

Autumn
2018

Beech House News

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Education Business Awards

Susie Dent, the regular lexicographer from Countdown, joins the long list of celebrities to have the pleasure of the company of Beech House School's Principal, Mr Sartain, at the Education Business Awards. She joins Sharron Davies MBE, Konnie Huq and Vic Goddard. For the fourth time in five years the School was short listed at this prestigious event. It was held, as usual, at the Grange Hotel, St. Paul's, London. This year the school was nominated for the 'School Arts and Craft Award'. This is awarded to the educational establishment in the UK that provides a first-class learning environment for students of art and craft. Once again, the school was joint runners up, this time to King's Ely, Cambridgeshire.



The Principal collecting the award from Susie Dent

Health Issues

It is vital that parents inform the school of any changes to their child's health. This will allow the School to update its medical documentation. Staff would then be aware of any current issues or concerns. If any medication is to be given during school hours, either by the staff or self-administered, a Care Plan and Consent to Administer Medication form must be completed by the parents prior to this taking place. The Care Plan will be updated if there are any changes in medication. All medication must be kept in the School office.

Merits and Rainbow Awards

This term the following pupils in the Senior department have been awarded the Bronze Level for 20 merits: Jannat Khan and Haniah Zulfiqar. In the Upper Prep the Ruby Award is earned by those with 50 House Points. The winners this term are: Imaan Afzal and Lauren- El Hage. Maha Afzal, Khadijah Bygrave, Anas Farid, Eesa Ghalib, Amelia Gorton-Rigg, Mariam Mahmood, Muzaynah Raja, Yusuf Rizwan, Harris Sheikh, Eesa Siddiqu and Eesa Tahir have all earned their Red Rainbow Awards in the Lower Prep.

Reading Stars

This term's winners are Khadijah Bygrave, Ihsaan Al Haqq and Roman McInnes.

School Appointments

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

Year 11C - Armaan Ansari
 Year 11S - Luke Butterworth
 Year 10A - Tasmin Ali
 Year 10H - Humna Munir
 Year 9M - Nina Zebedee-Howard
 Year 9P - Joshua Scotti
 Year 8C - Yasin Ansari
 Year 8D - Harun Sharif
 Year 7A - Aaron Waddington
 Year 6 - Grace Pountain
 Year 5 - Imaan Afzal
 Year 4 - Yumna Rana
 Year 3 - Avalee Sullivan-Manders
 Year 2 - Evie Wallet
 Year 1 - Gabriella Nangle
 Reception - Maha Afzal

As part of the School's mentoring, forms in the Upper Prep and Senior Department have Year 11 monitors.

This year they are:

Y3 - Maya Servio
 Y4 - Maisie Greenwood
 Y5 - Elana El-Hage
 Y6 - Fiza Sharif
 7A - Emelia Cooper
 8D - Jessica Bennett
 8C - Rebecca Burnett
 9M - Madeleine Jackson
 9P - Mia Greenwood
 10A - Ellie Jenkison & Amy Hanson
 10H - Hira Iqbal & Armaan Ansari

Progress Awards

The Progress Awards are given to pupils who have excelled in attitude, behaviour and performance. The honours for the Autumn Term went to:

Nursery - Maya Ghalib
 Reception - Maha Afzal
 Year 1 - Mohammad Sami Hussain
 Year 2 - Yusuf Rizwan
 Year 3 - Yahya Tahir
 Year 4 - Yumna Rana
 Year 5 - Charlie Cornell
 Year 6 - Anais Aston

Holocaust



The Senior School were captivated by testimony from Holocaust survivor, Tomi Komoly, as part of a visit organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET). The testimony was followed by a question and answer session to enable students to better understand the nature of the Holocaust and to explore its lessons in more depth. The visit was part of the Holocaust Educational Trust's extensive Outreach Programme,

Ms Savazzi said: "It is a privilege for us to welcome Tomi Komoly to our school and his testimony will remain a powerful reminder of the horrors so many experienced. We are grateful to the Holocaust Educational Trust for co-ordinating the visit and we hope that by hearing Tomi's testimony, it will encourage our students to learn from the lessons of the Holocaust and make a positive difference in their own lives."

Karen Pollock MBE, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust added: "The Holocaust Educational Trust educates and engages students from across the UK, from all communities about the Holocaust and there can be no better way than through the first-hand testimony of a survivor. Tomi's story is one of tremendous courage during horrific circumstances and by hearing his testimony, students will have the opportunity to learn where prejudice and racism can ultimately lead. At the Trust, we impart the history of the Holocaust to young people, to ensure that we honour the memory of those whose lives were lost and take forward the lessons taught by those who survived."

