

Autumn
2011

Beech House News

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Reports

Enclosed with this newsletter you should find your child's report. The documentation provides a clear profile of your child's progress throughout the last academic term.

The staff and I have had the opportunity during the course of the last academic term to discuss individual children's progress with parents on a formal and informal basis. I hope many of you will continue to take advantage of our "open door" policy next term. Please contact the school immediately if you have not received your child's school report. I would ask you to return the receipt slip to the school office in the New Year.

School Awards

The following pupils have been appointed:-

Sub Prefects : Bushra Ahmad, Jennifer Garrity, Shakeal Mahmood and Joseph Winfield.

The following pupils have been made Form Captains for this academic year.

Reception - Harvey Mills,
Year 1 - Ibrahim Robinson,
Year 2 - Lucy Butterworth,
Year 3 - Daniel Rigg,
Year 4 - Adam Millington,
Year 5 - Ellie Roebuck,
Year 6 - Emily Cooper,
Year 7 - Umair Ahmad,
Year 8R - Max Atkins,
Year 8D - Libby Dunstan,
Year 9B - Joe Hamblett,

Art



We are delighted to report that Beech House School Art department achieved another successful year in the Independent Schools' Association (North West Region) Art Competition which took place at Greenbank School. This year's success was with two of our students in the under 16s Drawing competition:
First Place - Jennifer Garrity with "Eyes"
Runner Up - Ameer Mohammed Ali with "Flower"
Congratulations to them both.

Year 9H - Humza Hassan,
Year 10D - Raesah Shahid,
Year 10L - Matthew Leach,
Year 11G - Jennifer Garrity,
Year 11W - Aqib Hamid.
The Progress Awards are given to pupils who have excelled in attitude, behaviour and performance. The honours for the Autumn term went to :-
Nursery Maliha Choudhry
Reception Nishika Lakshmi Narayanan
Year 1 Zain Choudhry
Year 2 Zain Ahmed-Dar
Year 3 Nicole Healey
Year 4 Luke Butterworth
Year 5 Yusuf Siddique
Year 6 Emily Cooper

Staffing

This term saw the departure of Mrs Hortop after more than nine years, and Mrs Mills after more than 31 years at Beech House. We send them both our best wishes for the future.

The school would like to welcome Miss McGeoghegan who will be teaching in both the Senior and Upper Prep Departments.

GCSE Success

Belated congratulations go to Mrs Hawkins and the Year 11 boys from 2010. For the second year in succession Beech House was presented with a certificate for the Best GCSE Results achieved by Boys taking Business Studies at an English Independent School. The original notification failed to arrive by post, but better late than never. It is the third such award to be presented to the school in the past two years.

Rochdale Entrepreneur

A group of Year 10 pupils attended the Rochdale Young Entrepreneur event at Rochdale Town Hall. There they were put into teams with pupils from other schools in the borough and they worked in these teams during the day on a single business idea.

Junior Choir



The Junior Choir went to Asda in Rochdale to entertain the shoppers. They sang beautifully, undeterred by the cold wind blowing through the foyer! Many lovely comments were made about the very tuneful singing and an odd tear appeared in the eye of some of the more elderly customers. The pupils were then treated to a hot chocolate and biscuits in the cafe to warm up again.

Mad Scientist

The pupils of the Senior and Upper Prep have been both entertained, and in the process educated, by the 'Mad Scientist' who has been attending school on a weekly basis. The pupils learnt about such diverse topics as volcanoes and jellyfish. Their favourite activity, though, was the 'poppers', when they learnt about gravity. They were also given experiments to do at home.

British Young Naturalists

Once again the school reached the British Young Naturalists Finals. This year it was a special year as it was the 25th Anniversary of the Award. The Senior pupils were runners up for the third time in succession. The Key Stage Two pupils were also runners up for the second time in three years. Both groups took home two more beautiful certificates of merit. The Year 6 project was entitled 'Save our Trees', where the class compared trees along Manchester Road with those found in the woods behind school. At Key Stage Three Anusia and Raeesah studied 'Bees' over the summer holidays.

