



NEWSLETTER

December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for their support in my first term as Associate Principal. There have been a number of changes, both in the academy and across the trust and the support of students, their families and staff is always appreciated but even more so during times of change.

The car park has been a challenge for us over the last few weeks. We plan to address this over the Christmas break and will be altering the one-way system to ease the congestion outside school. Please be mindful of this when students return in January. In terms of the building work, just when we thought it was all over, Kier have started their building work at the top of the road and so the disruption continues. We will do our best to keep you updated with developments and ask you to continue to be extra vigilant on approach and exit to the academy. Please see our website for a map of the proposed work.

Over this last term, students and staff at Serlby Park have once again shown just how amazing they are. Last term was packed with activities from The Great Serlby Bake Off to a visit from the BFG himself! We have had opportunities to dress up both for Children in Need and Roald Dahl Day which are always met with enthusiasm from our students and staff alike.

Thanks to Miss Seagrave and a number of our Art students, a fantastic and fitting tribute in the form of a poppy display for Remembrance Day was exhibited in the canteen across our stunning new balcony. There are already plans to extend this project next year to involve more of our students.

Our Christmas celebrations have been fantastic and wonderfully supported by families. Primary age children held festive concerts and sang their hearts out while we all watched on filled with pride. This week, we also held our secondary concert, first during the day for Age Concern and then for families and the community in the evening. This was again well supported and students had a great time showing off their talents. A big thank you goes to Mrs Turney, our Performing Arts teacher for all her hard work.

Our donation box for Bircotes Leisure Centre's campaign to support Hallam FM Cash for Kids has been filling up fast. Thanks to all that have supported by donating a Christmas gift for a disadvantaged local child.

This term, we have seen some staff leave us and a few more will be leaving at Christmas. However, many are staying within the trust and you will continue to see their faces around school. I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the very best with their new chapters.

Finally, I would like to wish all pupils, staff and families a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Best wishes

Mrs R Thompson



PRIMARY NEWS

Serlby Park Reading Challenge 2015/2016

Serlby Park Primary pupils took part in the Reading Challenge. The photograph shows pupils receiving their 'Where's Wally Gift Sets' in July.



128 pupils achieved Bronze (read 6 books)

67 pupils achieved Silver (read 12 books)

36 pupils achieved Gold (read 18 books)

Well done to all pupils who took part.

Reading Challenge Gold Award Winner

Congratulations to Thomas Mulligan 4JS, who is the first pupil this year to have completed the Serlby Park Reading Challenge by reading all 18 books.

Well done Thomas!



Dahlicious Dress Up Day

Pupils celebrated 100 years of Roald Dahl and his wonderful stories.



Primary pupils came to school dressed as their favourite Roald Dahl characters and donated £1 towards the official Roald Dahl Charity. We raised a fantastic £217.

Pupils have also been taking part in a variety of Roald Dahl games and have had the chance to enter a special Roald Dahl Quiz to win a brand new book when they visited the library.

Year 6 Athletics

Congratulations to the Year 6 Athletics team who took part in the Indoor Athletics Championships at Retford Oaks on the 11th October. They took part in numerous events including javelin, hurdles, triple jump, sprinting and many more. The team achieved first place and competed in the finals on the 16th November.



Halloween Fun at Serlby Park



There was Halloween excitement in the Library as pupils enjoyed creating their own Halloween Lanterns. This was part of the academy's celebrations of Halloween. Students followed detailed instructions and practiced their cutting skills to create fabulous lanterns, some of which can be seen here.

KS1 had a Halloween Disco, all pupils had a fantastic time!



Big Friendly Giant



Our wonderful library was transformed into a theatre for a new production of the BFG.

Pupils were enthralled as Anthony Pedley, who played the part of the BFG in the original stage production, told the story of Sophie and her adventures in Giant Country with the lovable, whizzpopping Big Friendly Giant!

All the major characters were brought to life in this tale of dreams, queens, giants and snozzcumbers!

Bookbuzz came to Serlby Park!

There was a buzz of excitement around our academy as pupils in Years 7 and 8 collected their brand new FREE Bookbuzz books. Students spent time picking books from the exciting titles that were on offer. The books were supplied by The Booktrust, an independent reading and writing charity.



This year there were 12 specially selected titles to choose from including: Eagle in the Snow by Michael Morpurgo, I am Malala and Gorilla Dawn by Gill Lewis.

The aim of Bookbuzz is to inspire excitement about reading and give our pupils the opportunity to discover new books and authors, and it certainly did have an impact on our students; they couldn't wait to get started reading their new books!

We know they will enjoy their Bookbuzz books, and look forward to reading their reviews. All this year's titles are now available to borrow from Serlby Park Library.

Congratulations

Young Writers Poetry Competition

Pupils from Serlby Park Academy Primary took part in a fantastic poetry writing competition entitled "Once Upon a Dream".