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 many 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.

Apprentice Challenge



During the last academic year Nina Zebedee-Howard, Grace Egerton, Issabella Chapman, and Sophie Wilkinson participated in an entrepreneur fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support. They chose this charity as it is very close to their hearts, as some of their close family members have been affected by cancer. Local business in Greater Manchester contributed to our endeavour by donating confectionery goods for the challenge. They came up with the name Sweet Tooth because it fitted brilliantly with what they were selling. During the planning weeks there was a lot of hard work, dedication, and time spent developing their project. They sold their goods to the whole school including the Prep pupils. They offered their products to pupils and parents at breaks, lunches, and after school. Pupils made a massive contribution towards our fundraiser. Parents also made a contribution by buying raffle tickets for a chance to win a sweet hamper. Teas and coffees were also sold on Sports Day to help.

Overall, they raised £700 and are extremely thankful to the pupils, parents, and teachers for all of their support and contributions. A special thanks to Rose Tipton for visiting our school on behalf of Macmillan, to be presented with the cheque.

Parents Evenings

These will be taking place during the Spring Term. Letters to Year 3, Year 4 and Year 7 have already been sent home inviting parents to make appointments with staff. Should these go astray, they, along with all other letters that are sent home, are posted on the School website.

Book Fair

Many thanks to all the parents and pupils who supported the Book Fair held at the school. The event raised an outstanding £539.20.

Into Film Festival

As part of the Into Film Festival, the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children travelled to the Odeon Rochdale to watch Peter Rabbit.

The Upper Prep Department enjoyed their film, which was Hironmasa Yonebayashi's *Mary and the Witch's Flower* which followed the adventure of a young witch called Mary

The Senior students enjoyed watching 'Star War'. Some of us; however, were a bit lost on the plot, especially Mr Dowland who was confused why Darth Vader was still alive! We really should have told him to watch episodes 1-7 first!

Lower Prep English



As part of their English work, the Lower Prep have been learning to write letters. They put this to good use writing to Father Christmas. The students then took this one stage further and posted them at the post box. Let's hope their wishes and hopes are successful.

They will be waiting with baited breath on the morning of 25th December!

History



Years 1 & 2 are very fortunate to have been loaned some real Victorian toys this half-term. They have greatly enjoyed looking at, touching and very carefully playing with these artefacts which included metal hoops, wooden ball and spoon toys and even a flying gymnast!

They created some observational drawings of the toys and were very sad to have to return them, although many children have now been inspired to bring in old toys from their relatives to share with us. With special thanks to Touchstones Rochdale and to our all of our families.

Year 6 also took advantage of this scheme.

'We had a loan box in school. Inside there were lots of Victorian artefacts, we had a look at all of the artefacts and guessed what they were. There were a lot of things I didn't know the name of and I had never seen before. Many of the items were used for weird and strange things like, the "Gazunder." This went under a child's bed so they could go to the toilet in it. Another item was a pair of "clogs." They were a big heavy pair of shoes that working class Victorians wore, the rich wore softer shoes which were much comfier than the clogs.

by Grace Pountain.

Year 3 and 4 have been studying the Ancient Egyptians this term and have had the pleasure of exploring a Touchstones loan box. Pupils were able to get a close-up look at replica artefacts such as a set of canopic jars, and busts of various pharaohs and gods, which proved to be a fascinating experience. The clear favourites among the treasure in the box were a beautiful beaded necklace, not dissimilar to those royal women would have worn, and an Ancient Egyptian costume. A big thank you to Touchstones for helping bring the Ancient Egyptians to life!

FBH Halloween Pumpkins



The Lower Prep masks

Beech House School celebrated Halloween by pupils participating in a "Mask Decorating" competition. They were all very scary and Year 10 pupils found it very hard to choose winners on the Upper Prep department. The winners were:

1st place Rayan Hussain & Rayhaan Shoaib
2nd place Zidan Illahi & Sarim Khattak
Runners Up Jasmine Salman, Lauren El-Hage, Harry Hurst Grover, Yumna Rana & Camilla Zebedee-Howard

The Lower Prep had their Halloween assembly, where the children looked at the pumpkins that they had carved in class and some of the children displayed the masks they had decorated at home. The children loved showing off their masks to everyone and were very excited when Mrs Collier and Miss Pickles started to judge who was the scariest. They chose the 4 scariest masks to win the prizes.

