

SHIREBROOK ACADEMY



your learning, your future

Newsletter 2014

Thank you to everyone for a great start to the new term, staff, students and parents.

We have introduced a stricter uniform and behaviour policy and this has led to a number of issues. However, the vast majority of students have risen to the challenge and thank you to all the parents who support our drive to keep standards high throughout the Academy.

As I think I mentioned at the end of last term, Shirebrook Academy was awarded Teaching School status in March 2014 and because of this we have regular visits from schools across the country. Visitors are always amazed by the excellent behaviour and high standards of our students. Keeping such standards is hard work but I firmly believe that good behaviour, clear rules and smart uniform, lead to a well ordered learning environment.

You may have heard on the news recently Mr Wilshaw (Head of Ofsted, the organisation that inspects schools) say too much learning is disrupted by low level poor behaviour and hours of learning are lost because of this. I am confident this is not the case in our school, every day a member of the senior leadership team goes into every lesson and we consistently see excellent behaviour and students on task. Our students are a credit to the Academy. It is because of these standards that yet again our students achieved well in their Year 11 exams, at a time when many schools saw exam achievement dip.

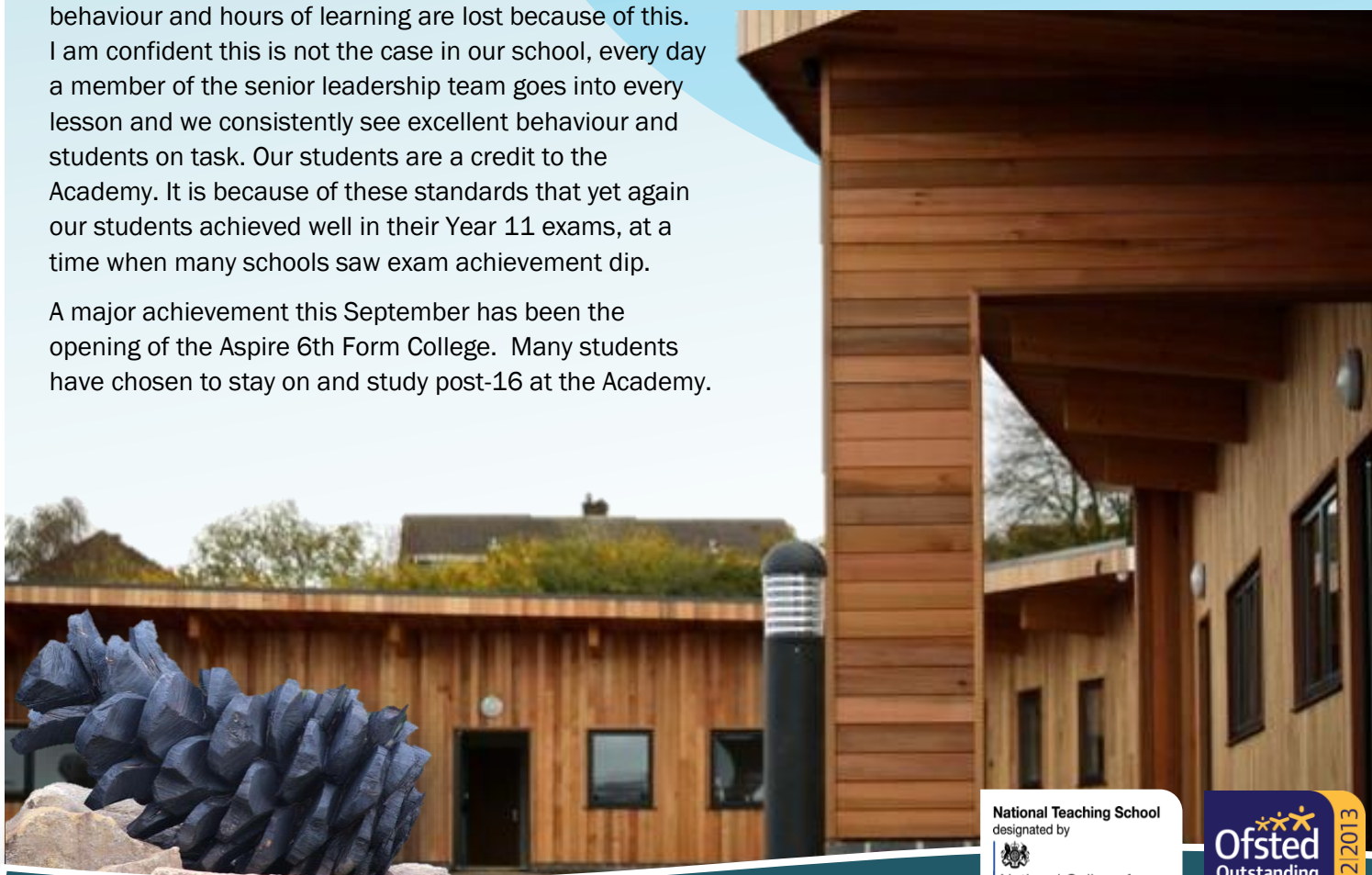
A major achievement this September has been the opening of the Aspire 6th Form College. Many students have chosen to stay on and study post-16 at the Academy.

