



Getting ready for the **GENERAL ELECTION**

Encouraging young people to vote is very important. Only by using their vote can they ensure things change for young people for the better. We have done a lot to ensure our young people get involved with the democratic process. Literacy week theme was speaking out and famous people who have changed things for the better. Students took the opportunity to stand on their soap box and do exactly that. We are also working with the Leader of Bolsover District Council, Councillor Eion Watts, Senior Councillor Keith Bowman, Community Liaison Officer Sandra Peake and Personal Development Co-ordinator at the Academy, Tracy Horton, to run a mock election in the Academy on Election Day with voting booths & ballot boxes. There will be four parties for students to vote for; **Vison, Progress, Transform and Tomorrow**. Each party will have their own policies written by the students representing them.

Educating our students about the democratic system and the importance of registering to vote is becoming more important as the students reach registration age. Bite the Ballot is a not-for-profit party-neutral organisation that is trying to empower young people to stand up and make their voices heard through better political education and voter registration.

One young person who really embraced the whole election process is Libby Brown. Libby has been involved with the "Big Vote" here at the Academy and is now one of the Young Derbyshire County Council Members. Libby was also nominated to represent Shirebrook Academy on Bolsover District Council's Young Voice which enables young people in Bolsover to be consulted and encourages engagement and citizenship.

Libby has successfully worked on various campaigns with the aim of trying to improve the community for others and herself. She took part in a consultation exercise in connection with the reopening of Willow Tree Farm and has been involved in starting new social clubs at the Academy. Libby is committed to making a difference in her community and admits that this whole experience has presented her with opportunities to learn and engage in things she would never have dreamt of.

Yet another busy term with lots of events taking place for students. We have also been developing our work as a teaching school and recently held a very successful conference which was attended by over fifty delegates.

I have had many kind words regarding my departure in July and as I wrote in my letter to parents, the governors are very committed to appointing an excellent replacement with the recruitment process already underway. In the mean time we continue to ensure the work of the Academy goes on as normal with a packed programme of events planned for the summer term, including the official grand opening of the Pine Cone Centre on 28th April by The Duke of Devonshire.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter and on behalf of myself and all at the Academy may I thank you for your continued support.

Julie Bloor
Principal,
Shirebrook Academy



The Wolfson Foundation

Christmas came early at Shirebrook Academy with a £34,000 grant for iPad minis

Shirebrook Academy was awarded £34,000 from the Wolfson Foundation to spend on iPads for high ability students in year 10 and 11.

The iPad minis will be used to give them access to a wider range of revision aids, promote organisation and allow for more independent study.

The school had to put together an application to the Wolfson Foundation, outlining what funding they required and what they wanted to spend the grant on.

And now, the foundation, which grants schools and college funding for projects linked in ITC and raising aspirations and achievements of high ability students, has gifted the Academy £34,000 to equip 120 students with iPad minis.

120 have been given out to students – around 60 in year 10 and 60 in year 11 – and another 32 that will be bookable by all students for use within school.

Andy Gilbert, the Vice Principal of the Academy, said having iPads will expand their ability to learn and study independently.

He said: "Having iPads will give them access to emails, school calendars, and educational apps that they wouldn't have access to without them. We want to encourage them to study independently, giving them the opportunity to excel in their education. They will also be used in lessons for note taking that can be tailored towards their learning style."

The students who have received the iPads are all studying towards GCSE's and will go on to study A-levels in academic subjects.

Mr Gilbert said: "We make sure that all our students make the right choices for their ability and to ensure that they choose the relevant qualifications for further education. We make sure that our high ability students all choose a GCSE route rather than a vocational BTEC route. It is these students that will all have an iPad to take home and call their own for their remaining time with us here at Shirebrook. We want to make sure they achieve their best and giving them equipment to allow them to study independently and have access to revision material they would otherwise be unable to access is part of that."

All staff and students will be iPad trained and a contract will be drawn up for all students to sign to ensure they understand their responsibility with the tablet.

Mr Gilbert said: "Everyone will be aware that the tablet is theirs for the duration of their time here and that they have to look after it. Everyone is really excited about having them and are looking forward to be able to use them to help them study in the run up to their exams."

The Academy already has some iPads in school and carried out some research last year, giving half of year 8 the tablets. It was found that having access to the technology improved literacy through the writing of blog posts each week answering a question set by the teaching staff.





WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Thank you to all who took part and supported the Macmillan bake sale back in September at Shirebrook Academy. We received confirmation from Macmillan that we have raised a staggering **£250.20** during the day. This will be of great help to someone and their family with the practical and emotional support needed to face cancer.

NSPCC

Number Day

5th December 2014 was NSPCC Number Day, a nationwide event to raise money and awareness for the NSPCC whilst promoting the importance of Maths. There was a large variety of activities running throughout the day including a departmental treasure trail, a find the number on the teacher and a mathematical murder mystery. Every lesson had a number themed starter and at tutor time everyone had a number based activity. The main event however was the Staff Times Table Rockstars battle in the atrium at lunch time. In front of massive crowds Mr Kelly, Miss Ward, Tiff, Mr Foster and Mr Moran all took to the stage to see who would be crowned the staff times table rock god. Tiff was the eventual victor in what was a closely fought contest.

We raised **£51.71** and plenty of awareness for the great work being done by the NSPCC. Thank you to everyone who got involved.



Number Day

INTERNATIONAL SPACE CHALLENGE

Shirebrook Academy fought off stiff competition from other local schools to earn the right to host the eagerly anticipated International Space Challenge in conjunction with Business Language Champions and the Institution of Engineering and Technology, on Thursday 4th December.

The Academy welcomed teams of students from the City of Derby Academy and Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy to compete in the final alongside the two victorious teams from Shirebrook. In addition to this, ten businessmen and women made up the judging panel on the day, including Sally Fagan (Business Language Champions), Andy McMurray (National Space Academy), Stephen Powley (Institution of Engineering and Technology) and Jeremy Nickless (President of the UK's Student Space Society and Reaction Engines Ltd.).

The day kicked off with an ice-breaker in the style of Who Wants to be a Millionaire, followed by a keynote speech delivered by Jeremy, about his career in the industry and the changes in space innovation over the last 100 years.

The challenge itself involved students working in their teams to develop and refine the work they had done at the heat, and in the build up to the final, on their design for a hotel suitable for lower orbit. Students split their teams in to different roles based on individual strengths – students played the role of 'data manager', 'marketing manager' and 'rocket launch manager', taking part in meetings across the day in true 'Apprentice' style.



IET The Institution of
Engineering and Technology

BLC
BUSINESS
LANGUAGE
CHAMPIONS

Abbie Ashton (Y10);

“I enjoyed the experience of the whole day and I loved the atmosphere of the other schools coming together.”

By the end of the day, students had produced a marketing leaflet for their hotel, delivered a sales pitch in French and an engineering presentation to the judging panel, as well as taken part in their very own rocket launch, with points awarded to the teams who launched their rocket the furthest.

The day ended with the announcement of the winning teams – one of the Shirebrook Academy teams finished in third place out of six teams, with a team from City of Derby Academy and Saint Benedict's taking second and first place respectively. The teams from Shirebrook should be especially proud of themselves and the efforts and enthusiasm they put in to the final. They worked well as a team and competed admirably with the other schools. They gained skills in communication, time-management and problem-solving, which will hopefully stand them in good stead for the future.

Congratulations to Demi Bispham, Thom Robinson, Kirsten Wales, Megan Burns, Matthew Shaw and Abbie Ashton who made-up the winning Shirebrook Academy team – they were awarded with a voucher each, which hopefully came in handy in the build-up to Christmas!

Special thanks to all facilitators and judges who joined us for the day, as well as Miss Bath, Mr Stennett and Mr Mullins who ensured the day ran smoothly and successfully, as well as Miss Husté and Mr Davey who were a fantastic help to students all day.

