



The Mavericks of Science

Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and successful New Year to our Delta community

Welcome



Paul Tarn
Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to our Trust newsletter, showcasing some wonderful activities over the past term and colleagues' efforts on behalf of our children.

None is more memorable than the launch of our Science Mavericks programme in Knottingley.

When we came up with the concept around the Education Exchange, this is the kind of event we had in mind.

It is a fabulous facility and space to share ideas and best practice across our Academies and with partner Trusts too.

The sole aim is to improve the outcomes of the children across the region. None should be left out.

A huge amount of effort was put into the event by the Science Directors. For those who felt the buzz in the room, it was worth it. For those not there, the photographs in this edition tell their own story.

Students and staff pushing

themselves to be creative, innovate and work as a team. What could be better?

Not to be outdone, the Maths Directors also organised a well-received Primary Maths Challenge, also at the Education Exchange.

Thank you to the directors, teachers and support staff across our Trust for inspiring our children. You have set high bars and your own challenges.

In other matters, I welcome the Chancellor's announcement in the Autumn Statement schools are to receive additional funding of £2.3-billion in each of the years 2023-24 and 2024-25 and be allocated a share of £500-million to spend on energy efficiency upgrades.

A lot of work went on behind the

scenes from education leaders to press for more funds and it was important their voice was heard and acted upon.

We await the full details next year when we will be able to assess properly what it means for our Academies, staff and children. But we go into the New Year on a positive note in terms of funding. It is the end of another busy 12 months for colleagues across the Trust. I thank them for their hard work and dedication to improve children's outcomes and increase their life chances.

Times are tough but I hope everyone is able to get the break they deserve over the festive period.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and successful New Year.

Laurel: Students impress staff



Zachary (left) and Jake who achieved scores in the top 2% of the country.

Computational and mathematical problems of increasing difficulty were tackled at The Laurel Academy in a nationwide challenge – and two students ended up in the country's top 2%.

All Year 7, 8 and 9 took part for the first time in the BEBRAS online challenge and staff were left "hugely impressed" with students' achievements.

Year 7's Zachary and Jake (Year 8) deserve special mention after achieving scores in the top 2% of the country.

James Unsworth, Associate Assistant Principal and Head of Computing and Business, said: "A massive well done to both. We are so proud of them."

They will represent the Academy with 10 other highest scorers in round two of the challenge early next year.

James said: "There's a country-wide shortage of interest in the

computing sector, but at The Laurel we're bucking this trend with almost half of our KS4 students choosing to study in the field this year, and clearly we've some incredibly capable students.

We cannot wait to see what they'll achieve next.

This is the first year we've taken part in the BEBRAS challenge and, indeed, the first year all of our students have had the option to study computing from Year 7 through to Year 11.

So for a lot of other schools this might seem a pretty standard achievement but for us it's a huge success."

Pheasant Bank: Royal appointment

It is not everyone who is invited to meet His Majesty the King.



Pheasant Bank Academy pupil Eve, a Primary Ambassador for Doncaster, had the royal appointment when King Charles III visited the city.

Head of Academy Ryan Schofield said the Academy was "immensely proud" of Eve's Ambassadorial role.

"We were delighted to receive a phone call saying Eve had been invited to Mansion House to witness the King's arrival to the city," he said.

"When we spoke to Eve before



the event, she was unsure what to expect but was thrilled when she returned, informing us that she got to meet him, shake his hand and have a chat too!

This is an experience Eve will never forget and is a direct result of her hard work and fantastic attitude."

Eve also shared the King had a good sense of humour because he asked if she was missing her lunch. When Eve replied "yes" he gave a warm smile and laughed.

Melior: Evie-Moon's Cracking Idea

Wallace and Gromit creators Aardman ran an animations workshop at the Melior Community Academy after a student won first prize in its Cracking Ideas challenge.

Evie-Moon won the competition in the eight to eleven age category.

She designed the "Moon Rider", a boat with solar-powered sails that collects rubbish and plastics from the ocean to save sea life and the environment.

The competition challenged youngsters to come up with an invention, and support the awareness and understanding of IP rights through STEM subjects for Key Stages 1 and 2.



Competition winner Evie-Moon.

Encouraging children to take inspiration from Wallace and Gromit's iconic inventions, the 2021 competition set entrants the challenge to 'make life better', by building on everyday inventions.

Mrs Hartshorne organised the animation workshop with Lauren Brobin from Aardman's campaign team.

Jim Parkyn delivered the session with support from Faye Myers, Lauren and Mark Skeggs.

Principal Graeme Levitt said it had been a "fantastic experience" to be visited by Aardman, creators of the world renowned Wallace and Gromit.

"A full day of modelling with the actual team behind the production was enjoyed by a



Principal Graeme Levitt – "fantastic experience" for the students.



Jim hands Evie-Moon a framed certificate.

group of our Year 7 students courtesy of a competition winner Evie-Moon, who won first prize in the Wallace and Gromit's Cracking Ideas competition," said Graeme.

"It was a fantastic achievement by Evie to have won a national competition and her amazing ideas and creativity have led to

all of her classmates enjoying a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work alongside the creators of the iconic animations.

The students produced some outstanding models which were every bit as good as the real models and had great fun throughout the day."



Jim Parkyn, who delivered the workshop, with the group who took part.

MARVELOUS MAVERICKS

A two-day event involving 400 pupils from 16 of our secondaries launched Delta Science Mavericks.



Pitched at higher-grade pupils aiming for GCSE grades 7 and above, the event was held in the Education Exchange and organised by Science Directors Fiona Marshall, Rich Ward, Zoe McConville and Chris Hoyle.

The Mavericks were faced with challenges around making NASA's recently-discovered Earth-like planet LP890-9c suitable for human habitation.

This formed the overarching theme for a progression of activities based around the GCSE programme of study along with examiners' guidance on areas of learning pupils had previously shown less confidence in.

Zoe said: "The pupils' ability to think outside the box and link ideas together in an unfamiliar context will prove invaluable.

Their collaborative approach to problem-solving is something they most certainly will carry forward with them into the wider world."