As you may have seen a new building has been erected on the old site grounds. This is called the 'Pine Cone development' and it houses a post-16 common room, numerous 6th form teaching spaces, offices and a horticultural centre. We are hoping to use the site to grow our own vegetables in a 'seed to feed' concept. With that in mind an orchard and fruit tree area has also been planted. The new buildings will be open to the public at our Winter Wonderland event on 6th December and I look forward to welcoming members of our community to that event.

I hope you enjoy our first newsletter of the new academic year.

Julie Bloor

Principal
Shirebrook Academy



In the run up to the end of term in July we hosted our annual community fun day. Thousands of people turned out in the blazing sun for some family fun.

With fairground rides, bouncy castles, crazy golf and a miniature petting zoo there was lots to keep the whole family entertained.

COMMUNITY FUN DAY



Miss Hawker put herself in the hot seat on the receiving end of water balloons being thrown by anyone who fancied perfecting their aim.

Mr Gilbert, the Vice Principal of Shirebrook Academy said everyone had a great day.

He said: "We had lots of families there with young children – more than last year – and that's what we wanted.

We want the whole community to embrace the fun day and use the facilities that the Academy has to offer them.

Everywhere you looked there was something different going on and lots of people having lots of fun."

There was also an owl and bird of prey display, a bungee run and dunk tank. All the events were free to attract as many people as possible.

Mr Gilbert said: "We can't wait to get started on next years."

RECORD BREAKING Attempt

Shirebrook Academy become Life Savers in attempt to break the world record.

On Friday 27 June over 1700 people ascended on Shirebrook Academy to take part in a mass participation event which saw students, staff and community members receive Heart Start Training and attempt to break the world record at the same time. The event, hosted at the Academy and organised in conjunction with Bolsover District Council, The Community Save a Life team and the British Heart Foundation, saw participants learn basic life saving techniques such as the recovery position, CPR, and how to deal with choking. The previous World Record stood at 1700 people completing the training at the same time. Sadly we did not break the record despite our attempt but we were all able to learn vital lifesaving skills in the process.



Well Done Everyone!

Namibia



A successful journey...

They ended their last report with Nelson Mandela's words and they still seem appropriate on their return.

"It will always seem impossible until it is done."

It hardly seems believable that after all the hard work fundraising and preparing themselves both mentally and physically for their expedition that it is already over two months since our Namibia trekkers have returned.

Did they survive the heat of the desert? Just

Did they meet wild animals along the way? Oh yes!

Are their lives changed and the lives of the community they worked with better? Definitely

Our seven intrepid adventurers arrived at the A.Gariseb School in the Soris Soris region of Namibia after thirty six hours of travelling to be mobbed by the students at this school. Overwhelming and welcoming probably describes their first impressions.

Soon our students were used to their kilometre trek early

in a morning along the dusty Namibian roads and back again in the heat of the afternoon. Playgrounds were raked, holes were dug, cement mixed, frames painted and within a few days the school was furnished with swings and a see-saw. During this time students also taught our Namibian friends about life in England and they learned about their school and hopes for the future. Everyone took part in organised afternoon games sessions with rounders, football, relays, rugby and badminton all featuring. This was truly difficult in the heat of Africa.

After we waved goodbye to friends at Soris Soris we were off on our river valley trek. Three days of dust, dirt and danger!!!

With unforgettable night skies, hard walking on the dried up river bed and being forever on the lookout for wild elephants.

Memories to last a lifetime and experiences to change lives.

A group of eight people, including a woman and seven young men, are standing in a line on a dirt path in a desert landscape. They are dressed in outdoor gear like jackets, hats, and boots. The background shows sparse trees and mountains under a clear sky.

That certainly was AFRICA!

Pictured are: Mrs Heathcote, Morgan Clark, Caitlin Hubbard, Liam Adams, Dani Welch, Owen Morgan, Kim Wardle & Demi Bispham

Hallé Orchestra

On the 16th July one of the world's greatest symphonic orchestras, the Hallé, performed two breath-taking sell-out concerts in the Sports Hall at Shirebrook Academy.

This once-in-a-lifetime event featured a wide variety of pieces of music from Hollywood blockbusters Star Wars and Pirates of the Caribbean, classical composers such as Tchaikovsky and Elgar, and a World War One song medley, there was something there for everybody!