Mr Edwards



DIVERSITY

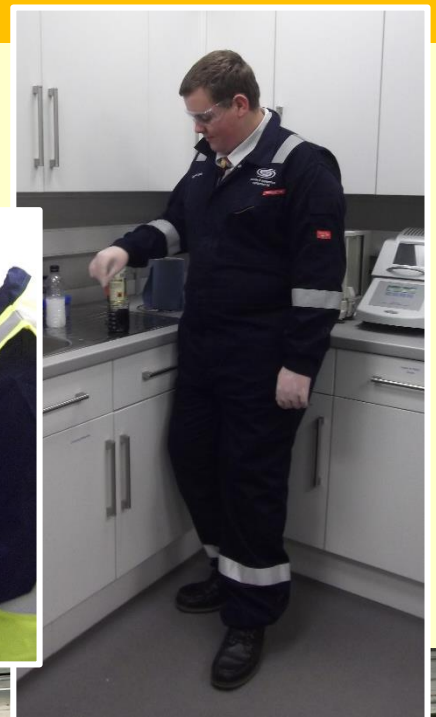


One Friday night back in January, a group of 14 student's had the pleasure of going to see the dance group Diversity at the Motorpoint arena Sheffield. Diversity rose to fame after appearing on and winning the third series of Britain's Got Talent back in 2009. It was a great evening and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone with the student's behaviour being exemplary as always.

Made in Chesterfield

Shirebrook Academy students joined students from other schools in North Derbyshire for a week of visits to employers in the local area. Part of the 'Made in Chesterfield' campaign, employers opened their doors to show that Manufacturing is a strong part of the local economy, and to help students understand the skills needed in this sector for the future.

Students are pictured visiting MSE Hiller, a company manufacturing centrifuges – the visit included testing samples in a laboratory, welding, and learning about advanced technologies used in this industry. Also during the same week, Aspire 6th form students took part in a conference for employers about the future of manufacturing, and Y10 students visited NLT, a local provider of apprenticeship training in engineering. Other visits were organised for technology teachers to help them keep up to date with employer needs. At all of the events students were made to feel very welcome and gained a real insight into the world of manufacturing.





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.derbyshire.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.



Gifted & Talented

Visit Derby County

On Tuesday 27th January, 30 Gifted and Talented Year 9 Physical Education students were invited to attend an exciting opportunity to visit Derby County Football Club. Students from the Academy travelled to the iPro stadium to discover there is a lot more to a football club rather than just the players on the pitch. Students experienced a full stadium tour including spending some time in the director's box, sitting in Steve McClaren's seat (former England Manager) and even the police cells. The trip was designed to educate students on the variety of jobs available ~within the sports sector and followed by watching a Championship match. After a game of football in the soccer dome students had the opportunity to have a photo on the pitch whilst the players warmed up. Although it was an extremely cold evening, all of the Academy students were singing their hearts out but by half time the score was still nil- nil between the home team and Blackburn. During the second half Derby's manager Steve McClaren made a few changes, including bringing on Premier League legend Darren Bent and the highlight of the evening was to see Shirebrook Academy's very own Mason Bennett who changed the game completely. Bent managed to edge Derby in front before Mason set up the second goal for Bent, which sent the academy students jumping for joy. The night was topped off by a shout out for the Academy on the public announcement system and some joyous singing on the way home.





The regional Schools trampolining competition took place before Christmas with two of our students competing in different age groups. Both girls did incredibly well representing the academy and left with a great sense of achievement. Kadie Middleton finished in 6th place out of 24 in the U14 girls intermediate and Alysia Middleton finished in the top spot taking 1st place in the U19 girl's elite competition. Congratulations and well done both girls. ***Pictured is Alysia with her medal and trophy.***

TRIUMPHANT Trampolining

On Saturday 10th Jan Alysia Middleton (10SI) continued with her competition journey by attending the Zonal Trampolining competition at Cambridge University representing Shirebrook Academy.

Finishing second overall, after a very tight battle and being in the lead after round 1, photos from the competition show Alysia upside down performing a straight back somersault, it is definitely very straight!

Alysia's story:

"After setting off on an early Saturday morning we finally arrived at Cambridge University. We walked into a massive sports hall where hundreds of people were sat on set seating and stood above us on a balcony staring down at the new, never used trampolines. At 10.10am I started to warm up, making sure I had stretched and my legs were not cold. We started warming up on the trampolines at about 11am. Throughout my warm ups, I watched my fellow competitors and just thinking how amazing they all were- this made me so nervous. Then the warm ups had finished and the competition began...

I was 4th up and the wait just flew by, I approached the trampoline and I heard nothing, everyone had stopped, it was silent and no one made a sound. I started to bounce and still all I could hear is the noise of the trampoline. My first routine was then over, one more left. The crowd cheered and clapped for me as I got off. I had other coaches commenting saying how good I was. The scores were raised 9.2, 9.3, 9.5, 9.3, 8.8 I was so proud of myself and my confidence grew.

