



the Federation Bulletin

Welcome to the Federation Bulletin, your regular newsletter containing a selection of the exciting activities we have been undertaking across the Manchester Federation of EBSD schools.



LONDON CALLING FOR PUPILS WITH 100% ATTENDANCE



A group of deserving pupils from Meade Hill school earned a fantastic reward trip to London

for achieving 100% attendance. The deserving pupils took part in a variety of different activities including a visit to Buckingham Palace to watch the changing of the guard. They took a historical walking tour to see

sights such as Trafalgar Square and Downing Street, and they even managed to fit in catching a show in the West End.

To finish off an amazing trip, the pupils enjoyed a cruise along the Thames, taking in the attractions from a luxury river boat.

WYTHENSHAW CAMPUS VOLUNTEER DAYS

Wythenshawe Campus are proud to be collaborating with *Volunteering Matters* who develop and deliver high impact volunteer-led solutions. *Volunteering Matters*, as part of their charity work, have links to businesses who, in turn, give something back to the community.

As the Campus is developing and was not a purpose built site, the school has to maintain the grounds. Some of this work is carried out by our horticulture students however we are always in need of external volunteer help in addition to our staff motivational sessions where horticulture has provided a therapeutic outlet. We have been fortunate to have both Vodafone and Marks & Spencer visit us and assist in the maintenance of our grounds.



The objectives of the volunteering day were team building and giving something back to the local community. The team were keen to support an organisation close to



Atlas House in the Wythenshawe area of Manchester. They wanted to carry out mainly practical activities with a range of activities to suit different team members.

A team of 20 volunteers attended. The project was completed by the efforts of the team and the feedback was excellent. The benefits to the

organisation will be improved facilities for students, and the benefits to the team are improved teamwork and motivation.

The next Volunteer day is planned for Wednesday 6th July when Vodafone will be back on site.



AN ANGLESEY ADVENTURE

We are proud to announce that our Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh team of students have achieved their Silver Award!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) is a UK charity that makes a difference to young people's lives and prepares them for life and work. Over 300,000 young

a whopping 18 kilometres, incorporating the stunning views of Puffin Island. Arriving at the campsite in high spirits they pitched their tents and then enjoyed a BBQ feast; all food was cooked by the students.

Day 2 started with a full cooked breakfast, despite the slight drizzle, spirits were anything but damp and students were ready to embrace the hike ahead. Loaded up with water and supplies students commenced their walk from Red Wharf Bay to Dulas Bay along the cliff on the busy coastal path, taking in the breath-taking views of the sparkling sea and charming fellow groups of walkers as they went. All were ready for



skimming and exploring rock pools for crabs and other shell-fish. The day finished at a beautiful campsite situated on a cliffedge overlooking Bulls Bay, allowing them to look across and appreciate the distance they had travelled that day. Heavy rain meant an early night for all.

Day 4 was the final leg of their challenge, although tired they showed true determination and spirit.



ANGLESEY IS HOME TO A VILLAGE WITH THE LONGEST PLACE NAME IN BRITAIN:

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people each year from all backgrounds take part in the DofE programme to broaden their horizons, develop their leadership skills, learn to work with others, volunteer in their local communities, increase their employability, and prove to themselves they can succeed at a serious challenge.

There are three progressive levels of programmes which, when successfully completed, lead to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Award.

Young people create their own DofE programme by choosing a Volunteering, Physical and Skills activity, going on an Expedition and, for their Gold only, taking part in a Residential activity.

The DofE programme is balanced and develops the whole person – mind, body and soul, in an environment of social interaction and team working.

The Year 11 Group started their adventure at Beaumaris to Red Wharf bay, which is approximately

bed having completed another 18k of their journey and enjoyed relaxing conversation in front of a roaring campfire.



Day 3 starting in Dulas Bay was a relaxed beach walk, allowing students to enjoy activities such as

The group stopped in a beautiful fishing village to enjoy their packed lunches before the final ascent which became a sprint finish up an enormous coastal cliff-side to take the winner's glory.

As a reward and recognition of their efforts their final night's stay was in a luxurious wooden off-set apartment where hot showers and a huge helping of hearty fish and chips was hugely enjoyed by all. The whole group passed with great success and no doubt will now be considering their next outdoor challenge!



IT'S NOT CRICKET!

A group from Southern Cross school have spent the last few Tuesdays going to Old Trafford Cricket Club and learning how to play Table Cricket. They have not only had to learn about the rules of the game, how to bowl and how to bat but they have also had to learn some 'moves' too.

Each score that a batsman hits has a sign that the umpire does so that everyone in the ground knows how many points they hit. Also there are signs for wide ball, out and LBW.

All this learning and practice is leading up to a tournament which is being played on Wed 25th May at the Ground. We will be playing against 2 other schools. Fingers crossed we play well and come back to school triumphant!



BUGLAWTON BOYS REALLY RATE RETAIL!