1st - Mariam Mahmood, 2nd - Eesa Ghalib, 3rd - Maya Ghalib and 4th - Arabella Hey

Speech Night

A full Town Hall saw Mrs Meg Gillett present the Academic Awards to the deserving pupils. The Deputy Mayor of Rochdale, Councilor Billy Sheerin. The Deputy Mayoress of Rochdale, Mrs Lynn Sheerin presented the School awards.

Old Boys

Noah Dench is studying Sport Science and Jacob Dench Psychology at Newcastle University. Zara Ayton has just completed her Masters in Mental Health in Nursing. Shakiel Mahmood has just completed his degree in computing and is starting his Masters in Cyber Security.

Art

The Independent Schools Association North of England Art Competition is held annually, and this year it was held at Greenbank School. It is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our students' art work and skills. We at Beech House School would like to congratulate all our winners for another successful year.

First place:

Art 3D Group: Key Stage 2: Year 3 The Twits
Fashion & Accessories: Key Stage 2: Sami Hasan - Slipper
 Key Stage 3 Nicole Healey – Fashion Top
Drawing: Key Stage 3 Nicole Healey -Ballerina

Second Place:

Drawing: Gabrielle El-Hage - Mark Making Hand
Art 3D Group: EYFS Octopus
Art 3D Group: Key Stage 1: Sea Life
Art 2D Group: EYFS: School Girl

Third Place:

Art 3D – Group EYFS: Hot Air Balloon
 Key Stage 1: Crock
 Key Stage 2: Mummy

Art 2D Group Key Stage 1: Butterfly
Fashion & Accessories Key Stage 3: Izzy Chapman: Unicorn

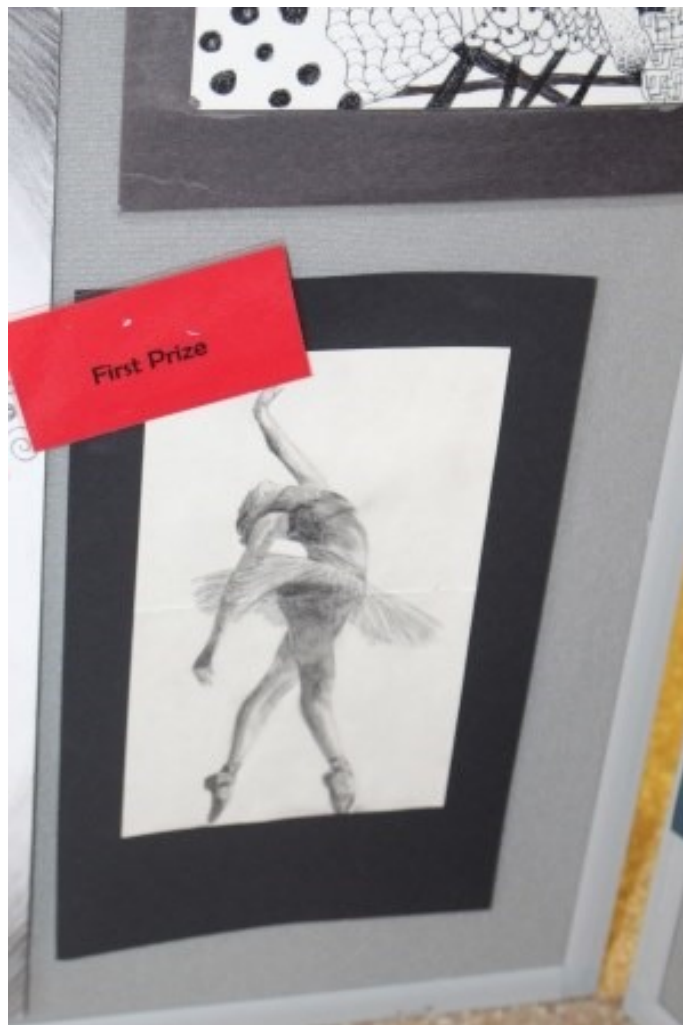
Photography

Drawing Key Stage 4: Zara Saeed Cousin
 Key Stage 4: Zara Saeed Adele

Congratulations go to Nicole Healey for her success in the ISA National Art Finals held in Coventry. Nicole was awarded first place in the Key Stage 3 Drawing category and was placed runner up the Key Stage 3 Fashion section. Sami Hasan was placed third in the Key Stage 2 Fashion category.