This sentiment was echoed by staff and Trustees who joined the pupils on the day.

Rosie West, Head of Science at Ingleby Manor, said: "They're on it. They're really getting into the challenges, discussing and debating ideas; they're really enjoying it. It's great to see."

Throughout the event, each challenge the Mavericks solved led on to others:

Firstly, engineering the climate to allow liquid water to form from frozen oceans and how to then make the melt-waters fit to drink, leading to cultivating agriculture and genetically engineering crops, and ultimately exploring how to obtain materials suitable for building a protective dome as a huge greenhouse.



Organisers Zoe McConville (Science Director), Nic Atkinson (Senior Science Director), Chris Hoyle (Science Director), Fiona Marshall (Science Director) and Rich Ward (Science Director) at the event.



Each stage involved input from scientific advisors and the mission commander back on Earth, meaning teams had to respond and evaluate the new information.

This developing narrative and solving successive problems was picked up on by a number of pupils taking part.

"I really liked the storyline," said one Maverick. "It's really good, the way it all links together."

This was reflected in feedback from staff, too, with one saying: "The event used excellent resources and was cleverly structured. Our students really enjoyed the challenge."

The venue made the students really feel like they were part of a professional event. This was helped by the planning and the amazing resources put together by the team."



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Chris said: "From the moment the challenges were posed, you could feel the energy and enthusiasm fill the room as ideas were bounced across the tables." With practical activities and surprise challenges, the buzz of activity and engagement continued throughout the day as members of the Trust came to join in.

Steve Hodsman, Chair of the Board of Trustees, was most impressed.

"It was really great to see the Science Mavericks coming together," he said.

"The atmosphere in the Education Exchange Conference Centre was electric, with much of our brightest young talent working together, tackling the tasks set by the Science Team."

The vibrancy continued to the closing ceremony where all Delta Mavericks were presented with a specially-designed lapel pin-badge on the auditorium main stage, as well as information on careers in Science and how the challenges linked to their GCSE course.

"The Mavericks event highlighted to me the resilience, tenacity and innovation of Delta students we are lucky enough to teach," said Fiona.

"All students were an absolute credit to themselves and their Academies and I can't wait to get involved in the next one!"

One observer was overheard remarking "This needs to be the endpoint in a sequence of Maverick events starting in Year 9."

Watch this space . . .

Hatfield: Pupils create festive delight

Paper angels made by Hatfield Woodhouse children from out-of-date encyclopaedias helped create a wonderful Christmas display in the local church.

The school was asked to join with others and make angels and stars to suspend from a net in the nave at St Lawrence Church in Hatfield.

The Academy's Eco team wanted theirs to be made from recycled materials and the church's appeal coincided with a revamp of the school library.

Pupils used pages from the out-of-date encyclopaedias, destined for the bin, to make the angels.

Mrs Walker showed them how to concertina the paper to make the angel shapes.

Rachel Ridler, Children's Worker for St Lawrence Church, said: "Thank you so much for preparing hundreds of angels and stars for our art project at St Lawrence Church.



Our team of amazing volunteers have worked for three hours straight today to get the net assembled and looking amazing."

The children were so inspired, many of them also made recycled angel contributions at home.



Recycling and community engagement is something dear to the heart and ethos at Hatfield Woodhouse.

The Academy's most recent recognition was a Green Flag award with distinction.

A pop-up Christmas gift shop where children from Hatfield Woodhouse can choose gifts for their parents or family members was created by the "amazing" PTA.

Montagu: Christmas stall supports links

Councillors invited Montagu Academy to have a stall at Mexborough Does Christmas to further develop links with the community.



The children planned the items they wanted to make and sell. This included reindeer food, hot chocolate cones, baubles, crackers and sweetie cones.

The stall proved extremely popular and was well supported by families. Through the children, the efforts raised £300. This will be used to invest in future community events.



School council was concerned that Christmas shopping for children was very difficult, especially in a village with no shops!

They wanted to get small gifts for their parents and loved ones so, with the help of the PTA, Elfridges came to be.

The kind PTA members bought (or donated) a selection of gifts appropriate for mums, dads and even pet dogs! They wrapped the gifts and left a sample out for the children to choose.

Principal Helen Acton said: "We have only run the shop for one day but the learning potential has been amazing.

Children have had experience of handling money and calculating their change.

The older children have learnt how to work out the profit for the school.

All the children have learnt that Christmas is a time for giving and not just receiving gifts."

A bonus was the school raised £350, enough money to buy Christmas books for all the children from Santa.

A Year 4 pupil said: "I live on my own with just my mum so Elfridges is brilliant because I can surprise her with a present on Christmas morning."

Don Valley: Life-saving training

CPR training was given to all Year 9 students at Don Valley Academy by four members of Yorkshire Ambulance Service.



The half-an-hour crash course showed groups of 30 how to successfully deliver the life-saving treatment to someone following a cardiac arrest.

Organised by Assistant Principal Ashley Andrew and Emergency Operations Centre Team Leader at YAS Tracey Deakin-Vedder, the training took place in the Academy's foyer and dining area.

The service's Community Engagement Manager Jason Carolyn said: "Thank you for allowing us to deliver Restart a Heart Sessions at Don Valley Academy."

Staff were extremely praising of all the staff and students involved."



More than £1,100 was raised by 10 staff at Don Valley Academy when they took part in Movember.

The annual campaign raises vital funding for men's health in general, with a particular focus on mental health.

Some staff grew some fantastic (and not so fantastic) moustaches and others participated in 'moving for Movember', covering 60km during November.

Maths teacher Matty Ingman, who organised the effort, said: "A particular focus was put on having positive conversations with students about why we were growing moustaches or moving for Movember."

It raised the profile of mental health conversations within the Academy. In doing so, we raised an absolutely amazing £1,119 for charity.

A massive thank you to all members of staff who chose to grow some top lip fur or moved for Movember and especially to those who very kindly donated.

It was a really positive experience for staff and students alike."



Don Valley staff who participated, a mixture of moustache growers and movers!

Bienvenue à Delta! ¡De nada!