Every Friday sees Buglawton Hall School's Dylan and Lyndan

volunteering at a British Heart Foundation charity shop in Congleton. They're kept very busy sorting items for pricing, helping behind the scenes and carrying out other retail tasks. The boys really enjoy going and have become encouragingly involved. Everyone enjoys them coming to the shop, adding their humour and enthusiasm.



The boys' experience will go towards both a 'Duke of Edinburgh Award' and a Level 1 Certificate in 'Skills for Further Learning and Employment'. Well done boys!



CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESS IN WRITING

Meade Hill School held a writing competition in March. Adam Roper, in year 9, won the award for the most improved writer. His winning story is below:

The Downpour

"Are you ready for the trip then?" shouted James. "Yeah I can't wait!" replied Kieren. "Did you know there are loads of ghosts here?" Megan said curiously. "Ha, ha, this is going to be mint!" laughed Courtney. Everyone was putting their bags into the bus then Miss Jones shouted "alright everyone, attention, please settle down. As you all know we are going on a trip today, so I need you all on your best behaviour, thank you!" As the last few children crawled on to the bus, they finally set off, leaving the hot yellow sun behind in the distance.

The Arrival

The bus had been driving for at least an hour. In the distance you could see the clouds changed colour to a dull grey, which meant rain. The first few drops of rain bounced and danced off the bonnet of the bus and before you knew it, there was rain pouring everywhere! They arrived at this old, grand hotel which towered over the trees and the bus. "Right children! No running or pushing now. I want four people per room". All the children ran to the brown wooden door

but Megan stopped, she turned to Kieren and asked "who's that over there?" There was a mysterious man sitting, staring at an old well. He was wearing a long black trench coat with polished black boots, he also had a brown top hat which had a small rip in the side. "Come on children!" shouted Miss James. Kieren, Megan and Courtney found a room they could have together, they began to unpack their stuff, putting all their belongings into the drawers and wardrobes. They were in the best room in the house as they had a magnificent bedroom with all the essentials. It was still raining outside, out of nowhere a tall tree crashed into the power pole knocking all the power out in the house...

There Was No Light

The lights shut off. All was quiet. All was dark. "Megan?" whispered Kieren, "are you there?" "Yeah, what's happened?" James turned his torch on, "come on let's go and find miss" said James. The children slowly opened the door, it made a creaking noise. "Miss, miss! Are you there?" said Kieren. All four children tiptoed over to the wooden stairs. The main hall was as black as space, the long black corridor was deserted. A black figure swooped past the children, "what was that!" startled Courtney. All the children ran down into the main sitting room. There was a pretty, petite, (*continues on page 4...*)

Cont. from page 3: picture hanging in the corner of the room, it sent a shiver up your spine as the eyes would follow you around the room...everyone was motionless, their feet glued to the floor in fear. "Miss, are you awake?" whispered James. Megan stuck her hand out and was about to touch Miss on the shoulder, when...BANG!

The Last Laugh

All four children were startled and stunned in confusion and fear, the lights shot back on and the rest of the children were stood laughing at James, Kieren, Megan and Courtney. Miss Jones came up off the floor in laughter, "ha, ha, we got you!" shouted all the children. "What's going on?" asked Megan. "We pranked you, all four of you!" said one of the children. "Alright, alright,

you got us" replied Kieren, "let's just get the laughter out and forget about it, okay?" After everyone was done laughing and made fun of the children, they went to eat supper. Everyone sat around the fire with a nice warm hot chocolate, sharing their thoughts on the night, before it was time for bed.

Back to School

The next morning, all the children were packing getting ready to go home and tell their parents about their night. When they all arrived at the school, all of their mums and dads were waiting to take them home. "Did you have a good time?" asked James's dad. James paused. "Yeah, yeah, I did..."



THE OASIS GARDEN PROJECT & GARDENING CLUB

We are delighted to share with you the success and development of our 'Gardening Club' which takes place on a Monday afternoon. This is an exciting



opportunity for all students to develop their horticulture skills and to promote a love

and understanding of the natural world. As part of this, students have taken part in our sunflower competition where they have planted sunflowers in pots which will later be planted around the school, eventually seeing whose will grow the tallest! As a team we have regenerated the pond, planted aqua plants, created a rockery, grown potatoes and strawberries and we are in the process of creating a sensory garden to stimulate the 5 senses.

Gardening is associated with a number of benefits to our health including: stress-relief, positive mental health, an improved immune system and it helps to combat depression as well as overall physical fitness.

With that in mind, we have a long-term project spanning across three years to convert the courtyard space outside the support room which is currently a blank concrete space into a tumbling serene place of inspiration and a refuge when our pupils need to retreat somewhere for peace and quiet.

With successful commencement of the Oasis Garden Project, in September 2016 students will be given the



opportunity to actively create this space by helping to construct flower beds, mosaics and murals and take part in growing plant fruits, vegetables and flowers. This project aims to help us literally grow together as a school...

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