



July 2013

In Touch

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer

As the end of the school year approaches it is an appropriate time to reflect upon our many achievements this year.

We began the year in September by celebrating our best ever results in the Summer's GCSE examinations, exceeding the record results of the previous year. We are again anticipating very positive outcomes; another year of record results would be a fantastic achievement. A level results were again very good with all students gaining a place at the University of their choice. Although we have received many accolades for other aspects of our work throughout the year, these results are our most significant achievement as the academic progress of our students remains at the very core of our purpose ensuring that students can make positive choices in the next stage of their lives.

We are of course proud of all our students' achievements and throughout the year the Movement Evening, Language College Evening, Cabaret Evening, Drama Festival, Sports Awards Evening and our end of year Celebration Assemblies have given us the opportunity to celebrate the wealth of talent of our students.

The recent Y11 and Y13 proms were a huge success enjoyed by the students and the many staff who attended. It is hard to believe that the sophisticated young men and women dressed in their finery were taking examinations in the School Hall only a couple of weeks before. As always the end of the school year is tinged with sadness as we say goodbye to staff who are leaving to take up new posts elsewhere due to promotion or relocation and those leaving to pursue other avenues. We thank them all for the positive contribution they have made to Wath Comprehensive School and wish them every success in their future careers.

In addition, we have a few staff retiring this Summer, Mrs Beverley Fox, Student Support Mentor for 13 years, Mrs Janet Leitch, teacher in the technology department for 27 years, Mrs Sue Allen, also a teacher in the technology department for 29 years and Mrs Pam Chisholm who has taught English over a period of 38 years. We will miss all the staff in so many ways, for their extensive local knowledge, involvement with the wider life of the school and not least for their hard work and commitment over so many years. They leave with our grateful thanks and very best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.

Could I finally take this opportunity of thanking you for your continuing support and wish you a happy and relaxing Summer holiday.

P Ward
Headteacher

WATH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL: A LANGUAGE COLLEGE

Welcome!

Welcome to the final edition of 'In Touch' for this academic year. As usual, we have had a jam-packed term, with many extra-curricular and in-house activities. Our students have been fabulous as usual, in all their performances.

We all hope that you have a safe and enjoyable holiday and we will see you in September! We are looking forward to welcoming some new Student Journalists to our team next year.

The Student Journalist Team

Watersports trip

On the 19th July we had to be at school for 3am! It was an early start but worth it. When we arrived in Tossa De Mar, we had time in the pool and a trip down to the shop and the beach. Later on in the night, we did a treasure hunt around town. A few of us got lost and needed the locals' help!

On the beach, we did many activities such as: canoeing, kayaking, sailing, snorkelling, speed boating and the banana boat along with a few others. We visited different beaches, which were all very nice.



At night, we also did lots of other things like: disco at the hotel, disco in an underground cave, bowling and quizzes. One night we went out for pizza, which was very delicious.

The day before we went home we went to a waterpark. We went on loads of rides, but not many dared to go on the biggest ride, even Mr. John!

In the morning, we came to leave we had an earlier start at 6 am. We had all our cases out ready and set off for a 2 hour drive to the airport.

**By Beth Newton
and Millie
Sherwood (Y8)**



Year Seven disco

Last week, the Year Seven Enterprise group organised a disco for their year group. They decided to have a 'Onesies' theme; no one expected the British Summer to involve sunshine!



Despite it being very hot in the hall, the Y7s weren't deterred and wore their onesies. They had a great time requesting music, dancing and playing musical chairs!



Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen and a big well done to the group who organised it as they used a lot of lunchtimes and their own free time, buying the food, drink and decorations, as well as sorting the theme.



Bugsy Malone

At the start of July, the Expressive Arts department put on a production of *Bugsy Malone*. It was a hectic time for all involved in the school production, but the end result was a fantastic show that was enjoyed by all.



Bugsy Malone is a 1976 musical that is very loosely based on events in New York City from the early 1920s to 1931, specifically the exploits of gangsters like Al Capone and Bugs Moran. The production opens with a brief action sequence in which a mobster named Roxy Robinson is "splurged" by members of a gang; cue the cream pies! The story then follows the involvement of Bugsy Malone (Charlie Mercer) in a gang run by Speakeasy boss, Fat Sam (Jonah Thompson).



With a mixture of splurge guns, singing, dancing and acting, the students and teachers worked incredibly hard to produce a fantastic performance across two nights. Well done to all involved. We are already looking forward to next Summer's performance!

Lucas and Jake from the Key Stage Three writing club caught up with Miss Fairman, who was directing the actors, to see how rehearsals were going.

Do you transfer your skills into your role in *Bugsy*?

"I really enjoy doing drama in a theatre school so I can transfer my skills into school productions."

What made you want to be part of *Bugsy*?

"Because I do drama out of school as my hobby. It's one of my favourite musicals and I wanted to bring it to life for the students."