Young linguists from France and Spain have joined the Trust as Modern Foreign Language Assistants (MLAs).

They have been placed with MFL departments across the Trust until May.

Emma Hammond, Director of Spanish, and Stéphanie Sismondi, Director of French, led an exciting induction day for the MLAs at Goole Academy.

They said: "This year's cohort are a fantastic, diverse group of

young people and we are very lucky to have them."

The group bring a little "je ne sais quoi" to MFL classrooms by supporting students with their language studies and sharing their culture.

The aim of the introductory day was to give them an overview of the English educational system, share excellent practice and explain the key teaching and learning principles of our Trust.

It also gave the MLAs an opportunity to meet each other as well as providing them with some support for their time in the UK.

"We would like to thank the MLAs for the effort and commitment they have shown so far and wish them a wonderful year ahead with Delta," said Emma and Stéphanie.



Goole: Ofsted praises ambition

Ofsted inspectors judged Goole Academy officially 'good' for the first time in more than a decade.

Associate Executive Principal Julian Harrison was "delighted" to announce the news. Before Delta took responsibility, the school had been graded inadequate and placed in special measures in 2013. It was judged as 'requires improvement' two years later.

The Academy was graded good in all areas.

The inspection noted the strong progress made since working with the Trust.

The report says: "Leaders are ambitious and determined for all pupils to succeed."

The team said: "Pupils at Goole Academy conduct themselves well in lessons and around school. There is a calm and orderly atmosphere."

Pupils felt safe and they were "able to focus on their learning in lessons."

In a letter to parents, Julian said: "We could not have achieved this without your support, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all."

We have amazing children, a hugely dedicated Academy Advisory Board and staff team. Without their hard work and commitment, Goole Academy would not be such a wonderful place to learn, work and succeed. I am fiercely proud of everything we've been able to achieve here at Goole Academy and I look forward to continuing this strong upward trajectory.

We will now work towards becoming an outstanding school. This report and our most recent results suggest this is within our grasp – especially as we are now in the top 10% of schools nationally."

Report highlights include:

- Leaders are ambitious and determined for all pupils to succeed. Disadvantaged pupils and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) do well.
- Leaders have ensured that teachers have the training they need to support pupils effectively. All staff work hard to understand pupils' needs.
- Pupils at Goole Academy conduct themselves well in lessons and around school. There is a calm and orderly atmosphere.
- Teachers use clear routines and systems to reinforce expectations for behaviour. As a result, pupils are able to focus on their learning in lessons.
- Leaders have prioritised staff training to support pupils' mental well-being. Staff provide pupils with effective and timely support.
- Pupils feel safe in school. They know how to report any incidents of bullying. Pupils are confident that staff will listen and act quickly on their concerns.
- Parents have noted the improvements over time and are complimentary about the school.
- Leaders and governors have a clear focus on building strong links with the local community for the benefit of the pupils. This includes building links with local colleges and employers to support pupils to remain in education, access training or gain employment.

Wybers: Pupils have say with votes

Oracy and debating skills are being practiced at Wybers Wood Academy after it launched a current affairs-based voting platform.

Votes for Schools is designed to engage children and young people in political and social issues.

Through weekly discussion and voting, Years 3 and 4 are learning about the world around them, and becoming active citizens, preparing to participate in the democratic processes.

Organised weekly by Stacie Barnsley, the process is:

- CHECK THE VOTES FOR SCHOOLS WEBSITE AT 4PM EVERY FRIDAY

The latest VoteTopic on the debate for the following week goes live on www.votesforschools.com

- DISCUSS THE TOPIC AT HOME

VoteTopic is shared on Seesaw every Friday at 4pm. Parents are then able to debate and encourage critical thinking.

• DISCUSS THE RESULTS

When the new VoteTopic is available, the results of the previous topic are too. We discuss with the children how they voted and why?

• BRUSH UP ON KNOWLEDGE

Read up on any topics being discussed to see what pupils are thinking. For more sensitive topics, there is a list of useful resources and organisations where pupils can find out more or seek support.

• SHARE IDEAS

Pupils can share thoughts by contributing comments to the feedback during the following week.

The children have given positive feedback.

Oscar, in Year 4, said: "I like VfS because we learn about the news in the world and get to share our opinions."



Darcie, Freddie and Rose discuss their point of view.

Charlie, also in Year 4, agreed.

"I enjoy VfS because it helps us to learn something new. Also, we discuss a lot of things whilst we are learning in VfS."

Jacob liked VfS because they learned a lot.

"We learn about life and how people live, and the interesting decisions people make," he said.



Nahla explains her reasons.

Pre-historic times were brought to life for Years 3 and 4 in a Stone Age immersive workshop held at Wybers Wood Academy.



Organised by Vice Principal Sarah Green and run by The Past Presents, it held the children's imagination.

They were shown how to light a fire, looked at Stone Age clothing and materials and learned how massive monoliths were moved.

Izabelle, from Year 4, said: "I have had a wonderful time learning about Stonehenge."

Year 3's Latrell loved dressing up and Amber in Year 4 thought the fire was "amazing".

Paige and Deacan, from Year 3, said: "We liked coming together in the hall and making mini Stonehenges."

Sarah and teacher Amanda Taylor said the children's imagination had been fired by the workshop and it had brought the pre-historic era to life.

Primary Maths Challenge

Future mathematicians were celebrated in a Primary Maths Challenge held at the Education Exchange.



The event, organised by Maths Directors Dani and Mat, developed skills and enthusiasm for the subject.

They said: "All of the primary students involved were an absolute pleasure and did themselves and the whole Delta family proud."

They had excellent feedback.

David Irving, Executive Principal Primary, said: "It was a cracking day. Thanks to you and your team."

Director of Learning (Primary) James Storr agreed. "The children looked as though they were loving it, which is what it is all about!" he said.

The Parks Academy said: "What a brilliant day, we have Mathletes!"

Teresa Rouse, Principal at Wybers Wood Academy, said: "They absolutely loved the day and were very chuffed at getting two in the top 5%."



Black History Month was celebrated at Wybers Wood Academy.