Then it came to my 2nd routine and my legs were shaking and again the crowd went silent- it was like I was there alone. The routine had finished ... The scores were raised... The crowd cheered... And my smile got bigger. I achieved high 8's and I was so pleased as I watched my name go up the leader board.

The next thing I knew I heard my name "in second place Alysia Middleton" as I stepped onto the podium.

So off to Birmingham for the National Schools finals representing Shirebrook Academy".



SHIREBROOK ACADEMY STUDENTS

WOW NATIONAL AUDIENCE AT

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

Two year 11 pupils delivered an hour long presentation in front of hundreds of people about their trip to Namibia last year.

Demi Bispham, 16, and Dani Welch, 15 travelled to the African country with students from schools across Bolsover on an organised trip through Bolsover District Council and the NHS Hardwick Clinical Commissioning Group.

The pair volunteered to present at the National Geographical Society event at the weekend, pooling together their whole teams experience for the hour long presentation.

Dani said: "It was very nerve-wracking to be in front of a massive room full of people, knowing that they were all just concentrated on what you were saying.

"But we know what we wanted to say and had everything on our PowerPoint presentation so we just got on with it."

In the audience were people – students, teachers, and expedition leaders – who had been on similar trips abroad last academic year.

The whole point of the conference was to bring together everyone who had been exploring for them to share what they had learned and their own personal experiences.

The pair – along with a student from Frederick Gent School – talked about their fundraising efforts, what volunteering in the schools out there was like and how they felt they helped the young ones, their trekking in the jungle and also talked about their personal development.

Demi said: "We took some things from our trek with us too, as a visual for everyone.

"We took a pair of our walking boots we wore on the long trek to show and some pictures of the jungle gym that we helped build for the young ones over there.

"They all played on it as soon as it was finished, they loved it and it was great to see; we wanted to show this off."

And while Dani and Demi were really nervous, as soon as they got up on stage, those nerves melted away.

Demi said: "Travelling to Namibia and seeing the completely different way of life has changed how I see the world completely and we wanted that to show in our presentation, we want everyone to know about it so our passion took over.

"Anyone who gets the chance to go this academic year should jump at the chance, I'd go back tomorrow."

Ms Bloor, the principal of Shirebrook Academy, said that she was very proud of the team.

She said: "Dani and Demi both volunteered to be part of the team to present at the National Geographical Society and I am very proud of the work that they put in.

"It wasn't an easy task but they made it look so, and did the Academy proud."



SHIREBROOK ACADEMY

goes.....

BACK TO THE 80s THE

Shirebrook Academy students spent a week in February taking audiences “Back to the 80s” – the era that brought you Madonna, Star Wars and the Gameboy. It was an incredible 80’s journey that lasted for 7 months.

Over 100 students turned out for auditions and a 39 strong cast took to the stage dressed in leg warmers, tutus, stonewashed denim and even a Michael Jackson glove! Months of staying after school on a Friday, long after everyone else had gone home, to learn complex

choreography like a dirty dancing lift; 3 part harmonies to Bon Jovi; and navigate through some cheesy dialogue and jokes about Bueller’s day off (that they didn’t quite understand as none of them lived through that time). An incredible set saw the band playing from a giant Rubik’s cube and the sides of the stage were decorated with brave staff pictures from the 80s. Nothing was going to hold the staff and students back, not even the late nights, Saturday rehearsals or the snow that threatened the whole production. Selling out on all 4 nights, audiences were rolling with laughter, singing along and wanted to get up and dance with the students. They were full of praise, commenting on the professionalism and talent of these young people, gutted that they couldn’t come again to see it. The atmosphere was electric every night, students were full of energy, walking on sunshine, dancing on the ceiling, having the time of their lives, creating memories that will stay with them forever.



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)



SHIREBROOK Gymnastics Club

Recreational gymnastics is an introduction to gymnastics, these classes are suitable for all, whether you've done gymnastics before or whether you'd like to give it a try. You don't need to be able to 'flip' and 'trick', our expert coaches can help you improve, develop and achieve your goals. Learn an array of gymnastics skills and develop fundamental components of fitness on the notion that gymnastics is a sport for everybody!