Old Trafford

Senior students enjoyed a night of top-quality football at Old Trafford. The match was a cup fixture between Manchester United and Derby County and resulted in penalties after a full-time score of 2 - 2. The students got really involved in the atmosphere and occasion, celebrating goals and cheering for their favourite players. After a very nery penalty shootout Derby County won the match. The trip left the students enthused and excited about upcoming school sports fixtures, in which the can take part and attempt to replicate some of the high-level skills they had witnessed.



Nicole Healey's Ballerina

Hairspray

Year 5 and 6 students were invited to St Bede's College in Manchester to watch their school production of Hairspray. The show raised issues of racism and segregation which students are learning about in lessons Mrs Waterworth. The students were inspired by the performance and have taken on lots of tips to put in place when it comes to their summer production. The students even joined in with some of the dancing at the end of the show. A great day out!

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 all the pupils who stayed behind to act as guides. They were great ambassadors for the school.

Belgium



On Friday 16th November, just five days after the 1918 armistice centenary, fifteen students and two members of staff from Beech House School departed for Ypres to explore the history of World War One and pay their respects to the fallen. An early start ensured that as much as possible could be crammed into just one day, and the party arrived in Belgium to begin their historical adventure before 10:30am.

Following introductions to the Flemish coach driver, Ian, the group got on the road to Ypres, or Ieper. Between 1914 and 1918, Ypres was often at the forefront of the action due to its positioning on the border between France and Belgium. Ypres was the battleground of the first, second, and third Battle of Ypres – the third more commonly known as the Battle of Passchendaele. It was here that poisonous gas was first used in 1915, signifying a devastating turning point in the war. It is for these reasons, along with the importance of the cemeteries of hundreds of thousands of soldiers, that Beech House School ran this trip, giving students the chance to experience integral historical events for themselves.

Throughout the day, students visited Langemark German Cemetery, Tyne Cot and Passchendaele Cemetery, Essex Farm Dressing Station, the Hill 62 Trenches and museum, and the Menin Gate. Tour guide Andre guided the group through each site and shared his knowledge and expertise. Interestingly, he explained how the headstones for soldiers of different religions differed; a cross for Christians, a Star of David for the Jewish, and a different shaped headstone with Urdu or Arabic inscriptions for Muslims.

Each site offered a different insight into the way in which the war was fought, and how it is now remembered. All members of the party noted the starkness of the German cemetery in contrast to the Commonwealth memorials and got a feel for trench life by wandering through the snaking passages and tunnels at Hill 62. After a long day of history and reflection, there was just about enough time to stop off in Ypres city centre to buy some Belgian chocolate before heading home.

House Points

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

Saturn = 625

Neptune = 593

Mercury = 461

Jupiter = 375

Hollingworth Lake

A brilliant (cold) fun filled activity day spent at Hollingworth Lake with Archie Mayer, Anais Aston and Camilla Zebedee-Howard. The day started with sailing, and the students had the opportunity to sail their own sail boat and learn about wind direction and how the sails are able to change. The students then moved on to Archery, with a brilliant bullseye from Archie Mayer, and also some high scores made by Camilla Zebedee-Howard. The final activity was kayaking, where some students ended up slightly wet from the water. The students learnt how to use the oars for the kayak, and how to change direction. A great fun filled day!



D of E



Ellie, Amy and Rebecca with members of the 'Friday Team'

Over the school holidays, Rochdale Foodbank received generous help from three Beech House girls taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

This is the testimonial that the girls together wrote:

This year our chosen charity is the Rochdale Foodbank. We (Ellie Jenkinson, Amy Hanson and Rebecca Burnett) are doing our Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award and for our volunteering section we are helping to raise as much money as we possibly can for a very deserving charity: Rochdale Foodbank. So far, we have raised approximately £2000. During the holidays we have all helped volunteer at the foodbank and now appreciate how much people rely on it and what a fantastic job the volunteers do. Once we have completed raising money, we will go to a local supermarket and use the money we have raised to buy food for the bank, which is desperately needed.