SPEECH NIGHT

A full Town Hall saw the Mayor of Rochdale, Councillor Alan Godson and the Mayoress, Gillian Brown, present the awards to the deserving pupils. Year on year the programme gets longer as the number of trophies, medals and certificates increases. On the sporting front the school was successful in fourteen out of the eighteen sports on offer. The academic awards matched this with success in many curriculum areas.

Harvest Festival

The Bishop of Middleton attended the Harvest Festival celebrations at both the Senior and Upper Prep, and the Lower Prep assemblies. The produce donated by parents was given to Petrus to help the homeless of Rochdale.

WorldSkills

Along with London Mayor Boris Johnson and Business Secretary Vince Cable, a group of 28 pupils and 3 staff visited WorldSkills London 2011 in October. The WorldSkills London 2011 Competition saw almost a thousand young people battle it out to be the best of the best in a range of vocational skills, ranging from dress making and cooking to web design in the largest international skills Competition the world has ever seen.





Meet the MP

'Question Time' took place when Rochdale MP Simon Danczuk visited the school. The senior pupils were given a talk on the role of an MP which was followed by a question and answer session. The pupils asked many relevant and topical questions, to which Simon Danczuk responded with frank and thought provoking answers.

Science

Year 9H went to the MOSI to be given this year's topic for the Science Museum London project. They had a team building exercise and games with a 'punk science' lecture. All this was followed by a 4D theatre film. Hard work is to follow next term to produce a sculpture which represents Science and Journalism.

Merits and Rainbow Awards

In the Senior Department the following have been awarded 20 merits and received their Bronze Certificate : Umair Ahmad, Rudi Worth, Haider Hussain, Hashim Khawaja, Libby Dunstan, Zahra Naqvi and Josephine Stansfield. Rainbow Awards are given to pupils in the Lower Prep depending on the number of House Points they obtain. There are two winners of the Red Award for 50 House Points. They are Lucy Butterworth and Ateeq Ur Rahman.

Old Boys

Some of our ex-students, who progressed to Sixth Form in 2009, have now moved on this year to pastures new:-
Courtney Brook: Gained A levels in Sociology, Psychology and Media Studies.

Ayesha Mahmood: Gained A levels in English and Law.

Hannah Sultan: Gained A levels in IT, Law and English. She is now studying International Law at the University of Sheffield.

Fiona Williams: Gained A levels in Law, Sociology and Psychology. She is now studying Law at the University of Leeds.

Gabrielle Wilson: Gained A levels in Dance, English Language and English Literature. She is now studying English Literature at York (St John) University.

News on some 'Older' pupils :

Paul-Michael Jones is to play Johnny Castle in the fastest selling musical tour of all time, the stage version of Dirty Dancing.

Yasin Gauer is in the second year of his business course and will complete the third year of his degree at Manchester University.

Lauren Birkin continues to excel at hairdressing, recently winning a stylist award.

Open Evening

The Open Evening was well attended as prospective parents and their children from a wide range of year groups viewed the school. Many thanks to the pupils who stayed behind to act as guides and were great ambassadors for the school.

Poetry

The Nursery and Reception classes visited Rochdale Central Library in the Wheatsheaf Centre. They had a group story-time with Ray the children's librarian and selected some books relating to our topic 'People who help us' to bring back to school. All children were exceptionally well-behaved and several passers-by stopped the staff in the town centre to comment on how smart the children looked in their uniforms.

Big Bang

Jackson Cowie visited the Sellafeld stand at 'The Big Bang North West' in Liverpool, where he entered their competition. He managed to win a Brainstorm 'Day & Night Globe' for the school, after correctly answering the competition questions.

Friends of Beech House

In November FOBH put on a Henna and Body Shop Party. Both pupils and staff enjoyed a few nibbles and drinks whilst having their hands beautifully decorated in Henna and watching Mrs Durrans who was getting a facial. A good night was had by all. Back at school the Body Shop Raffle was won by Shah Hussain Year 10D. By the time you read this newsletter, the Laser Quest and bowling night, and distribution of the Friends of Beech House selection boxes will have taken place. The Winter Fayre took place after the Lower Preparatory Christmas performance again this year, and I am sure you will agree the Senior pupils were an asset to the School supporting the stalls.