The concert's finale was the world premiere of 'Shirebrook – A Living Heritage', a live soundtrack composed by Hallé bass player Bea Schirmer together with the Shirebrook Academy Wind Band and Shirebrook Miners Welfare Unison Brass Band – all performing alongside the orchestra as they accompanied a new film made by Absolute Video about the historic village.

They played to two sell out audiences, had two standing ovations with rapturous applause and people were moved to tears. The Halle management and musicians were hugely complimentary, not only of our students' musical abilities but of their politeness and helpfulness; the Halle Education manager commented that 'this must be a wonderful place to work'. Following the concerts an audience member said that 'It was absolutely terrific that people can see something in Shirebrook that was the same quality of performances in Vienna or Rome' and '... what an opportunity for students to be involved in such an amazing performance'.

An amazing and emotional evening that will remain in people's memories for many years to come.





Art of *brilliance*

Y8 students have been on a journey to show how brilliant they can be this year, thanks to Derbyshire County Council's 'Art of Brilliance' programme. In February the whole year group took part in a day exploring what makes a successful student, through lots of fun activities – students got up and performed songs and poems, and wrote their own Huge Unbelievably Great Goals (HUGGS). One of the key ideas of the day was the 'Sausage Machine' – that in order to become brilliant, lots of positive ingredients need to be in place – positivity, responsibility, confidence and enthusiasm.

A smaller group then met to look at how to promote these ideas to a wider audience. Following the 'Sausage Machine' idea students decided to sell Hot Dogs at the Community Fun day in July to raise money and awareness – (see pictured) - the hot dogs were a sell-out and made £68 which will be used to support a new reward scheme .

Finally, two members of the group, Gabrielle Richardson and Brooke Selby, went to County Hall in Matlock to a celebration event, where they gave a brilliant presentation about the work the group has done during the year (pictured with Darryl and Tony from 'The Art of Brilliance').



Well done to all students involved, and look out for more Brilliant things next year!



Many parents are now using the new ParentPay system and are finding it very convenient. Instead of sending cash to school you can now top up your child's lunch card online from home using a credit or debit card.

By using ParentPay, you can ensure that your child has access to a healthy lunch every day, with you being able to top up their dinner card at a time that suits you. When crediting your child's account you will also be able to view what meal choices they are making at lunchtime using the ParentPay system

Don't forget that ParentPay is available for paying for school trips.

Why not take a look at the advantages of paying online by visiting www.parentpay.com today.

A member of the Academy finance team will be happy to answer any questions you may have and can also send you a reminder of your username and password.

Please call us if you need any more information on

01623 742722

Free School Meals



Are you entitled?

Could your child/children be entitled to free school meals? If you are on the following benefits you will be able to claim a meal for your children:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance or an Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit Only (with a family income of less than £16,190)
- National Asylum Seekers Support
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance

You can't get free school meals if you are claiming Working Tax Credit.

It's easy to apply at www.derdyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Or ask the school for a form, and your child's school will get an extra payment from the Government of £900 per year.

Remember, every Free School Meal (FSM) student will receive £50 a year from the academy to spend on uniform and trips.





Shirebrook Academy's Maths team challenged four other local schools – Hasland Hall Community, Mill Hill, Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy and Wilsthorpe Community - to send 15 of their most able mathematicians to join them for a Maths Challenge Day, which they called a METS day – as a play on the acronym STEM.

Maths Challenge Day

Challenge Day

The day took place on Thursday 3 July 2014 and started with a brilliant visual display of the effects of flooding through the destruction of a scaled model of a town at the base of a mountain (see photos). To help set the scene, this was followed by a news report from February 2014 about the flooding in the Thames Valley.



STEM Ambassadors and other guests were invited by Derbyshire Education Business Partnership to talk about their job roles and the use of Maths in their jobs, before the teams split into their various challenges. The volunteers each worked with a group for the morning and then acted as impartial judges in the afternoon as students presented their work.

Students were given all of the equipment they would need to work through their challenges including iPads for photography and videoing and laptops for working through some of the tasks on spreadsheets.

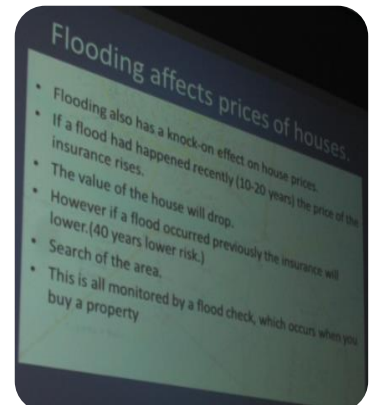
Introduction

The team, who started work organising the day in February 2014, following discussions with Kaye Twomlow from the Derbyshire Education Business Partnership as part of the STEMNET Advisory service, set about designing six stretching problems that were associated with flooding - an extremely newsworthy topic at the time!