OUR CLASSES

GIRLS ages 8-15

Friday 6.30-8.00pm

Saturday 11.00-12.30pm

BOYS ages 8-15

Friday 6.30-8.00pm

BOLSOVER

Club of the Year
2014

BOLSOVER

Coach of the Year
2014



For more information and to book a session, contact us either via email on shirebrookgymnastics@hotmail.co.uk or message us over Facebook.

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



**FACILITIES
FOR ALL**

maximise the potential
of your facility

To book any of the facilities
or for more information,
please contact Facilities for All directly on:

01623 741660

Email: info@facilitiesforall.co.uk Web: www.facilitiesforall.co.uk

Students can go to the ball after classmates organise prom

A group of students have formed a committee at the Academy to be in charge of their own leavers' prom. The team of six have come together after it looked like they wouldn't be having a prom at all if they didn't take the lead themselves.

Headed up by the finance officer Cat Gibson, the year 11's have set up a tuck shop to raise funds, organised the venue and the meal, along with a theme, decorations and awards for prom king and queen.

Megan Burns, 16, approached Ms Gibson and asked about the possibility of setting up a committee to organise the prom – a move welcomed by the school.

She said: "I really wanted to have a prom and be involved in the organising of it – especially if we weren't going to be able to have one otherwise.

"I like designing and developing themes so being involved plays to what I'm good at. I'm really excited to see it all come together – but we've still got quite a lot to do."

The prom is taking place at The John Fretwell Centre in Mansfield and all students will be having a sit down meal.

Daisy Kissane, one of the prom committee, said having a proper meal feels very grown up.

She said: "We all asked around our peer groups – we all have different friendship groups, so it's really easy to gauge opinion from the whole year group.

"We were undecided about a buffet or a sit down meal but almost everyone wanted a three-course served meal. We went to the Centre and picked everything – we've settled on a roast dinner as everyone loves it."

The tuck shop runs every lunch time and has sweets, crisps and chocolate for sale to all the year groups – and has been a great success.

So far, with the prom a few months away, the team have raised £2,900 through corporate sponsorship and the tuck shop in school.

£2,500 has already been spent – on replenishing tuck shop stock, decorations and the venue deposit – but there is no worry about hitting their self-imposed target of £3,500.

Kirsten Wales, 16, said: "We're so pleased with how all the fundraising is going, everyone is getting behind the cause.

"We've also had lots of corporate sponsorship through school suppliers which has been a great help.

"We've spoken to them ourselves and that's a bit scary at first, but when we've explained our plans and why we've set up our committee they're happy to help."

The school's uniform suppliers F R Monkhouse donated the cost of the venue hire, and Creative Five, the company behind the branding has paid for the disco at a fundraising night and the certificates for the prom winners.

Any money raised over the cost of the event will go towards keeping the cost of the tickets for the evening down.

Ms Gibson said: "We want to make sure that everyone who wants to go to prom can, we don't want the cost of the tickets to be high.

"Getting a dress, or suit, and having hair and make-up done can be a lot of money and we want to see as many of the year group there as possible.

"It's going to be a great evening, and the committee will be able to take great pride in the fact that they made it happen."



MONKHOUSE
ESTABLISHED 1938

creat5ive

Pictured above are members of the Year 11 prom committee with Cat Gibson, event organiser and in the left picture, Trevor Bailey from Monkhouse School wear and on the right Joanne Taylor and Simon from Creative 5.

Many thanks from the Year 11 prom committee and the Academy.

Thank
You

DERBYSHIRE SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday 19th February Mr McGuinness and Mr Marsh took five students to the Derbyshire schools cross country competition at Mount St Mary's, Spinkhill. Having previously performing exceptionally in the Bolsover competition Ellie May Walton, Harvey Crew, Kian Tansley, Kasper Raicjter and Matthew Shaw represented the Academy and Bolsover schools against the rest of the Derbyshire districts. Weather conditions on the day were horrendous with rain hammering down turning parts of the course into a treacherous boggy mess, a biting cross wind also contributed to the adverse weather conditions which were extremely hard to run in. All five runners ended up caked in mud, a fact Mr McGuinness found hard to deal with as he gave students a lift in his recently cleaned car! Considering the conditions all students performed really well with notable performances from Matthew who came 7th and Kian who came 22nd.

Well done to all.