Pupils learned about a number of inspirational people.

History Lead Holly Smith, who organised the event, said: "It was great for pupils to expand historical knowledge and learn about the unheralded accomplishments of inspirational black people."

These included African-American artist and teacher Alma Thomas, basketball star Michael Jordan, English professional footballer Walter Tull, and Civil Rights activists Ruby Bridges and Dr Martin Luther King.

Wybers: If you go down to the woods ...

Fun was had by Early Years from Wybers Wood Academy when they visited Normanby Hall Country Park in North Lincolnshire.

They went in search of Stickman and enjoyed a seasonal treasure hunt on the 300-acre estate during the trip, organised by Melissa Warwick.

Children loved their day.

"This is the best birthday ever!" said Evelyn while Isla had not seen so many "wiggly worms".

Arlo said: "We even saw a troll under the bridge!"



Don Valley: Lest we forget

Marine cadet and Year 10 student Zico organised Don Valley Academy's Remembrance Service.

Supported by Assistant Principal Ashley Andrew, all students made their way to the foyer and dining room area on the 11th November to witness the laying of three wreaths, each representing one arm of the Armed Forces.

Ten individual poppies were also laid, each commemorating a fallen individual upon whom students had focused on throughout the week.

Ashley said: "Witnessing all members of staff and students paying their respects together was a touching moment, and one which I feel privileged to have been a part of."

I am extremely proud of our cadet students, in particular Zico, for the manner in which they conducted themselves and I was particularly impressed by their ability to arrange such a well organised event."

Zico said it was a privilege to help organise the Remembrance Service.



Students from various cadet services.

"I was extremely proud to wear my Marine Cadet uniform and lead everyone in the Academy in our two minutes silence," he said.



The three wreaths, representing an arm of the Armed Forces, and ten poppies.

St Wilfrid's: Conflict theme

Staff and students at St Wilfrid's Academy raised awareness of Remembrance Day, following a thematic project based around 'Conflict'.

Students explored the theme in lessons through activities.

These included a visit to the Royal Armouries in Leeds, artwork creating ceramic poppies, emulating the work of

Paul Cummings as part of the Artsmark Award journey, and a whole school red velvet cake baking competition, to raise funds for the Royal British Legion.



John Whitgift: Touching time

Uniformed students from the cadet services, guides and scouts were among the many attending John Whitgift Academy's annual Service of Remembrance.



Every year, alongside the minute's silence at 11am, it holds a special service during the latter part of the day. This year, it fell during period 5 on Friday the 11th.

Invites were sent out and a selection of parents/carers attended.

Tom Bown lowered the standard and Peter Kench (English) played the last post with exceptional quality again.

Humanities Teacher and Operational Lead for CEIAG Paul Tuffnell led The Dedication from the Garden of Remembrance.

Year 11 Learning Manager Kay Sargeant read a poem followed by another, specially written by an Academy student.

Paul said: "We also take this time to remember those close to us who were lost during the last 12 months."

The attendance was magnificent again and the whole service is given the utmost respect by all those present."

The Vale: Band tribute

The Vale's band performed a Remembrance Day concert at St Lawrence Church, Scunthorpe.

The concert was a Remembrance tribute and a Last Night of the Proms with the community choir.

Sombre strains of the last post echoed through the nave and this was followed by several more upbeat pieces, played by The Vale's wind band, soloists and the choir.



De Wrenne: Joint service

A joint Remembrance Service was held between De Wrenne Academy and Rowena Academy.

Posters were custom made and displayed in Rowena's windows. Organised by De Wrenne's Assistant Principal Simon Lomasney, the students paid their respects at 11am on Friday, 11th November to all who made the ultimate sacrifice in the two world wars and other conflicts.

Year 11 students Rosie and Lola read a poem.

De Wrenne has a long tradition of honouring Armistice Day and all students were extremely respectful and a credit to the school.