Team Challenges

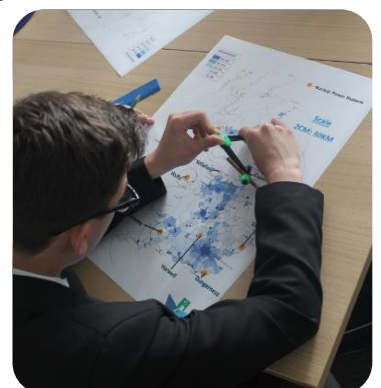
Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy worked on flood discharges and risk analysis using graphs and statistical analysis. They also compared different regions with different risk factors. They were given support from Sharon MacAulay from Strada Estates in Chesterfield who talked to them about how flooding reduces the price of houses and increases insurance for up to 30 years - and forever if the flooding is regular!

"We really enjoyed it! Loved the meeting first thing this morning, with the other schools and when we flooded the model! We enjoyed every part of the day, especially working out the probabilities and doing the presentation".



Shirebrook Academy

looked at which cities were in most danger if there was a nuclear disaster at any of the nuclear facilities around our coastline. They used loci and tried to identify the population that would be affected and where they would have to move to be safe. They also considered what would happen if one of the Canary Islands sank. During their presentation we were shown the estimated numbers of people who could potentially be at risk if there was a disaster in one of the nuclear plants, but luckily they had designed a road system for them to be evacuated safely!



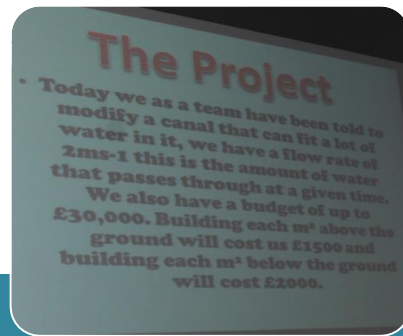
Wilsthorpe Community School worked on the flow rate of flood water through various soil substrates by experimentation using graphical analysis. They then looked at the rate of flow for inclusion in the decision making about the risk of floods. They used graphs and tangents to look at rate of flows and were supported by mathematical modeller, Dr Andrew Barkwith from the British Geological Survey.

Dylan from Wilsthorpe said "I really enjoyed the day! I would gladly take part in something like this again".



Mill Hill School were challenged to modify the design of a canal basin to hold more, looking at risk of flooding, within a specified budget. A number of designs were submitted by small teams and a winning design was chosen for the final presentation. Matthew Kingsley from Costain Serco Ltd, who is the environmental Officer working on the widening of the M1 project, helped the students to understand the issues and come to final conclusions.

Natalie from Mill Hill found it interesting. She said "I would want to do something like this again and I'd even like it to be a bit harder next time".



Hasland Hall Community School investigated the effects of climate change and how far the sea level would rise if the polar ice caps melted, using volumes and density data. Simon Edwards of Merebrook Consulting in Matlock, a trained meteorologist and physicist helped them out. They had to learn about the trends and how to model the rising sea levels, predicting that Sheffield might actually become a real seaside town!

Sydney and Anna, from Hasland Hall said "We would happily take part in a day like this again. We found it hard but enjoyed being challenged. We wouldn't have wanted it to be easy".



And the winners are...

The eventual winners of the challenge were the team from **Wilsthorpe Community School** - the judges were amazed by the level of teamwork and delegation that the school showed! They allocated roles and worked really well together to get to the final results and complete the presentation. It was well worth the hard work they put in beforehand in the organisation. Matthew Stennett, a lead teacher in Maths at Shirebrook Academy and one of the main organisers of the day said, 'I was impressed beyond belief! All of the students showed that they could work independently and in teams, and all with great enthusiasm.'



THE ACADEMY AND THE COMMUNITY

**COME
ALONG
TO...**



**SHIREBROOK ACADEMY
Youth & Community Evening**

**Every Wednesday
4.30-6.00pm**

At Shirebrook Academy



**All community users welcome,
age 8 and over.**

Activities include;

Sports

Films (including 3D)

Arts & Crafts

Games (x-box)

Cyber Coach (Dance)



Can you help?

Shirebrook Academy Y11 students are looking for sponsorship or donations to help fund their Y11 leaver's prom.

If you are a local business who may be able to make a donation in return for some advertising in our newsletter or have a prize you could donate for raffle or tombola events, then please do get in touch and speak to Cat Gibson.

Your generosity will be gratefully received and very much appreciated.

Thank you

**01623
742722**

CGibson1@shirebrookacademy.org

Shirebrook Academy Alumni *Your Future in Our Community*



Calling all Shirebrook Academy leavers...

Need access to ICT?
Need extra tuition?
Need support with
your next steps?
Want to share a
success story?