Parents' Evenings

These will be taking place during the Spring Term. Letters will be sent home inviting parents to make appointments with staff. Should these go astray, they are posted on the school website.

Fire Brigade

The Nursery & Reception children enjoyed a visit to the Greater Manchester Fire Service Museum in Rochdale, as part of their learning about 'People who help us stay safe'. The children toured the museum in groups, looking at fire engines, equipment and uniforms from days gone by and enjoyed trying on various firefighters' helmets for size! The visit ended with an opportunity for the children to try their hand pumping out water through a hose – great fun on a hot, sunny day!

Oh Yes She is!

Olesia Tomkinson (10D) has been chosen to dance in the forthcoming pantomime 'The Wizard of Oz' at Rochdale's Gracie Fields Theatre. Starring alongside Olesia, to name but a few, are Kirsty-Leigh Porter of 'Emmerdale' fame, as Dorothy, the 'legend' Ken Morley, who once played the mischievous Reg in 'Coronation Street', Gareth Oliver from 'Britain's Got Talent' and Aaron Sidwell who many will know as Steven Beale from 'Eastenders'. Olesia will dance in 6 shows between 24th and 31st December, alongside other 'amazing dancers'. Good Luck to OlesiaBeech House has got talent!

Shakespeare

Anusia Battersby participated in the BBC Off By Heart Shakespeare Regional Heat held at the Lowry. Anusia chose to recite a passage from 'A Midsummers Night's Dream'.

Safeguarding

Year 6 visited Crucial Crew in Bury as part of our Keeping Safe curriculum. They took part in a range of different problem solving activities given by the Police, Fire Brigade and Railway Police. They all enjoyed the day, especially the 'freebies' at the end! Year 3 and 4 were given a presentation about Road Safety. They were taken outside and shown the correct way to cross the road safely. They finished with a presentation about how to be safe as a pedestrian.

British Safety Council

Some of our Year 11 students have recently gained a British Safety Council Entry Level Award in 'Hazard Awareness in the Workplace'. I am sure you will join us in congratulating them. They are: Shakeal Mahmood, Matthew Goss, Harrison Kinder, Ameer Ali, Arifah Tahir, Lydia Nightingale, Bethany Moat, Jessica Timperley and Rabia Tahir.

Economics

Year 11 Economics pupils were invited to Rochdale Town Hall, along with prominent members of the business community, to hear a talk given by the Chief Economist at the Royal Bank of Scotland. The talk was followed by a question and answer session.

Public Speaking

The Key Stage 3 & 4 teams entertained members of the Chadderton and Oldham Rotary Club at the Bower Hotel in preparation for next term's 'Youth Speaks' competition.



Rochdale in Bloom

The School won the Gold Award for the Rochdale in Bloom 'Design a Poster' competition, which was completed in June 2011. The 'Township in Bloom' competition is an annual event in which Rochdale Township competes against others, including local challengers Bury and Heywood, to showcase their horticultural achievements.

Charity

Pupils on 'Jeans for Genes Day', were able to wear non-uniform for the day. A total of £ 256.60 was raised. Year 8 pupils were baking cakes every weekend to provide the hungry masses with sweet treats. They managed to raise £112 for Get Kids Going, the charity Mrs Grange will be running for in the 2012 London Marathon.

Book Fair

Many thanks to all the parents and pupils who supported the Book Fair held at the school. A total of £689 was raised. The Book Fair competition winners were: Harry Ashton, Jimmy Dalziel, Sara Karim and Emily Cooper. Each child won a book based on their history topic.

Speech Night Success



Swimming

ISA North of England

The Beech House School Senior Swimming Team travelled to the Liverpool Aquatic Centre for the Independent Schools North of England Swimming Finals.

The school picked up 6 individual medals and were runners up in four relay races.

Individual.