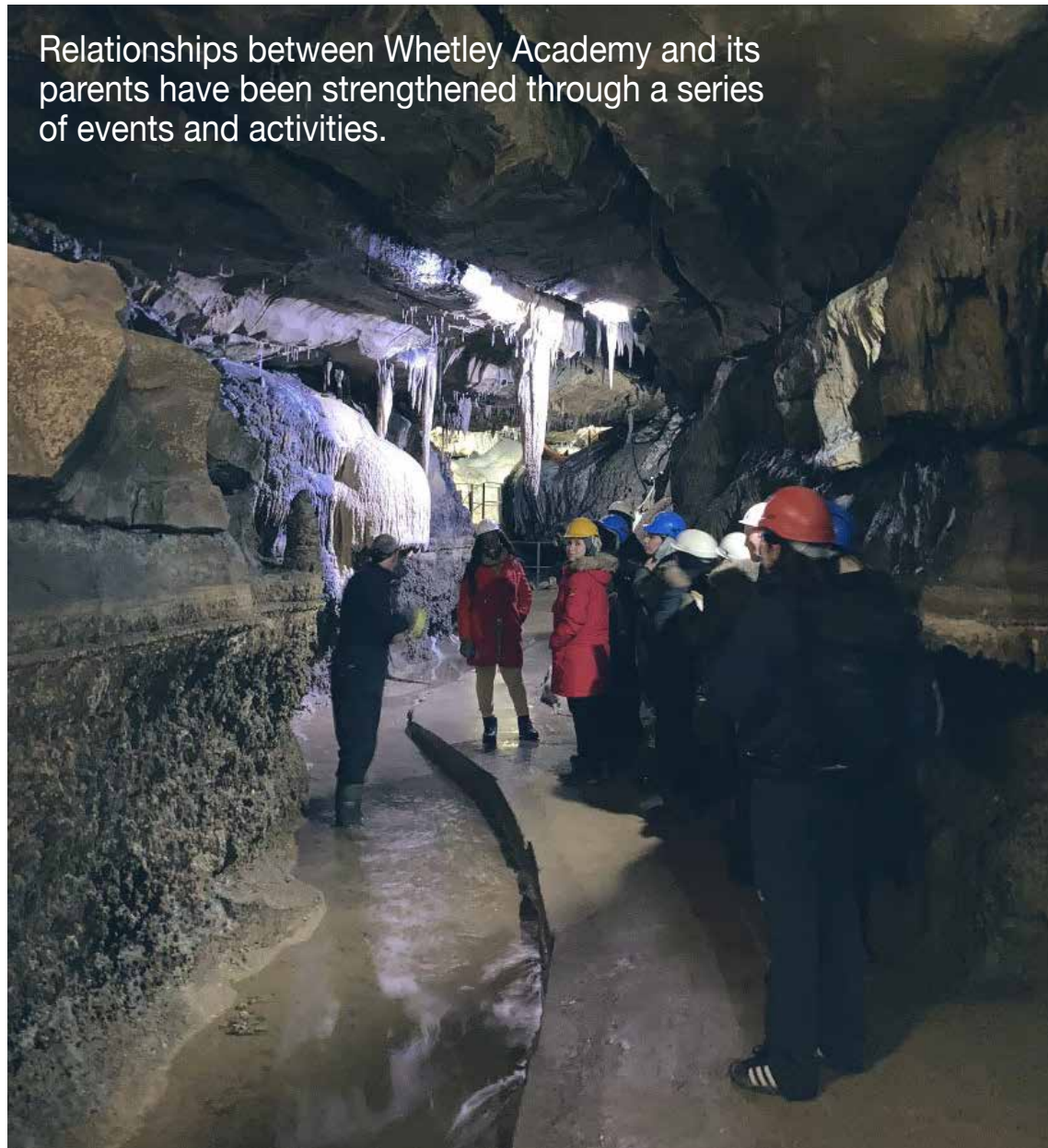


Crosses outside Rowena Academy with posters that read from the staff and students 'Lest We Forget'.

Whetley: Caves connect community



Relationships between Whetley Academy and its parents have been strengthened through a series of events and activities.



A course has been organised by staff working with Neesie, a local charity that works with and supports parents.

Over the last half term, parents have been invited into the Academy where they have been supported in lots of ways. They have had the time to socialise, cook, learn and, most recently, visit the caves at Ingleborough.

Head of Academy Jonny Townend said: "Our mums have really valued the course and it's been a fantastic opportunity for them to meet and spend time doing something that they may not ordinarily get to do."

We are really proud of the connections Whetley Academy is making with the local community. It means the relationships are just getting stronger and parents and Whetley are working together to give the children the best opportunities that we can.

A special mention to Aneela Mahmood, a Learning Support Assistant, for her passion and energy in making connections with our community."

De Lacy: Pupils spearhead strategy

A first ever Anti Bullying Alliance was held by De Lacy Academy at the end of Anti Bullying Week.

Organised by history teacher Tori Newmarch, it brought together the work done during the week.

A group of students started to create the Academy's Anti Bullying process for their peers.

This was in conjunction with Anti Bullying Ambassadors who wanted to produce material students could easily access if they needed support. Student Council, called Lead out Loud, also helped with this event.

Tori said: "It is really important to myself and the Anti Bullying Alliance that we have a strategy in place to continue contributing to a safe and comfortable learning environment at De Lacy Academy."

The Anti Bullying Alliance want their peers to know that we are listening and, therefore, this strategy is created by the pupils, for the pupils."



Students involved were Brogan, Thomas (both 9), Lilly (7), Brendan, Kayden (both 8), Amber, Liam (both 10), Billy (7), Zane, Jordan, Jessica, and Roshni (all 8).

Elland: Graffiti wall makes strong statement

Proud elements of life at The Elland Academy from students and staff have been incorporated into a graffiti wall.

Artist Martin Hayhurst enlisted help from students to create the work in the school's canteen.

Organised by Harriet Gavan-Duffy, student engagement was excellent and they enjoyed contributing to the school's Artsmark journey.

The wall promotes the Academy's therapy animals and PRIDE values.

It is a lovely piece of work and the students had a fantastic day contributing to it.

Curtis said: "I had an awesome day trying out the spray paints and learning a new skill."

Riley also enjoyed his time with Martin.

"I loved helping paint the background and using the stencils," he said.

The Elland's therapy animals include chickens, a hamster called Truffle, Australian finches Bella and Bobby, bearded dragon Abacus and Cocker Spaniel Ivy.



Artist Martin Hayhurst works with students to create the wall.



Hanson: Musical trio

Success was forthcoming when Year 11 Hanson Academy students took external music exams at Calderdale Music Centre in Halifax.



Katie, Alfie and Lexie receive their certificates.

Congratulations to Lexie, Alfie and Katie who received their ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music) 'Singing For Musical Theatre' certificates.

Lexie achieved a distinction at Grade 3, Alfie a merit at the same level, and Katie a pass at Grade 2.

Mrs Church said: "I am very proud of all the hard work these students did towards their exams and of their dedication to their musical journeys and goals."

Montagu: Ukulele award



An award has been given to Montagu Academy for outstanding commitment and support for the ukulele first access programme.

The William Appleby Award also recognises the progression opportunities the Academy provides all pupils.

It has been invited to Mansion House in Doncaster to collect the award and perform in front of the Mayor of Doncaster and other dignitaries.

Don Valley: It's a whole new world



West End performer Joaquin Pedro Valdes inspired Don Valley Academy's cast of Aladdin in a drama workshop.



Joaquin inspires the Don Valley cast of Aladdin.



The incredible opportunity as part of enrichment was followed by a question and answer session about his life and experiences of being a performer. He then gave an amazing performance of Proud of Your Boy from Aladdin.

Students loved every second of working with Joaquin and said they felt privileged to listen to him perform.

They loved the workshop so much many went to see him in concert that evening at the Big Local Night Out event. One student was called up to the stage to perform alongside Joaquin as a surprise.

Head of Drama Rebecca Threapleton, who organised the visit, said: "As a teacher, I was proud of all students involved and know they were truly inspired by the experience."



Melior: Careers lead

Melanie Nixon was appointed Associate SLT Careers Leader in January and has worked hard to gain her Level 6 in Careers Leadership. Her focus has been to embed careers across the curriculum and provide world of work experiences for students. Here are some of the activities and achievements.