Students undergoing their silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award, embarked on the qualifying expedition in the Peak District. There were two groups; the first included Hiba, Jess, Becky, Ellie, Amy and Maya and the second group consisted of Nick, Adam, Matt and Ross. On the first day, they began a 6 hour walk to our first campsite, Pindale Farm. On the second day after several hours of walking they arrived at their second camp site, Upper Booth. The third day was particularly difficult as the route for the day included climbing Peak districts, Jacob's Ladder, which was not the easiest to climb, but with a little bit of motivation they managed to complete it, which they were all very proud of.

Inspired Minds Show

A select group of Senior school pupils visited the TCT Inspired Minds Show at the Birmingham N.E.C. The TCT Show is one of the world's leading 3D printing, additive manufacturing and product development events with over 300 exhibitors. Despite the usual traffic problems, the party arrived raring to get involved in some learning. Once they had picked up their lanyards the pupils moved easily through the milling crowds of exhibitors and curious attendees in the cavernous hall. The three hour additive manufacturing experience was split into two sections, a workshop in which the students designed a lightweight wheel for the Bloodhound Supersonic Car using Autodesk Fusion 360 professional 3D modelling software. These were then printed using the same 3D printing machines we use have in school. Students will use the wheels they designed to assemble a Bloodhound Balloon car ready for racing the cars back in school. After a reviving lunch the pupils attended a presentation about 3D printing and the industrial applications, with the opportunity to question the expert, look at 3D models and learn more about 3D printing careers. This included a case studies of 3D printing, and engineering careers resources for the students. To wind down after the intense learning pupils then toured the TCT show, to experience the excitement of this industry, visiting many different exhibitors questioning them on their technology, products and careers opportunities, and picking up a few freebies along the way!

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival was attended by Rev Mark Coleman and guest speakers from Petrus – Rachel Bennion and Martin Topham. It was a successful morning and Petrus will benefit from the school's continuing support and contribution



Fire Safety



Greater Manchester Fire Service visited Year 6 and made a great impression.

Numeracy Ninjas

Both Camilla Zebedee-Howard and Shu Yu Zhang have achieved Grand Master Status.

Christmas Lecture

Year 11's annual Christmas lecture was this year given by Brian Cox and entitled "Exploring the Universe: From the Beginning to the End of Time". As he now teaches Physics at the University of Manchester, it was anticipated to be good one. Accompanied by Mrs Grange and Mr Dowland, Year 11 braved the heavy rain and puddles. Brian Cox started by using a model to show the galaxies and stars. A trillion galaxies in only the part we can see. A million Earths fit inside the Sun and we can't feel that we are moving. He tried to explain Einstein's theory of Relativity of Space and Time. This then lead to his theory of Gravity. He showed a video of a feather and a bowling ball falling at the same rate. He explained about how light bends around a Black Hole and how the film Interstellar was influenced by the Nobel prize winner who wrote the computer program to show it. He also showed a picture of plasma before the stars and planets were made when it was too hot to form atoms. He then explained the Big Bang theory and red shift of our expanding Universe. He inspired some of our pupils to go on to study Science.

Jeans for Genes

Once again we supported the 'Jeans for Genes' day, raising £211.15.

Mobile Phones

Included with this newsletter is a copy of the School policy on mobile phones. Can you please make sure your children are aware of this policy. A copy this policy, amongst others, can be found on the School's website. All School Policy documents are available on request.

Geography

Year 11 Geography students completed their urban fieldwork investigation in our beautiful city of Manchester. They completed a building survey exploring the types of buildings in the city's central business district. They explored the well known areas of Deansgate, Castlefield, Peter Street, Canal Street, Portland Street and Market Street, before the most dramatic down pour, in typical 'Manchester' fashion!

The students particularly enjoyed the Piccadilly Garden water fountains and a shopping trip round the Arndale Centre, not to mention the endless food outlets and market stalls, along the way. They encountered many decorative, super-sized bee sculptures throughout the city which has been part of the 'Bee in the City Art Trail', which brightened up the grey, drizzly, wet Manchester day.

On return to school, the students will be studying the history of the city and will investigate how it has changed and whether the central business district today has been built on the original site. It has been an interesting investigation so far!

A wet Manchester



House Quiz

The House Quiz was held on the last day of the summer term. The scores and results are as follows:

Upper Prep

1st Jupiter 47 points 2nd Saturn 36 points

3rd Mercury 34 points 4th Neptune 27 points

Senior

1st Mercury 43 points 2nd Saturn 36 points

3rd Neptune 31 points 4th Jupiter 27 points

School Games

This year the School was proud to be awarded Silver. Thanks go to the PE department for all their efforts.