Many pupils took part and several of the poems have now been selected for publication and will appear in a brand new book called 'Once Upon a Dream - South Yorkshire' which is due to be published early next year. Copies of the book will be available to purchase at a cost of £15.99 during the spring term from www.youngwriters.co.uk
Well done to everyone who took part.

Christmas Fayre

Many thanks to everyone who supported us by visiting our Christmas Fayre. We raised a total of £1,647.47.



SECONDARY NEWS

Macmillan Coffee Morning



The challenge was on! Having had someone very close to me go through Cancer treatment in the last year, I decided to run the Macmillan Coffee morning at Serlby Park Academy this year.

Having asked both staff and students to bake for the 30th September, I was overwhelmed with the response from everyone. There were super show-stopping cakes, buns,

biscuits and cookies from everyone!

We extended morning break by 15 minutes so we could sell, sell, sell, and most importantly eat all the delicious items brought to school. It was non-stop and the Serlby staff rolled up

their sleeves to make sure everyone was served on time. Mrs Bromilow was also on hand to serve her coffees to hardworking staff on the counter!

We asked Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood to come in and judge the students' and staff's great bakes, but apparently they were busy with some TV programme! So it fell to me to judge the cakes and bakes. For the staff, the winner was Miss Seagrave with her delicious carrot cake! From the students, the winners were Holly Foster and Leo Barker, future Great British Bake Off contestants for sure!

Overall, we have made around £250 for the Macmillan Cancer charity. A great amount as I'm sure you'll agree! We would like to give big thanks to parents who supported their children with their baking and gave them extra money to spend at the bake off.

Mrs Pratt

Trip to Remembrance Service

Students, including myself, represented the Academy at the Remembrance Day memorial. All of us benefited from the experience because we observed the official service and felt involved whilst laying the wreath and singing hymns in unison.

Leanne Wright, Year 11

As well, we were able to visit the Church Hall after the service amongst other schools and



other members of the public for tea and biscuits. It was moving to see veterans at the memorial in tribute to their old friends and it was wonderful to see the amount of people who came to support this great cause.

Inspired by the poppies at Thirsk Church and the Tower of London, Y11 pupils and Art Club pupils and staff took part in a collaborative art project to create their own cascade of poppies for Remembrance Day. Pupils worked really hard to create beautiful crocheted, felt, paper and sewn poppies which were hung in the dining hall and look stunning! A beautiful way to mark such an important date! The Academy raised £416.44 for the Poppy Appeal.



Children in Need

A lovely fun day was enjoyed by all, pupils and staff, in raising money for the worthy charity Children in Need.



The total amount raised by the Academy was £568.85. A big thank you for all your support.

Christmas Light Switch on

The carol service for the tree lighting ceremony at the Town Hall was a great success. All three schools (Serlby Park, All Saints and St Patrick's) sang beautifully and the event was attended by many parents and well-wishers.



Fabulous in French



Demon Dante @nuttytilez · 1h

The first student has qualified in French! Well done to L Remil

#NuttyTilezCompetition #mfltwitterati #langchat



All of our students in years 9-11 have been working hard improving their skills in French by using an outstanding website "www.thisislanguage.com". This allows students to listen to authentic French speakers and complete various activities to test and improve students' knowledge and understanding.

The programme we have subscribed to has run an end of term competition. The competition is a great chance to engage and motivate students and not only that, it really does help to improve their ability.

For each level that a student completes, they will have had to remember and recite randomly generated vocab from a group of 20 words within 60 seconds, and students who qualify are able to recite at least 300 words. The students who are reaching towards level 50 are therefore able to recite up to 1,000 words which really is a great achievement.

We are pleased to announce the first student in the UK to qualify for the final round in French was our very own Remi Lindsay in Year 11. During this time over 400 students were online competing. Remi qualified in just 39 minutes. Fabulous speed too! She was even congratulated on Twitter. Well done Remi! C'est fantastique!

Christmas Productions

All year groups have taken part in Christmas productions and after much hard work and practice they all ran smoothly and the children had a great time. Thanks to everyone that attended.

We would like to especially thank our parents who continue to support us with fundraising throughout the year. We are incredibly lucky to have such generous support and appreciate everything that you do for us.

We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a restful break.

A REMINDER THAT WE FINISH AT THE NORMAL TIME ON FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER AND RETURN ON TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY 2017.

CHILDREN IN NURSERY START BACK A DAY LATER ON WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2017 SO THAT THE NURSERY STAFF CAN CARRY OUT HOME VISITS FOR OUR NEW NURSERY PUPILS.



Dates for your Diary

Year 11, 12 & 13 Parents Evening	17 th January
Year 9 Parents Evening	7 th February
Year 7/8 Parents Evening	28 th February 2017
Year 7 Caythorpe Court	7 th – 10 th March 2017
Year 4 Kingswood Visit	3 rd – 4 TH May 2017
Year 5 Whitby Residential	15 th – 17 th May 2017
Western Front Tour France	4 th – 7 th July 2017