Bulb and Tree Planting Project

A group of ASPIRE students at Shirebrook Academy who are currently studying for an AIMS award, Diploma in Skills for Employment and Further Learning, embraced the bulb and tree planting project recently as part of their course module, 'Taking Part in an Activity'. The project offered by Shirebrook Town Council was perfect because it gave them a chance to experience different types of work, budgeting for the planting and giving something back to the community.

With a £250 donation from DCC, county councillor Marian Stockdale, the ASPIRE students purchased the spring bulbs to plant in the community for the benefit and enjoyment of all residents. Thanks to Shirebrook Town Council, Alan Noble, Sandra Peake & Racheal Brocklehurst for their hard work and commitment towards organising the project.



Inspire a generation

Even though the Olympics happened over three years ago now the legacy of the saying still lives on and continues to get said on a regular basis in schools across the UK and Shirebrook is no different. We believe that whatever age you are you can inspire a generation and this is where our sports leaders come in.

Throughout the year we have helped out at a number of different primary and secondary events by providing leaders to help assist the main staff involved. John Barker the Partnership Development Manager is very impressed with the leaders we have here at the Academy and as a result recently asked our students to lead at the Y5/6 Primary sports hall athletics district final.

This event took place on Monday 23rd February at the Arc, Clowne. Our students, as always, were fantastic and got stuck straight in as soon as they arrived. Before the event could start our leaders were given a quick run through of the rules for each of the 11 events as these were going to be run slightly different to how they were done in the training our students received. During this time the students were a credit to the academy, listening patiently and asking questions when necessary.

The 10 selected students are part of our Year 9 leadership programme and are often selected to go and help at events like this. These students all possess excellent leadership and communication skills within sport.

Finally after ten minutes with Julie our students were briefed and ready to begin. The day was started off with the obstacle relay race in which Brandon Clarke and Libby Brown jumped at the chance to demonstrate. During this time the students used their own initiative to position themselves around the course to help out if needed.

After this race it was time for the individual events to take place where the leaders were required to set up, explain and record results for different events including the standing long jump, vertical jump and the javelin throw. Throughout these events the leaders were fantastic yet again encouraging the kids and giving those help and advice on how they could improve.

After the field events it was back into some more races and after a fast clear up by the leaders these were able to happen straight away meaning that minimal time was lost and the year 5/6's didn't have any time to get bored.

After all the events had taken place the leaders sat quietly whilst the winners were announced. Winners on the day and going on to represent the Bolsover district at the Derbyshire finals were Blackwell Primary- a few of our leaders have already asked if they can again go and help at this event.



Overall the leaders were fantastic, using their own initiative, helping the primary school students and showing great manners when talking to the staff.

Star leaders for the day were Libby Brown and Wictoria Janczar.

Well Done!



Extreme Wheels

As part of the Academy's Youth Work programme, a group of KS3 boys were identified and brought together as an intervention group to improve behaviour in and out of school. This was led by the youth worker on a Friday evening and during lunchtimes.



The aim of this project was to give the boys the opportunity to plan and deliver a project which they could take ownership of and design to their own objectives. It was hoped this would give them an incentive to take responsibility and behave in a more mature and focused way.

Taking this idea forwards, we made contact with Bolsover District Council and joined forces with Extreme Wheels and discussed the boys putting on a showcase to the rest of the school of professional BMX and trail riders.

This seemed like a perfect project for the boys to become involved in

They had to plan, organise and deliver the show which required an intense period of work and responsibility on their part. The year 8 boys were in charge of organising a meeting with the site manager to arrange staging, seating and access, informing heads of year about timetable changes on the day, taking photographs for publicity, admin and checking numbers of students. The year 9 boys had to gather information about catering and costs, design a poster to promote the show, create a short video using clips of the riders and creating a show schedule. The group as a whole did a risk assessment then presented their work to senior staff members.

They arrived on site early on show day to help set up and throughout the day were marshalling, photographing, and assisting the riders, staff and production team.

VIPS such as councillors, staff from other schools, police and community safety partnership officers etc., who came to watch the show, were very impressed with the student's behaviour and hard work, which was evident. Extreme Wheels staff also said they may call upon them to help with other events in the future as they proved themselves so well.

The whole school enjoyed the show and the boys were proud of themselves, as were we as an academy, for all their hard work. They were a credit to Shirebrook Academy and showed that hard work, focus and dedication really does pay off. Well done boys.