Quality in Careers Standard has been achieved by Melior Community Academy.

Awarded under licence by Ixion (Part of the Shaw Trust Group), it demonstrates outstanding work in careers.

Associate SLT Careers Leader Melanie Nixon was "thrilled".

"This standard has provided a flexible framework that enabled us to audit our work on careers and ensure our students are receiving advice, practical support, and experience so they are prepared for the next stage of their education, employment, self-employment, or training," she said.

Principal Graeme Levitt said: "As a school we are delighted to have received recognition for the work that is going on with our young people around careers education, advice, and guidance.

It is testament to the hard work of the careers leader and to the benefit of the young people that the programmes we have in place are meeting the needs we are presented with in the current economic climate."



Associate SLT Careers Leader Melanie Nixon receives the award.

Construction Week saw Melior Community Academy students attend a big event at the Lincolnshire Showground.

The Academy took along a mix of Year 10 and Year 11 students.

Organised by Lincoln Group Training Association, the purpose was for students to:

- engage with our region's construction giants (Lindum, Balfour Beatty, Lincoln College, Road Safety Marking Association, Wienerberger and more)
- discuss the opportunities available and try practical experiences that replicate the workplace
- upskill and learn about these important local industry sectors
- upskill and remain up to date with local opportunities and pathways available
- challenge stereotypes and encourage more girls into STEM

Associate SLT Careers Leader Melanie Nixon said: "The event



was a real success with all activities being practical to allow the students a hands-on experience.

Our students participated in four different activities throughout the day, a building challenge, having a go at road markings, operating diggers, and speed reaction tests with the British Army.

It was also interesting to see our female students getting involved and challenging stereotypes.

I would like to thank LGTA for the opportunity and for a fantastic world of work experience. We will certainly be attending this event again during next year's Construction Week."



A one-off opportunity to talk to industrial giants focused on decarbonisation was afforded Year 10s at Melior Community Academy.

The Humber Industrial Decarbonisation Conference took place at the Baths Hall in Scunthorpe.

Present at the event was a celebrity guest, television presenter and former road racer Guy Martin.

The Humber emits 40% of the nation's industrial carbon emissions because of the scale and nature of heavy industry on both banks of the river.

It will play a key role if the Government is to hit its legislated target of net zero by 2050.

Carbon capture projects are proposed by industrial giants across the Humber, most of them exhibiting at the conference.

The projects, worth billions of pounds, will create huge numbers of construction and permanent jobs over the coming years, as well as protecting existing ones. Some are expected to start building the carbon capture infrastructure next year.

This event provided:

- An opportunity for students and teachers to engage with our region's industrial giants including Phillips 66, Drax, SSE, and VPI and discuss the opportunities available to students, which provides meaningful encounters towards BM5 and BM2.
- An opportunity for teachers to upskill and learn about these important local industry sectors;



technical information; links to curriculum areas; crucial LMI information, all of which is great evidence towards BM2 and BM4.

- A chance for our careers adviser (BM8) to upskill and remain up-to-date with local opportunities and pathways available to students – so please do share the event details with them.
- A great opportunity to meet BM3 – especially around challenging stereotypes and encouraging more girls into STEM.

The conference was organised by the Humber Industrial Cluster Plan (HICP), supported by Phillips 66 Limited and VPI Immingham LLP Combined Heat and Power Plant.

Associate SLT Careers Leader Melanie Nixon said the event



offered students experiences within the world of work.

"Students received a hands-on experience with various exhibitors and learned a great deal about decarbonisation in the Humber and local labour market Information.

They have opportunities to be part of a greener, cleaner industrial climate on the Humber." One student, Dizel (Year 11) achieved his lifelong dream of meeting the special guest Guy.



Another said it was a "great event, well organised, friendly staff and a good amount of engagement from students"

Students "found the event useful". The "variety of organisations was good, there were some jobs I had never thought of previously".

Another "received plenty of information".

One added: "I learnt a lot."

Each year group were allocated a one-hour session to attend and were provided with booklets to ask each exhibitor two questions to obtain relevant labour market information.

Organiser Melanie Nixon said: "The event was a real success, and we received some fantastic feedback from both students and exhibitors.

I look forward to organising the next one in the summer term."

Exhibitors said there had been a "good selection of agencies and services" and the "young people were very engaging".

Melior: Brilliant students graduate from programme



Opportunities for disadvantaged children have been opened up by The Brilliant Club at Melior Community Academy.

Students graduated from its Scholars Programme at Sheffield Hallam University in conjunction with University of Cambridge.

Melior's collaborated with the Brilliant Club for four years, working to achieve successful outcomes for students in its Key Stage 4 cohort.

The Scholars Programme places university researchers (PhD tutors) in schools to give students the experience of university-style learning.

Students study in tutorial groups of six based around a supra-curricular topic designed to stretch and challenge them.

Students complete a final assignment, marked with university grades.

Due to Covid and lockdown, students have worked particularly hard to access their sessions online and motivate themselves to work from home. Unfortunately, a university visit and graduation took place online.

Associate SLT Careers Leader Melanie Nixon said: "It has been an absolute privilege to be the Lead Teacher with the Brilliant Club.

"Providing such unique opportunities for students to get a glimpse of university life has not only broadened their horizons but has provided them with a sense of belief.

It is marvellous to watch their grit and determination to succeed and see how their confidence builds throughout the journey.

I would like to thank the students for engaging and succeeding in the programme and wish them every success for their futures after moving on from secondary education."

Year 10's Imogen said: "At the end of the Scholarship Programme I ended up with more skills and I gained knowledge on activism.

"It is a good experience to challenge yourself and, if you have any issues, your tutor and Mrs Nixon will be able to help.

"Everyone was extremely polite; it was an amazing experience and I'm glad that I got the opportunity to do the programme."

Teaching Assistant Carina Spencer said: "I have been privileged to work with exceptional students as part of the scholarship programme.

Each student has demonstrated vast knowledge of the world around them and has implemented this into their learning and assignments.