Want to re-connect with old class mates?

Want to give something back to your school?

Help other students succeed or show students how successful you have been?

Sign up to the Alumni website at futurefirst.org.uk

Contact: leaverssupport@shirebrookacademy.org

THE ACADEMY AND THE COMMUNITY

Facility Hire at SHIREBROOK ACADEMY

We have a range of facilities to hire at Shirebrook Academy:

- Fully Air-Conditioned Sports Hall
- Grass Football Pitches
- Floodlit 3G Football Pitch
- Specialist Classrooms & Meeting Rooms
- Multi Use Games Area (MUGA)
- Activity/Dance Studio
- Drama Studio
- Theatre *(with seating for 120 people)*

We offer the facilities for a whole range of activities, such as Drama/Dance Productions, Band Rehearsal's, Arts & Craft Class's, Birthday Parties., Conferences and Meetings.

Suitable for all sports including:

Football
Badminton
Basketball
Yoga/Zumba
Rugby
Gymnastics

Floodlit 3G Pitch

From £20 per hour

Sports Hall Hire

From £30 per hour

Cinema/Theatre

From £40 per hour

Activity Studio

From £15 per hour



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please contact Facilities for All directly on:

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THE ACADEMY AND THE COMMUNITY

SHIREBROOK
ACADEMY



Winter Wonderland

From 11am – 3pm

Saturday 6th December 2014

Come along to our annual Winter Wonderland
Visit Santa Claus in his grotto, enjoy some inflatable fun,
visit the petting zoo, be entertained by Shirebrooks Got
Talent Music Concert or visit one of the many stalls and
sample some festive delights.

*Fun and Festivity
for everyone!*

Tel: 01623 742722

www.shirebrookacademy.org



Common Lane, Shirebrook,
Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG20 8QF

Young Voice

YOUTH COUNCIL

Shirebrook Academy played host to Bolsover Districts Council (Young Voice) Youth Council recently. Secondary Schools from the local area were in attendance for the first meeting of the year. The first topics to be looked at were "bullying, self-esteem and understanding disabilities." During the day, to enhance an understanding of disabilities, students toured Stubbin Wood School. Fundraising was also on the agenda for the meeting and students looked at various charities that could benefit from the coming years fundraising efforts. All students enjoyed a buffet lunch and the day was a great success. Special thanks must go to past students for their involvement, input and hard work during their time on the Youth Council and they move on to their Y10 and Y11 studies with our best wishes. Youth Councillors moving on are;

Morgan Clark, George McDonall,
James Russell, Abbie Ashton,
Rachael Brewin and
Danni Welch.

As these students move on we welcome our new Youth Council team and begin with a big thank you for their attendance and input into their first meeting.

Sandra Peake



Pictured are our new councillors;

Jake Haywood-Welch, Jack Lyons, George Banton, Libby Brown, Alice Shaw and Keira-May Cadzow

The Lea Green Journey

On September 26th the Shirebrook Academy ambassador team embarked on an amazingly fun and challenging trip to Lea Green. The trip involved activities such as; low ropes, skyline and team swing as well as going on a stream walk that had a slight twist, let's just say that we all managed to get soaking wet and there wasn't actually that much walking involved, we'd actually go as far as saying it was more like crawling through the stream rather than walking. This was a great way for us all to get to know each other a little bit more and understand everyone's strengths and abilities which we could build on when doing team activities, this will also help us become a great team and work hard during our year as ambassadors. Although we had lots of crazy and fun filled activities there was still one thing in the back of all our minds and that was who would become this year's head boy and head girl and their deputies. I know this was very important to all of us and was shown when we were battling it out to prove ourselves worthy of such an important and honourable position. We all worked very hard and well during the activities and everyone got stuck in and gave 100% effort into everything we did.



The results are in.....

Meet our Head Boy and Head Girl 2014/15

Morgan Clark

Age 16 (Mentally 5 years old)

Hobbies

Playing sports, e.g. basketball (MJ 23), Football (Casillas), spending time with my Cait (girlfriend)

Random Fact about me

Well I am secretly Spiderman.

Why I wanted to be an ambassador?

I decided to apply for the role of becoming an ambassador for the sheer fact that I wanted to help make a difference for the future generations of students that attend Shirebrook Academy. Also this school has given me so many opportunities and this made me aspire to become an ambassador, to give back to the school that gives me so much.

What skills I hope to gain through being an ambassador?

I would like to gain better leadership skills and experience to help me further on in life and help me contribute to the working world.

My ambition

Well I'd like to become a full time superhero but in the meantime I would settle for becoming a secondary school PE teacher.



Bryony Penfound

Age 15

Hobbies

Eating chocolate, singing (badly) and spending time with family and friends

Random Fact about me

I'm really bad at maths, especially decimals, I never see the point.