Staff reported seeing an improvement in behaviour and attitudes, the boys took the project seriously and became focused on achieving their desired outcome.

We all hope working on the project will have helped the boys realise that hard work and effort produces better results and more 'cool points' than bad behaviour and can earn them respect in and out of school. They will continue working with the Youth Worker over the next term on various positive activities to re-enforce all they learnt during the project and to hopefully extend their positive impact into the community.



SHIREBROOK ACADEMY LITERACY WEEK 2015

Shirebrook standing on its soap box and speaking out!

Building on the long standing success of previous years the school chose six famous speakers – Malala Yousafzai, Winston Churchill, Martin Luther king, Abraham Lincoln, Emmeline Pankhurst and Helen Keller to inspire students to begin to understand how they can speak on a topic that they feel passionate about.

There were numerous activities on all week for students and staff to be involved with, starting with an Inter form Spelling Bee where students were challenged with subject specific spellings.

The winners were: Keenan Mathurin in 7RW, Olivia Corbett in 8MY and Erin Wheatley in 9JE. The students were not alone in this challenge in the CPD session and the staff also completed the Spelling Bee. The top three members of staff were: Samuel Crompton from ICT, Connor Tyrrell from Humanities and Cheryl Booth from MFL.

On Wednesday student work was showcased in the Library, when Year 8 and Year 9 students held a book launch of their poetry from English lessons. These focused on the love poetry of Romeo and Juliet and the poetry created through the visit to the academy by Helen Mort - Derbyshire's Poet Laureate.

During the week, there was also visit from the performance poet, Andy Graves. He worked with students who had taken to the soap box, focusing on improving their speech and delivery ready for the Literacy Showcase on Friday. Another performance showcase the students experienced was the Punctuation Roadshow. This took Year 10, Year 9, Year 8 and Year 7 students through their paces; testing their grammar and GCSE technique. Students could sing-a-long with the presenter to memorable tunes such as *'brackets, brackets, brackets we know what they encase'* aiming at improving their literacy in subjects and pushing their writing skills.



The biggest challenge of the week for staff was 'No Pens Day'. Inspired by Mick Waters, staff were asked to teach without using pens and no student wrote anything down! Around the academy there were some amazingly creative lessons on, particularly in Humanities and Languages.

All Year 7 students also received a free book during the week – these were greatly received by the academy from 'BookBuzz' and included titles such as 'Geek Girl', 'Ghost Stadium' and 'Football Frenzy'.

The finale was the costume day – where staff were given a t shirt to 'graffiti' with quotes from one of the famous speakers. Students and staff were encouraged read the quotes and talk about them.

The week culminated in the Literacy Showcase on Friday where all students that had participated in an activity were invited to celebrate their achievement and the achievement of others with prizes, Certificates and gift vouchers.

WELL DONE EVERYONE!



Be fearless against crime



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

STAFF NEWS

We are delighted to announce the promotion to Deputy Head of Rachael Skelton at Frederick Gent School. Rachael has been at the Academy & predecessor school for 14 years and has been an outstanding colleague and teacher. She has supported many students and taught many who have gone on to Science careers. Rachael has also been instrumental in the development & growth of the post 16 Apire sixth form and I know the first wave of students who we saw leave the Academy and go onto university are still in contact with her as her support and encouragement meant so much to them. Rachael will be an excellent Deputy & we wish her all the best for the future, she will be missed.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

MARCH

27 Finish for Easter

APRIL

13 Return to School

MAY

11 GCSE Exams Begin
22 Finish for Half Term

JUNE

1 Return to School
26 Y11 Prom

JULY

6-22 Y10 Work Experience
22 Finish for summer

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A MEDICAL CONDITION? A MEDICAL NEED?

Your child's health and welfare is important. If your child has a medical condition or need we must be made aware of this. Please make sure you have informed the Academy about any medical issues concerning your child.

USEFUL CONTACTS:

Tanya Mason	Student Reception & First Aid
Julie MacDonald	Student Attendance & First Aid
Mr Beecham	Head of Year 7
Mr Moran	Head of Year 8
Mr McGuinness	Head of Year 9
Mr Freer	Head of Year 10
Mrs Taylor	Head of Year 11
Mrs Cartledge	Assistant Principal Child Welfare

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