



## End of Term Newsletter - Easter 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

Please find attached a copy of our latest Newsletter. As you can see there has been a lot happening everywhere. Much focus has been given to all our students preparing for tests and exams in Years 2, 6, 11, 12 & 13. We wish them all well with their revision and encourage them to take part in Easter School, on which there is more information inside.

Progress on the new build has been quite rapid from the turf cutting to the arrival of the concrete planks from Ireland. As you can see since the steel work went up, the new Serlby Park Academy is going to be a substantial size. Thank you to all pupils and students who have raised money for new IT equipment in the new build and thanks to



Kier, our builders, who have offered sponsorship to our PE students with their kit, to the tune of £1,000. We will continue to raise money and hope to achieve our target of £10,000 by July. Can I add that it has been reported to us that some of our Year 7 pupils have been asking members of the public for contributions. We would not dream of asking our pupils to do this. The pupils concerned did bring in their spoils, but have been told not to do it again.



We would like to wish Mrs Heather, our teacher in charge of Music our very good wishes for the future and we would like to wish everyone a pleasant and hopefully warm Easter break.

Lady Edwards  
Principal 3-18



Please keep an eye on the Academy website [www.serlbyparkacademy.org.uk](http://www.serlbyparkacademy.org.uk) . This is constantly being updated with news and forthcoming events as well as information you may find helpful.

## PRIMARY NEWS

Another busy and exciting term has flown by with lots of events taking place on the Primary Site.

Children on the Lower Primary site were treated to a performance of the Pantomine Aladdin on their return after the Christmas break by a professional theatre company.

### Year 6 Residential Visit to Penistone



Pupils in Year 6 visited the Kingswood Education Centre at Penistone on 9<sup>th</sup> February for a week. They took part in various indoor and outdoor activities and luckily the weather was relatively kind to them.

They rode quad bikes, took part in climbing, high wire, camp fire activities, and drumming sessions.

All pupils returned very tired but excited by the visit. Thanks to Primary staff for organising the event.

### World Book Day

Pupils on the Primary site took part in World Book Day by dressing up as various book characters. Children in Year 2 to Year 6 were treated to a production call Space Jump which was performed by West End Theatre Group.

Mother Leah has visited our children and taken assemblies this term, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her.



### Explorers Day

Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 came to school dressed up as Explorers as part of their topic work. They spent the day taking part in various activities.



# HAPPY EASTER

## Spot the Bird Competition

The competition winners of Mr Schofield's British Bird Identification quiz 'spot that bird' observed and recorded the birds they saw from their specially made bird hide (thanks for making this Mr. Heggie!). They saw the following species on the school grounds: a pied wagtail, a house sparrow, a dunnock, two robins, three blue tits, two long tailed tits, a blackbird, two magpies, two collared doves, nine wood pigeons and two crows.

The children then logged these sightings into the RSPB's national database.



## Yorkshire Wildlife Park



Y1 and Y2 visited Yorkshire Wildlife Park. The children had great fun seeing all the different animals including meerkats, lions and the park's newest arrival Victor the polar bear.

The children also attended a talk by the park rangers where they learnt about habitats and got the opportunity to hold a giant snail and stroke a bearded dragon! Thanks to everyone involved in the visit.

## Red Nose Day

Pupils dressed up for a donation and we raised total of £492 across the Academy



## Road Safety

Children in Mrs Dawson and Mrs Kent's class have taken part in a speed awareness campaign with the local police. They have been out on the main road working with speed guns and speaking with speeding drivers on the consequences of driving too fast in built up areas.

# HAPPY EASTER

## The Romans



Pupils and staff in Year 3 and 4 had a day to launch their new topic The Romans. They dressed up in Roman costumes, learned to march, made Roman mosaic tiles and baked Roman biscuits.

They have all been working hard on this topic learning all about The Romans. As part of this they have all been making Roman artefacts including clay pots,

paintings and roman mosaics. Parents were invited into school to visit the Roman Market. Many thanks to all parents, family and friends for their generosity and support.