Why I wanted to be an ambassador?

I was very eager to become an ambassador because I wanted to represent the academy and be a positive role model to others, to inspire them to achieve what they believe is unachievable.

What skills I hope to gain through being an ambassador?

I hope to gain good leadership skills and to be able to contribute to the ambassador team affectively.

My ambition

To make a difference and be the reason someone smiles.



Meet our Academy Ambassadors 2014/15



From left to right; Hannah Cooper, Josh King, Lara Henson, Courtney Cooper, Liam Widdowson, Caitlin Hubbard, Gemma Bilby, Harry Langrick, Reece Bates, Morgan Clark- Head Boy, Reece Saxton- Deputy Head Boy, Natashja Mason, Demi Bispham- Deputy Head Girl, Alex Peake, Georgia Wooley, Luke Barnes, Nicole Downs, Bryony Penfound- Head Girl, Thom Robinson, Abigail Shevlin, Ellis Cheeseman (not on the photo), Bailey Thomas (not on the photo)



Anti-bullying event brings pupils together to raise awareness

A sunny September day saw Shirebrook Academy along with Stubbin Wood School host the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors programme. The event was aimed at raising awareness of bullying and how to prevent it. Up to 170 pupils from across the area took part in what proved to be a fantastic day.

Part of The Diana Award, the anti-bullying programme aims to raise awareness of bullying in and out of the classroom and educate youngsters on what to do if they are being bullied or suspect someone in school is.

Carolyn Briggs, (Anti-Bullying and International Coordinator at Stubbin Wood), said that raising awareness of bullying was very important in both the Academy and Stubbin Wood.

She said: “We want to make sure all students are aware that bullying can’t, and won’t, be ignored and that the students have to make an adult aware if they are being bullied or see others falling victim to it.

The conference brought together children from many schools, from all over the area, and they all worked together on the different tasks. All the children were mixed up into groups and had to create role plays of different types of bullying and how themselves and their peers should deal with it.

Tracey Horton, Personal Development Co-ordinator (Academy), said: “Their ideas had to be read out in front of everyone and most found it a bit daunting – reading in front of about 150 people - but everyone did it and they said they enjoyed it.



“All the youngsters from all the schools got stuck in with everything and wanted to carry on at the end of the day.”

“It was very educational and also touched on what to do about cyber bullying and what constitutes as bullying on the internet. Everyone has access to a computer now, but it’s not always clear to them what is bullying online.”

Both The Academy and Stubbin Wood have launched their own anti-bullying ambassadors who will be looking out for bullying in their own schools and who can be the first point of contact for their peers if they don’t want to speak to an adult straight away.

Students were encouraged to come up with some creative ideas to tackle bullying – the Academy and Stubbin Wood group liked the idea of lunchtime ‘buddy’ areas in the dining room, to give students a safe and friendly place to sit if they had any concerns about bullying. These ideas will support whole-school anti-bullying initiatives such as Anti-bullying week in November.

Ms Briggs said: “Some children don’t want to talk to a teacher or an adult, and will often tell you they’re fine even if they’re not, even if you ask them over and over if there’s anything bothering them. Having children as eyes and ears to what’s going on around them means they can talk to one of their peers and then come to a member of staff to step in.”

“Bullying isn’t something that anyone should have to put up with – and we will make sure no-one has to.”



INTERNATIONAL SPACE CHALLENGE

On Thursday 2nd October, 58 students from Year 10 and Year 11 took part in the 'International Space Challenge' in conjunction with the 'Institution of Engineering and Technology' and 'Business Language Champions'. The aim of the day was to make links between languages and the wider world, encouraging students to consider how language can link to business and engineering. The day involved students working in teams to construct a model for a hotel suitable for lower orbit. Students were able to use their knowledge of science, maths, French and technology to order materials, design and make the hotel as well as presenting their work to the judges who joined us for the day.

Students worked in teams of five or six, demonstrating outstanding team-work throughout. Students had to order their materials in French and it was fantastic to hear them engaging with target language with confidence and enthusiasm! Following two key-note talks from Stephen Powley (Institution of Engineering and Technology) and Andy McMurray (National Space Academy), students embarked on their project and showed excellent creativity and technical understanding when considering the pitfalls and dangers of putting a hotel in to lower orbit. The models which students produced were fantastic, and deciding the two winning teams proved an extremely difficult decision for our judges.



LET The Institution of
Engineering and Technology

BLC
BUSINESS
LANGUAGE
CHAMPIONS

The two lucky teams selected as winners will now go forward to represent the Academy in the regional final, which is due to take place at Shirebrook Academy on 4th December, where we will host winning teams from other schools across Derbyshire. Particular congratulations to Abigail Shevlin, Natasja Mason, Bryony Penfound, Warren Squires and Megan Kennyford who were all awarded prizes for their leadership skills and attempts to engage in French.