I am extremely proud of students overcoming worries and reservations about working at a university level and achieving well deserved results.

It has also been amazing to see students inspired by this programme and think of their own future and ambitions."

Melior Community Academy looks forward to continuing their journey with Year 9 and Year 6 students and see them graduate this Spring and Summer.



Careers content delivered across the curriculum at Melior Community Academy has become easily identified after a student won a design competition.

Associate SLT Careers Leader Melanie Nixon challenged the Careers Ambassadors to create a careers logo for the Academy.

The competition was a response to student feedback, identifying they found it hard to associate careers across the curriculum.

The winning design was sent to head office to be produced.

Melanie congratulated Year 8's Elsie for creating the winning design.

"The logo is now being used by the academy on documentation and correspondence (both internal and external) relating to careers as well as on resources where possible in lessons," she said.

"This is enabling our students to identify careers content delivered across the curriculum. We have also used this on our careers merchandise."



Congratulations to Year 8's Elsie who designed the logo.

A Careers Fair for Years 7 to 10 with around 30 exhibitors was held at Melior Community Academy and targeted Gatsby Benchmarks 2, 3, 5 and 7.



Hatfield: New venture

Science is one of the curriculum areas staff are working hard to develop and engage the children in at Hatfield Woodhouse Primary School this year.



Having already attained the Primary Science Quality Mark last summer, science leads Nicola Lynch and Zoe Burnett-Smith are developing the provision further and aiming to hold PSQM Gilt by the end of the year.

In addition to staff training on the Thinking, Doing, Talking Science, the school's newest venture is the Science club.

Pupils from Years 3 and 4 have been enjoying the 'My Science Club' experiments during lunch-time.

They loved seeing the condensation form on a tin can filled with ice and water and could not believe it was from water vapour in the air!

They also made a wind vane using everyday objects to find out which way the wind was blowing.

Sofia, from Year 3, said: "I was so excited when I was chosen for the Science club! It is so much fun! My favourite part so far has been making the water cycle."

Jadon in Year 4 found the club "interesting".

"We are learning more about the stuff we learn in our science lessons too," he said.

Garforth: Essay wins place

An essay won a Garforth Academy sixth former a partial scholarship to read Chemistry over the summer at either Oxford or Cambridge.

Grace successfully entered the writing contest, with the Year 12's award-winning entry hopefully inspired by her Science teachers.

Meanwhile, Harrison was a Trust winner for Garforth Academy in a recent model cell-making competition.

A certificate and voucher will be given to Harrison for this excellent and well-deserved win said Head of Science Ahmed Maniyar.



Goole: Great introduction

Renewable energy was the theme at the first Year 5 Arete STEM day at Goole Academy.

Science, Engineering and Maths planned a range of exciting, yet challenging, tasks.

In Maths, the students were hired by company WindyCorp as part of the planning team.

Their aim was to find the ideal location to build their wind turbines to make the most profit over 25 years.

They spoke about the advantages and disadvantages of each field and discussed potential future plans.

In Engineering, the students designed and manufactured a wind turbine which was then tested in the Science department.

All of the students were shown how to safely use a range of hand-tools and equipment, and it was amazing to see them work with such confidence.



Their natural engineering skills were in abundance and enthusiasm for this activity was a delight to see.

Students used electrical testing equipment and tested the performance of their wind turbine in Science.

They carried out a practical investigation with solar panels and volt meters to understand

the correlation between light and the power output from a panel.

Their knowledge and understanding of renewable energy were tested and their responses were justified and thorough.

It was a great day for the first Year 5 Arete STEM students.



Whitgift: Science job

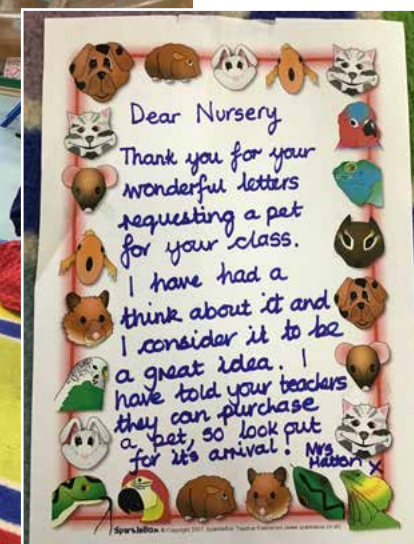
Triple Science GCSE was promoted to Year 9 at John Whitgift Academy at a special event.

Principal Rob Spendlow introduced the event before handing to Head of Science Matt McLaughlin who explained the difference between Triple and Trilogy.

He explained how Triple Science opens opportunities beyond JWA. A strong focus was included about what is STEM and why it is important.

The JWA science team then demonstrated a range of practical activities which included:

- kidney dissection
- building electrical motors
- a Van de Graaff generator which produced high levels of static electricity
- cannon fire - spectacularly noisy, producing sharp, crackling bursts of noise and flame which sometimes seem to build rhythmically
- dry ice



Strand: Pets surprise class

Nursery children have loved reading Dear Zoo in their talk for writing session at Strand Academy – but little could they have known what would happen next.

They discussed pets and then met some.

Carla Probert brought in Alfie the Cockapoo to meet the children. They loved giving him treats and he was such a good boy!

They contacted Catherine Davenport at Weelsby to see if tortoises Tom and Jerry could visit. The children were amazed how fast they moved.

The children decided to write a letter to Principal Sharon Hatton to ask if they could have a class pet.

They took the letter to her office and persuaded her to buy nursery class a pet. The children promised to look after it, feed it and make sure it had exercise.

The children received a letter back from Mrs Hatton to say yes, they could have a pet.

The children were so excited when they arrived at school to a special delivery, their new hamster had arrived.

Frankey said: "Can I show my mum we really have a pet."

"Mrs Hatton is kind letting us have a pet, isn't she?" said Halia.

Alfie said: "I thought it was going to be a crocodile, but a hamster is better."

Carla and Teaching Assistant Miss Nicholls said: "The children have been so immersed in the stories we have shared in nursery.

