reasons

COMMUNITY I got the community petal for taking a bag of food to school for school to take to the Oldham food bank.

LEADERSHIP I got the leadership petal for helping out in languages at open Evening and leading an activity

ASPIRE I got the purple petal when I was the office monitor helping at reception.

EXPERIENCE I got the blue petal for leading a bonfire safety assembly for year 8.

SKILL I got the green petal for making an electro magnet in science at home and then brought it in and it worked.

YEAR 8 MAKING A DIFFERENCE CHALLENGE

Mrs Blezard-Downs set her year group a challenge to make a difference for their community petal as part of Super Learning Day. This term they have all been busy doing just that.

Some examples of what they have done include:

- Collecting food for Oldham Food bank
- Baking cakes on Christmas jumper day for Save the Children
- Visiting a Retirement home to read and play games
- Making Christmas cards for the older generation in our community
- Holding a Christmas Fayre
- Lots of cake sales
- Designing the art work for Dance Factor
- Designing the art work for remembrance
- Halloween Sale
- Penalty Shot out
- Tin Can Alley Challenge
- Water fight

- SPORTS AWARDS -



October saw the PE department celebrate the many achievements of Saddleworth School students over the past 12 months through the annual sports awards evening.

It truly was an amazing experience to be able to reward so many students for all of their amazing work, dedication, talent and effort.

The PE department were given the impossible task of trying to find a performer of the year for each age group for the girls and the boys, a team of the year and the most worthy winner of our special awards. A task made even more difficult by the sheer volume of our

students who have gone above and beyond the realms of possibility.

We have students who not only compete regularly at not only regional, but national and international level.

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 as always is long and distinguished.



The PE department are also celebrating the success of last years, year 11 GCSE PE students who left with amazing results of 93% A*-C, the year 11 Btec Students who achieved 100% Distinction* - Level 2 pass and the Btec Dancers who also achieved a 100% D*- Level 2 Pass. A truly remarkable reflection of the hard work of all our ctudents.

The evening welcomed back former students Ben White and Ryan Maneely as guests of honour. Ben and Ryan are now professional, Full International Rugby League Players. Ryan was selected for the Scotland Squad for the four nation's tournament 2016 and Ben has been selected for the Germany squad.

The talent these two boys possess was clearly evident even in year 7 when the School rugby team won the Oldham Schools Cup, the North West Carnegie cup and were national semi-finalists. The boys continued to play Rugby for school all the way through their time at Saddleworth whilst also competing in the schools football, athletics and basketball teams despite their

gruelling schedule with their respective RL academies Warrington Wolves and Leeds Rhinos! Both boys were also capped for England at junior level. Ryan also finished top scorer for the school football team three years in a row and Ben was Oldham Schools 200m sprint Champion. Both boys were dedicated PE Students during their time at Saddleworth School studying GCSE PE and achieving highly and taking away a host of memories and life experiences that have set them on their path to International Rugby.

I don't think there can be a better way to inspire and empower our students than listening to the boys speak so eloquently about their time at Saddleworth and the journey they have been on so far. It really does go to show that if you have a dream and you are prepared to work hard you can achieve whatever you desire. I would like to take this opportunity to once again congratulate all of our winners and say only...

Keep up the good work!

and the winners are...