Pictured are the winning teams whom we are very proud of and look forward to seeing them in action in the final.

Team 1

Bryony Penfound, Daisy Kissane, Alex Adcock, Pristina Mathurin and Liam Deneley



Team 2

Demi Bispham, Thom Robinson, Kirsten Wales, Megan Burns, Abbie Ashton and Matthew Shaw



Warren Squires (10AM):

'It was great working with new people and learning more about languages after school'

Liam Deneley (10WF):

'There was a great atmosphere working in a team and I can't wait to do it again!'

Bryony Penfound (11JK):

'It was really good to be able to work in a team and use skills from French and other subjects to create a great project'

Special thanks to the team of staff who helped to make the day a success – Mr Grainger, Mr Foster, Mr Kelly, Miss Husté, Miss Dupuis, Mr Davey and Mr Stennett, headed up by Miss Bath, who dazzled us all with her amazing French skills..!

Mr Edwards



The Courtyard

The showpiece of the development
The Pine Cone statue
Show Gardens

The Yurt Area

A large tent structure
Large decked area
Willow structures
Further development in the future

The Orchard

Fruit trees to bare fruit
to be picked and used for cooking

Changing Space

Designed and built by Y10 students
An area to change into outdoor clothes
Includes a small observatory for star-gazing

Horticultural Classroom

For learning about planting and cooking
Includes a kitchen and a dining table
To develop 'seed to table' learning

Post 16 Classrooms

To host our growing ASPIRE sixth Form
A base for our students away from younger children

Horticulture area

Seed centre to nurture the plants
Growing areas and raised beds for students to plant

THE PINE CONE DEVELOPMENT

The Pine Cone is a new sustainable architectural development at Shirebrook Academy. This unique collection of sustainable buildings surrounded by landscape architecture that will create a series of indoor and outdoor learning and teaching spaces that create beauty from dereliction. Located on the site of the now demolished Shirebrook School, the project will transform the area and provide a base for Post 16 students, an office and small group learning space and a horticultural centre.

POST 16 at the Pine Cone

ASPIRE
6th Form College



On Wednesday 22nd October Aspire's first ever Year 12 students from Shirebrook Academy, Bolsover, Springwell and Heritage came together for a master class in study skills delivered by the University of Nottingham. Tips on creating a suitable space to study and time management were gratefully received as students come to the end of their first half term as sixth formers.

The session was followed by the opening of the new Post 16 centre, the Pine Cone development at Shirebrook Academy. The Pine Cone development is a collection of sustainable buildings surrounded by landscape architecture located on the now demolished Shirebrook School site. The area has been transformed to provide a base for Post 16 students, an office and small group learning space and horticultural centre.

Post 16 students took the first steps on the 'pathway to success' and posed for photographs at the oak sculpture of a Pine Cone. After a tour of the site some students braved the autumnal weather and planted the first trees in the woodland area, while others enjoyed a celebratory cream cake and break in the post 16 centre.

Students are now looking forward to using the facility for personal study.





It may have taken a while but Beatlemania has reached Shirebrook Academy! Forty-two Academy students and seven from Stubbin Wood joined forces and got a Ticket to Ride to go down a Long and Winding Road to explore Liverpool during a residential visit on 9th and 10th October.

The Magical Mystery Tour began with students touring The Beatles Story and learning the story of how four unlikely lads from Liverpool formed a band and changed the course of music history forever, the museum was filled with original memorabilia, clothing and instruments owned and played by The Fab Four and traced their story from the early days of The Quarreymen through to touring Hamburg, the famous Ed Sullivan performance, Sgt. Pepper, Abbey Road and their final roof-top performance and subsequent break-up in 1970. The tour ended poignantly as we learnt that the day of our visit coincided with what would have been John Lennon's 74th birthday and there were red roses left on his white piano to mark the date.

Following our Beatles experience the students and staff had the opportunity for a little retail therapy in the historic Albert Docks.

In the evening we were treated to a two course meal at Pizza express on the banks of the Mersey and made our way across town to the theatre to watch a performance of 'Wicked'.

The students were captivated and awe inspired by the musical which tells the hidden story of 'The Wizard of Oz' and sees monkeys and witches flying across the stage, set to a fabulous score and spell-binding songs.

After a Hard Day's Night and hearty breakfast we visited the historic Liver Building and explored Liverpool's nautical heritage in the Maritime Museum.