## Sponsored Swim

We would also like to thank everyone for their support during the Sponsored Swim by Year 3 and 4. The children and some of the staff had a great time during the event.

## Reading Challenge

The children continue to work hard reading each night to complete the Reading Challenge. We already have over 20 children on their Silver Award and 14 children have achieved Gold. All children that receive their Gold Award will be awarded with a very special prize before the end of the Summer Term.



# HAPPY EASTER

## Easter Egg Competition

Here are a few photos of the Decorate an Egg Competition entries which is being held this week on the Primary site. It is open to pupils from Reception to Year 6. Winners will receive an Easter Egg during our final assembly this Thursday. Good Luck!



**A REMINDER TO ALL NURSERY PARENTS THAT NURSERY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL FOR THE STAFF TO CARRY OUT HOME VISTS AND WILL RE-OPEN ON TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL**



## Secondary News

### Hagg Farm February 2015

This Year in February 36 very eager Year 7 pupils from our Academy took part in a 5 day residential visit to Hagg Farm in Derbyshire.

The trip complements the Academy's Personal and Social Education Programme and aims to develop pupil awareness, understanding and appreciation of the environment. The programme also encourages independence, self-esteem and teamwork within the group whilst allowing pupils the opportunity to enjoy many outdoor activities.

Throughout our stay the weather was at its best lots and lots of snow as usual! The pupils didn't moan once and wanted to stay outdoors whilst the staff wanted to go indoors!

There were various activities throughout the week which all pupils took part in. Caving was a favourite along with the mission impossible zip wire! The least favourite was domestic chores!

As expected the behaviour of the pupils during the week was exemplary.



Building an Igloo to keep warm!



Having a rest halfway through our 7 mile walk!

### Meridith O'Connor



**Teen pop star Meredith O'Connor visits Serlby Park Academy with a set of songs aimed at combating bullying**

Meredith O'Connor is a rising teen pop star in the US. Her videos have attracted over two million views on YouTube. But Meredith is a rising pop star with a difference, because she's leveraging her appeal to young audiences to speak out about an issue close to her heart - bullying. The former model and Miss USA pageant contestant was bullied herself during her school years, an experience she's since written about in her song *The Game*. She's gone on to partner with



anti-bullying organisations and has also featured on the American News channel CBS. She is a role model that children all over the world look up to, and her message has changed the lives of many.

Students from Serlby Park Years 6 to 11 were lucky enough to be a part of Meredith's first UK tour. Meredith performed several anti-bullying songs including *The Game* and *Just The Thing*, and also hosted discussions about bullying. Our students were among some of the first people to hear Meredith's new single *Being Me*. Meredith shared her songs and personal story of being bullied with the students just a few years younger than herself. The 18-year-old talked about not fitting in, getting excluded by peers she thought were her friends, and even going home once with a broken nose. She also said she knows there are "horror stories" about those who were bullied much worse than her. She encouraged those who are bullied to seek support from someone they trust, and for those who witness bullying to take a stand against it. "You won't be made fun of ... You'll be looked upon as a hero," she said. "Maybe everyone will follow your lead and start being nice."

We look forward to seeing Meredith in the Future.

### RAF Dream Pursuit!

We are delighted that one of our Year 10 students, Alex Cook, has secured a fully funded STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) residential work experience placement on the RAF Cranwell air base. Alex will be teamed with RAF and industrial engineers, who will guide him through every step of the week long placement. The work placement will take place during the Easter holidays. He will have the opportunity to experience the power of engineering first hand, seeing how it solves real life problems. During the week, he will be given the opportunity to:

- Work alongside real engineers from the industry drawing on their knowledge and putting new skills into practise
- Design and build products using a range of different materials
- Understand the importance of budgets, allowing him to calculate the financial impacts of his decisions
- Learn the practical applications of the techniques and processes he will be using
- Gain valuable employment skill; working in a team, communication, time management, problem solving, planning and presentations

There are only 60 STEM work experience placements each year at RAF Cranwell so Alex had a lot of competition. Alex is hoping to secure a career within the RAF so this is another step closer to him achieving his dream!