Silver Medallists

U20 Boys

Backstroke - Alex Hannay

Freestyle - Daniel Matthews

U14 Boys

Backstroke & Freestyle - Jack Cryer

Bronze Medallist

U20 Boys

Breaststroke - Joe Winfield

U14 Girls

Backstroke - Amy Platt

Team

Silver Medallists

Under 20

Boys Freestyle & Medley Relay

Matthew Goss, Harrison Kinder,

Alex Hannay & Joe Winfield

Under 14 Girls

Freestyle & Medley Relay

Olivia Rigg, Natalie El-Hage, Amy

Platt & Yolanda Cruz

The boys were placed 3rd and the

girls 6th in the North of England.

Ski Champion

In September, Team Beech House were proud to announce that British Indoor and European Indoor Mini's 1 Champion Daisi Daniels will be joining the Team Evolution Programme for the 2011/12 season. Daisi is an athlete of amazing potential, identified by Team GB Olympic star David Ryding as "the most promising Mini on the British scene right now" and marked by her coaches as a huge talent. After taking home the British & European Minis Indoor Titles in 2010, Daisi successfully defended her stake as the fastest Mini in Britain with another victory in the 2011 competition, as well as claiming 1st place in the AngloScottish, InterSchools and BARSC British Championships, all held in various resorts across France.

Independent Schools Gala

The Independent Schools Prep Gala, held each year in Rochdale, produced eight individual medallists for Beech House. They were :

Grace Prime - U 10 Backstroke - Gold

Natalie El- Hage – U 11 Backstroke - Bronze

Callum Salford – U 9 Breaststroke – Bronze

Adam Millington – U10

Breaststroke – Gold

Natalie El- Hage - U 11

Breaststroke – Bronze

Luke Butterworth – U9 Freestyle – Bronze

Adam Millington – U 10 Freestyle – Silver

Daisi Daniels - U10 Freestyle – Bronze

The school also picked up a silver in the U10 Medley Relay and team bronze in the U9 Freestyle and U10 Freestyle relays.

Beech House was placed fourth in the smaller schools event. The final scores were :

1st Forest Park – 93

2nd Farrowdale – 82

3rd Firwood Manor - 75

4th Beech House - 50

5th Clarendon Cottage - 38

Senior Rochdale Championships

The School produced another large haul of medals and three individual Rochdale swimming champions in the Senior Schools Swimming Gala, held at Middleton Arena. The school became Rochdale Team Champions in two events. In addition we won 3 individual Silver medals, 4 individual Bronze, 2 team Silver and 2 team Bronze. They were :-

Alex Yiatrou – U12 Backstroke – Bronze

Aston Buckley – U13 Backstroke – Bronze

Victoria Burnett – U13 Backstroke – Silver

Jacob Wright – U15 Backstroke – Silver

Alex Yiatrou -U12 Breaststroke – Gold

James Hart -U13 Breaststroke – Silver

Harry Hayden -U15 Breaststroke – Silver

Yusuf Seoud – U12 Freestyle – Bronze

Jack Cryer - U13 Freestyle – Gold

Grace Prime - U14 Freestyle - Bronze

Daniel Matthews - U15 Freestyle – Gold

The relay team of Alex Yiatrou, Yusuf Seoud,

Sam Clutton and Rudi Worth were Rochdale

Champions in the 4x25m Medley Relay and

silver medalists in the 4x25m Freestyle Relay.

Aston Buckley, James Hart, Jack Cryer, Rudi

Worth (Alex Yiatrou) were silver medalists in the

U13 4x25m Medley Relay and Rochdale

Champions in the 4x25m Freestyle Relay. The

U15 team of Harry Hayden, Alex Hannay, Jacob

Wright and Harrison Groome, the U12 team of

Olivia Rigg, Grace Prime, Megan Klymowec and

Natalie El-Hage, and the U15 team of Olesia

Tomkinson, Amy Fryer, Victoria Burnett and

Olivia Rigg were all bronze medalists in their

relay races.

The school were placed third in both the U12

and U13 events. The U15 team were placed

fourth and the U14s fifth overall.

Water Polo

Beech House competed in the ISA North of England area mini water polo championships held in Rochdale.

Beech House A

v Beech House B lost 0:10

v Clarendon Cottage lost 0 : 4

v Greenbank A lost 0 : 5

v Greenbank B lost 1 : 8

v Prenton lost 0 : 2

Beech House B

v Beech House A won 10 : 0

v Clarendon Cottage won 6 : 2

v Greenbank A lost 0 : 5

v Greenbank B lost 0 : 8

v Prenton lost 0 : 6

Beech House B were placed fourth and Beech House A were sixth in the competition.