We have brought each book to life and with Dear Zoo meeting actual animals made it such a memorable experience for our children."

Strand Primary Academy's SATs results were incorrect in the last edition of The Link.

They have been confirmed as reading 56%, writing 67% and Maths 67%, with a combined score of 50%.

Goole: Follow road to wizard event

Wizard of Oz was the theme in a food competition at Goole Academy's open evening.

The idea was to showcase students' excellent food cooking and presentation skills through an exciting competition.

The challenge was: Who could make the best Wizard of Oz themed cake? Cupcakes? Sweet treats? Or anything else?

Prizes were awarded for different age groups.

Entries were displayed for parents to view and vote on during open evening.

There was an exceptional uptake for the competition, some fantastic overall entries and different presentation techniques. Well done to all involved but congratulations to Alysha who came first following the vote and won a £20 Amazon gift voucher.



Careers guidance at Goole Academy has been recognised as outstanding and awarded with the national Quality in Careers Standard.

It demonstrated the importance placed on careers and how students are supported to make decisions about life after school.

The Quality in Careers Standard is awarded under licence by Ixion (part of the Shaw Trust Group).

Jon Boulton, Associate Vice Principal at Goole Academy, said: "We work hard to give our students the best possible start in life.

We chose to take the national Quality in Careers Standard as we knew doing so would further develop our students' knowledge, skills and experience so they can go out into the world and achieve personal success.

We are delighted with the outcome as it shows we are providing a fantastic programme for the children of Goole."



A Baroness visited Goole Academy as part of its 'Learning with the Lords' programme.

Former Green Party leader Baroness Natalie Bennett spoke to Year 10 students about her reading, specifically books she reads for pleasure and those which have had an impact on her.

She was interviewed by the Year 11 School Council who asked some very mature questions about environmental issues, several of these focusing on Goole and its surrounding area.

Lightening the mood a little, Baroness Bennet, ennobled by former Prime Minister Theresa May, spoke to a class of Year 9 students who asked questions such as 'Do Lords and Baronesses ever fall asleep in the House of Lords?' and 'How was your train journey up to Goole?'. (Sadly, and unsurprisingly, her connecting train from Doncaster to Goole was cancelled.)

It was a great morning for all involved.



Enthusiastic girls from Goole Academy were among the Trust's Year 8 teams taking on Dr Fleming's Delta Wings Design Project.

The 10 students agreed on a team captain and, once they understood the brief, started drawing some innovative sculpture ideas.

With each wing tip of the Vulcan bomber weighing more than 50kg and more than 4.5m in length, the design must securely hold them without causing damage and be safe for visitors to get close.

The students wanted to visualise their ideas so, after a CAD drawing training session, they quickly transferred their drawings to the Academy's 3D printer and made bombs and Vulcan bomber wing tips.

The team worked as engineers and followed the conventional design process: generation of suitable ideas; design and manufacture of scale models; development of a design; research critical information, such as material properties, cost, manufacturing techniques, labour charges; and create suitable time plans to monitor and check progress.

The judging is taking place at the end of the term and all team entries will showcase their ideas at the Get Up To Speed STEM event at the Magna Centre in March.

Head of Design and Technology at Goole Academy Simon Poulton said: "As soon as the team started to brain-storm ideas, it was rewarding for me to see so many employability skills being developed such as: teamwork, planning, communication and perseverance.

It is an amazing competition to be involved with and the winning sculpture will be something that will be viewed for many generations to come by visitors to the new home for the Vulcan bomber XH558."

Good luck and well done, Team Goole."

Garforth: 'T' time classroom



Garforth Academy launched a new T-level in Education and Childcare – and the team were given a classroom to turn into an Early Years' training room.

It ensured the move to technical education was even more real and, leading up to and during the summer holidays, the work began to plan, decorate, and resource the room.

Work still needs to be done but staff showed it off during a

recent Sixth Form open evening, when a couple of young children stayed and played while their siblings and parents spoke to teachers.

Having their vote of confidence was enough to know a good job had been done!

Sixth Form students already went

into Early Years' placements for two days every week, but having this additional resource means they can try new ideas and strategies to use with confidence in their settings.

Two Garforth Academy students will travel to London to participate in focus groups run by The Diana Award.



Tommie and Abigail will be asked to share their experience of its mentoring programme in group feedback discussions.

An event celebrating all those students who completed The Diana Award Programme was held at the Academy.

Careers Coordinator Bhavna Mukhtar was delighted

Tommie and Abigail had been selected.

"Congratulations to the class of 2022 students on The Diana Award Programme," she said.

"They showed a fantastic commitment to developing their skills ready for the world of work."

She thanked Sam at The Diana Award and all the mentors who supported the students.

The Diana Award was set up by Princes William and Harry in memory of their mother. Its mentoring programme pairs volunteer mentors with young people, helping them gain an insight into the world of work and career skills training.

Worlaby: Runners raise vital funds

Children in Need benefited from an inter-house cross country at Worlaby Academy at the village's playing field.



The start line for the various classes.



Boy and girl winners for each class with Sarah from the Get Ahead team.

Donations raised £102.10, with the whole school participating in the event, organised by Mrs Clark and supported by North Lincolnshire Schools Sports' Get Ahead Partnership @letsgetahead

Each class ran a predetermined route around the playing field and house points were awarded as the children finished.

The children learned about the significance of the BBC's Children in Need appeal and how it supports projects working with disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.

The children were reminded that completing the cross country

may be a challenging event, but it was designed to make them empathise with children who face tough challenges everyday of their lives, for different reasons.

Many family members attended to support the children.

Sports leaders were placed around the course to encourage runners and some completed their own event and ran with younger members of the school too.

Wybers: Isla's medal

Congratulations to the girls' football team at Wybers Wood Academy who represented North East Lincolnshire in the County Finals.

They won six and drew one of their games in an inter-school tournament organised by the School Sports Partnership at Oasis Academy Wintringham.

Each girl received a winners' medal while Isla won player of the competition.

Three made competitive debuts and all had an ace time.

Isla pictured with her best player medal.