BROWN SHIELD WINNERS

Kate Leddy, Ruby Jones, Charlotte Bacon, Gemma Croft

PERFORMERS OF THE YEAR

Year 7 – ***Zach Eckersley and Sarah Gregory***

Year 8 – ***Thomas Moule and Kate Leddy***

Year 9 – ***William Marston and Yasmin Roebuck***

Year 10 – ***Elijah Wolstenholme and Daisy Shepherdson***

TEAM OF THE YEAR

Year 7 – ***Girls Netball***

Year 8 – ***Boys Rugby League***

Year 9 – ***Girls Rounders***

Year 10 – ***Boys Cricket***

DANCE

Progress – ***Ellie Wolfenden***

Achievement – ***Holly Brennan***

SPECIAL AWARDS

Extra Curricular – ***Mayah Hopkinson***

Leadership – ***Saif Saleem***

Effort – ***Roshni Parmar-Hill***

Achievement – ***Archie Casson***

Progress – ***Lucy Johnson***

Kevin Sinfield Prize – ***Ira Wall***

- RESULTS -

BADMINTON

Saddleworth Badminton teams have reached the Greater Manchester School Games Championships by winning the KS3 Girls, KS4 Girls, KS4 Boys and Runners-up in KS3 Boys, at the recent events held at the new Oldham Leisure Centre.



BASKETBALL

Year 7
v Radclyffe 10-33

CROSS COUNTRY

Girls Results:
Year 7: 3rd overall
Year 8: 2nd overall
Year 9: Oldham Schools' Champions
Year 10/11: Oldham Schools' Champions

Girls overall team place 1st



Boys Results:
Year 7: 8th overall
Year 8: 2nd overall
Year 9: 5th overall
Year 10/11: 2nd overall
Boys overall team place 2nd



Several of our pupils placed in the top 10 at the Oldham Schools' Cross-Country Championships and have now been selected to represent the town team, on Saturday 4th February at Heaton Park in the Greater Manchester Championships. Congratulations goes to the following pupils: Daisy Shepherdson, Abigail Williams, Lydia Kinsler, Lucy George, Nancy Holden, Ayla Hewitt, Kate Leddy, Zahra Mirza, Beth Speak, Isabelle Kowalczyk, Elise Siddiqui, Lila Robinson, Jacob Douglas, Greg Huntington, Ross Heald, Aidan Hall and Adam Jones.

FOOTBALL

Year 7
v Oldham Academy North 7-1
v Crompton House 2-2
v Royton and Crompton 7-3

Year 8
v Oldham Academy North 1-2
Knocked out of the cup by Fred Longworth, Wigan.

Year 9
v Crompton House 5-1

Girls U13 - won 3, drew 1, lost 1. Sophie Coates was our top scorer in that tournament and our player of night.

Girls U16 - undefeated all evening, player of night was Courtney Hopwood.



Staff
v Bluecoat
MOM Mr Twigg scoring a hat trick.

NETBALL

Year 7
We have been training hard and showing dedication on a Friday night. We start our matches in the new year. Good luck girls.

Year 8 White team
v Hulme 31-4
v Newman 9-1.

Year 8 Blue team
v Newman 9-8

U14's
Represent Oldham at the Greater Manchester competition.



U16's
Qualify to the NW regional round of the National Competition.



Senior Girls

Finalists at Oldham Schools Rally



RUGBY

Year 7
v Wade Deacon 22-6
v Beaumont School 14-12
Knocked out of the cup by St Peters.
Oldham Schools Festival Winners



Year 8
v St Marys 40-0
Oldham Schools Festival Winner



Year 9
Oldham Schools Festival Winners



Year 10

v St Peters and Pauls 26-18
Knocked out of the cup by Haydock.

Year 11
Oldham Schools Festival Winners
v St Peters and Paul 30-28



VOLLEYBALL

Year 10 girls team
Oldham Schools Champions



Year 10 Boys
Oldham Schools Runners Up



“
It's okay if you
try and fail but
it's not okay if
you fail to try
”

- O U R S P O N S O R S -

As we continue to grow from strength to strength we have made a promise that we will continue to get this printed so we can showcase our students achievement.

That said, it is an additional financial commitment we never had. To help us meet this we will be looking for local businesses to offer sponsorship in exchange for advertisement. With space starting at only £15 we hope this is something businesses of all sizes are able to take advantage of.

If you know anyone that might be interested please ask them to get in touch at: c.mcmurdo@saddleworthschool.org so we can send them a free business information pack providing more details.



- A D V E R T I S E H E R E -