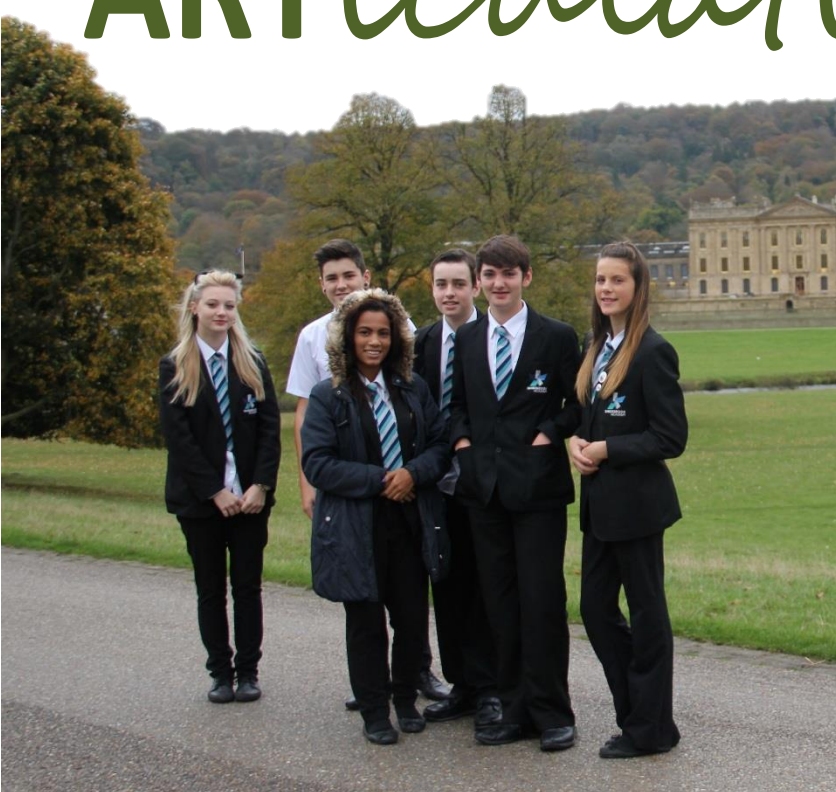
A walk across town led us to the world famous Cavern Club where Jade Mason, Savannah Everett and Mr Case were invited onto the hallowed stage to perform a selection of Beatles songs to an appreciative audience – a real once in a lifetime opportunity and certainly one I will never forget!

In the afternoon the students and staff had the opportunity of explore Liverpool One for last minute shopping and finally to the Walker Gallery where we were able to see some amazing and diverse artworks from old Dutch masters to modern abstract sculpture, one of my favourites being formed from a toilet and a tuba called the Loophonium!

An action packed and amazing couple of days enjoyed by all and we only wished there were Eight Days A Week so we could continue being Day Trippers in our Day in the Life...



ARTiculation



Six students proved themselves excellent ambassadors for the Academy when they attended the Discovery Day at Chatsworth with The Duke of Devonshire.

They were in mixed groups of students from Sheffield / Derby High, Fir Vale Sheffield and Eckington School. All students except ours read from their scripts, but our students had memorised their speeches and spoke with confidence. When 'on tour' again our students were the only ones to ask questions (Adrienne and Ryan), very confident!

Well done to Alysia Middleton, George McDonnell, Gareth Davis, Adrienne Nussey, Ryan Parsons and Pristina Mathurin.



Rooster

On Tuesday 21st October 2014 the Btec dance group attended a contemporary dance performance called Rooster by Rambert at Nottingham Royal Concert Hall. The students will study the dance as part of their Btec course and replicate the performance. Students enjoyed their experience, even if at times they felt the performance was abstract.



Be fearless against crime

Duke of Edinburgh Presentation Evening

Nine students from Shirebrook Academy attended a presentation evening at County Hall in Matlock to receive their bronze or silver Duke of Edinburgh certificate and badge. The evening contained a presentation from the silver student's about their experiences of the award, followed by the students receiving their certificates.

A big well done to all students!



Y7 Cell Modelling

AS part of the Y7 science curriculum Mrs Skelton set a challenge of getting her class to make either an animal or plant cell from any material that they could find from home.

The finished models were excellent, with some amazing efforts gone into making their models.



Be fearless against gang crime
Be fearless against street robbery
Be fearless against alcohol crime
Be fearless against cybercrime
Be fearless against abuse

DATES FOR THE DIARY

NOVEMBER

24-28 Y10 & Y11 Mock GCSE Exams

DECEMBER

1-5 Y10 & Y11 Mock GCSE Exams

8 Target Review Day

19 Finish for Christmas

JANUARY

5 Return to School

12-16 Y9 Exams

FEBRUARY

3-6 Back to the 80's Production

6 Finish for Half Term

16 Return to School

24 Y9 Options Evening

MARCH

30 Finish for Easter

APRIL

13 Return to School

MAY

11 GCSE Exams Begin

22 Finish for Half Term

JUNE

1 Return to School

JULY

6-22 Y10 Work Experience

22 Finish for summer