Good Luck Alex!





## Psychology

A2 Psychology students are going to take part in a research experience day at Sheffield Hallam University on 18th March to support both their forensic module and their research skills module.

AS Psychology students are invited to take part in a further research experience day in July at Sheffield University to build on their initial research topic and provide practical experience.

AS Psychology students are to be invited to take part in a CSI Forensic Psychology event at Kingswood in June which is supportive of their A2 curriculum (Forensic Psychology) and will provide an initial practical insight into the world of Forensic Psychology.

**PSYCHOLOGY IS ACE - CHOOSE IT FOR YOUR A'LEVEL!!!!!!!**

## History Trip to Bassetlaw Museum



On the 27<sup>th</sup> February our Year 10 History pupils visited Bassetlaw Museum in Retford to take part in a discussion about 'How do our heroes get well soon?'. The changes in medicine from World War 1 to present day were discussed and **Help For Heroes** representatives were there to talk to pupils about rehabilitation of soldiers injured in action today. The discussion focussed on the vast changes in medicine over time and also the different type of mental and physical injuries soldiers can return home with.

The press took photographs and most pupils had their photograph taken with the Help the Heroes mascot. Each pupil was given a mascot bear to take home too. The pupils behaved extremely well and museum staff complimented the school for their excellent behaviour. Well done year 10!





### Red Nose Day

Year 10 held a non-uniform day for Comic Relief and the new school and raised £371.00.

### West Burton Power station trip

As part of their OCNWMR science module, the Nurture Group had a trip to West Burton power station. Once through security we were greeted by Debbie, our guide. From then on we were treated to a tour of the site including a visit to the control centre. The students were taught how a coal fired station produces electricity for our everyday needs, including some of the history of the river Trent power stations.



### Dinner Money

Please ensure you keep your child's dinner account in credit. You can keep a check on his/her account by logging on the ParentPay ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)). If you need assistance with this please contact Mrs Broomhead in the Secondary office.

### Easter School

To support our students in preparing for their examinations, we are providing a programme of revision sessions to be held in school during the Easter break. Every Year 11 student has been issued with a personal study timetable. We have also invited students from Years 6, 12 and 13. More staff than ever are coming in to provide vital support and guidance so please encourage your son/daughter to attend. We really do appreciate your support!



## Up coming trips/events

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 4 <sup>th</sup> May                           | Easter School                               |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> May - 24 <sup>th</sup> June   | May Day Bank Holiday - School closed        |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> May - 13 <sup>th</sup> May   | GCSE and A level summer exams               |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> May                          | Year 5 Residential to Whitby                |
|   | Last Day of term                            |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> May                          | School re-opens                             |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> June                         | Year 11 Prom                                |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> June - 2 <sup>nd</sup> July  | Year 6 Transition Days                      |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> July - 3 <sup>rd</sup> July   | Western Front Tour                          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> July                          | Year 5 & 6 Open Evening                     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> July - 9 <sup>th</sup> July   | John Mann Summer School                     |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> July                          | Year 11 into Year 12 Induction Day          |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> July - 9 <sup>th</sup> July   | London Theatre Trip                         |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> July                         | Year 7 History Trip                         |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> July - 15 <sup>th</sup> July | Year 10 Residential to Sheffield University |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> July                         | Last day of term                            |

Please check the Academy website [www.serlbyparkacademy.org.uk](http://www.serlbyparkacademy.org.uk) for more information on the upcoming trips/events.

**Harworth and Bircotes Children's Centre Surestart**

# Easter Fun Day

## 10-12 Bircotes Library

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March

**EASTERCRAFTS**

**EASTER EGG HUNT**

**TOMBOLA**

**FACE PAINTING**

**Come and join in the fun**