Soccer

Boys

Under 9 Friendly

v Huddersfield (h) lost 0 : 7

Under 11 Friendly

v Broadfield (a) won 5 : 1
v St John's (a) lost 1 : 4
v St James (a) lost 1 : 3
v Prenton (h) lost 6 : 10
v Huddersfield (h) lost 3 : 12

Under 11 ISA Cup

v Bridgewater (h) lost 0 : 18

Under 14 League

v Southern Cross (a) lost 4 : 8
v Shaftesbury (a) won 4 : 2
v Brownhill (a) won 10 : 0

Under 14 Rochdale League

v Holy Family (a) lost 1 : 6
v Wardle (h) lost 1 : 4

Under 15 Rochdale League

v Holy Family (a) lost 1 : 4

Under 16 League

v Rossendale (a) won 13 : 4
v Shaftesbury (a) drew 3 : 3

Girls

Under 14 League

v St Cuthbert's C lost 0 : 1
v St Cuthbert's B drew 0 : 0
v Holy Family won 4 : 0
v Hollingworth lost 0 : 3
v Siddal Moor lost 0 : 2
v Middleton lost 0 : 2

Rowing

Congratulations go to Cecily Morgan and Daniel Charlson who both picked up bronze medals in the under 14 and under 16 events of the Rochdale Schools Indoor Rowing Championships.

Handball

U11 Tournament

v St John's lost 1 : 5 v St James lost 0 : 6
v Broadfield won 2 : 3

U14 Girls Rochdale Finals

v Middleton lost 0 : 6 v Siddal Moor lost 1 : 5
v Holy Family drew 3 : 3

U16 Girls Rochdale Finals

v Siddal Moor lost 0 : 2 v St Cuthbert's lost 0 : 1
v Holy Family lost 0 : 1 4th Place

U16 Boys Rochdale Finals

v Siddal Moor lost 0 : 1 v St Cuthbert's lost 0 : 1
v Holy Family lost 2 : 3 v St Anne's won 1 : 0
4th Place

Friends of Beech House Christmas Bowling



House Points

The Combined Lower Prep and Upper Prep House Point totals this term are as follows:-

Neptune = 946 Mercury = 942
Saturn = 829 Jupiter = 716

House Cross Country

Senior

The overall point scores are:

1st Mercury 30 2nd Jupiter 20
3rd Neptune 15 4th Saturn 13

Senior

The overall points scores are:

1st Neptune 28 2nd Mercury 26
3rd Jupiter 23 4th Saturn 21

Netball

Under 11 Friendly

v St Michael's (a) lost 4 : 6
v Prenton Prep (h) lost 0 : 5
v St James (a) lost 0 : 21
v Huddersfield (h) lost 0 : 12

Under 11 League

v Bamford (a) drew 4 : 4
v Smithybridge (a) lost 0 : 29

Under 14 Friendly

v Kingsway (a) won 19 : 0
v Hulme Hall (a) lost 9 : 12
v Abbeygate (a) won 12 : 3

Under 14 League

v St Cuthbert's (a) lost 0 : 1
v Oulder Hill (a) lost 1 : 25

Under 15 Friendly

v Abbeygate (a) won 9 : 3

Under 16 ISA North of England

v Scarisbrick won 6 : 2
v Hillcrest lost 5 : 10
v Cransley lost 1 : 11
v Tower College won 6 : 3
v The Grange lost 1 : 9
v Hulme Hall lost 1 : 8
v Abbeygate lost 0 : 6
Final Position 6th Place

Basketball

Under 14 Friendly

v Huddersfield (a) won 40 : 10

Under 14 League

v Highfield (h) lost 2 : 3

Under 16 League

v Highfield (h) lost 28 : 30

Cross Country

In the Rochdale Senior Cross Country Championships Jackson Cowie finished in fifth place in the Year 11 event. Next term's ISA North of England Finals will be hosted by Beech House School for the first time.