How do you think the performance will go?

"I'm sure that it will all run smoothly and the audience will love it."

How do you feel about being involved?

"I feel very proud, get goose bumps when they do well. I like working with Miss Anyon and Miss Shaw."

Do you think that you will be involved in future productions?

"Definitely I'm already thinking about what we could do next year!"



By Bailey Harris, Daniel Thompson, Lucas Dyson, Leslie Mafararikwa and Jake Dannatt (Y7)

Ace abseiling and cool climbing

Thirteen year 8 students had the time of their lives last week as their English lesson went active. Kian Emmerson and Mrs Demetriou investigate.

On the 26th and 27th June 2013, Mrs Demetriou's English class visited Miller's Dale Bridge in Derbyshire and Sheffield climbing wall in order to build upon their team work, communication skills and to see the importance of English and Literacy in the real world.



Scott Kendall and Aaron Moxon at the bridge.

Mr Ashmore (PE staff) said "the day was a real success. The students were all impeccably behaved and they were a pleasure to work with".

The students that attended on the 26th June were Kian Emmerson, Michael Sullivan, Gurpreet Singh, Scott Kendall, Aaron Moxon, Katie Humphreys, Tayla Moiser and Megan Taylor.

The lucky eight students (accompanied by Mrs Turner, Mr Ashmore and Mrs Demetriou) left school at 8:30.

"I was really scared at first but I soon learnt to relax and enjoy abseiling" said Kian Emmerson

The day was really fun. They learnt to abseil down a big bridge. They stopped off at Ladybower and learnt that under the lake there was a village that had been flooded. At Miller's dale the bridge was huge and abseiling down took a lot of courage.

Katie Humphreys was the first to go abseil down from the high bridge. "I have done it before with my dad" she said, "but I was scared to be the first in the class to abseil today".

Mrs Turner was brave and high fived Kian Emmerson when she got to the bottom of the bridge. "It felt great" she said afterwards.

On Thursday 27th June Zac Robinson, Owen Silvester, Luke Ford, Max Green, Bradley Parker, Liam Askwith met Mrs Demetriou and Mr Wood at the school Minibus. Due to tests on the bridge at Miller's Dale, the super seven students were told by Mr Ashmore that their destination would be Sheffield's indoor climbing wall instead.

"I was a bit gutted at first" said Zac Robinson, "I was really looking to going to Derbyshire. But in the end the climbing wall was even better!". Mr Ashmore showed the students how to tie the ropes and basic climbing skills outside the P.E block. The students started on a smaller wall and learnt how to do it very quickly. By the end of the day all students could support each other whilst climbing (belaying) and they could complete all challenges set.



Owen Silvester climbing at Sheffield climbing wall.



The class listening to instructions at Miller's Dale Bridge.

The students learnt many things during the days, such as team work, the importance of listening to instructions and challenging fears.

1D Legend Louis Tomlinson Visits Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice

1D legend Louis Tomlinson has given his time to spend a day with the children of Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice. When we talk to the star he said, "The kids are so great and I just want to help them so much."

Back ground details

It all began back in 2010 on the X factor. They started alone and were put together as a group. After the competition, they stormed the world with their fabulous pop music.

The Tour Comes to You

It is time to get your freak on. It's Tour time! 1D get closer to you when the tour goes to Manchester. Get them quick, your time's nearly up! Go to your nearest box office and get them NOW!

Plans for the future

We asked Louis what his plans are for the future. He said, "Well, I'm hoping that me and the boys can carry on with what we love to do." We asked what he is planning to do for the young people of Bluebell Wood and he said, "I'm hoping to save some seats at our concert for the children to enjoy what time they have left with us."

Time to say goodbye

After our chat with Louis, we both felt that he was a young, caring man with a big heart. Louis is also a great role model to all children and pop stars all around the world.

By Courtney Allen

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WATH FESTIVAL

In May, the Wath Festival took place once again bringing the local community together. This was the 41st time the festival has taken place since it was established in 1972. It is one of the largest festivals of music and dance in South Yorkshire.



A very special collaboration took place between the ever-popular Barnsley samba band and Wath Comprehensive's very own samba band. After many hard weeks learning different pieces with the help of Keith, from Barnsley samba, the day of the festival finally dawned. They led the procession down to kick off the festival and back up to the church, before the bun throwing. Well done guys, excellent job!

We are not done though, the fame academy put on an outstanding vocal performance that blew the crowds away and Alisha Vickers was even brave enough to do a solo performance. Well done!

As well as all that, two dance students put on an amazing dance. This shows how hard the students have worked in their free time and shows how committed they are. Let's see if we can top that next year!

By Emilia Ashton Y9

Y7 Trip to Normandy, France

The journey to Normandy, France took about 12 hours. 35 minutes of this was on the euro tunnel train. When we arrived at the shuttle we had 15 minutes before we had to board. We arrived in France and stopped at a service station to get some fuel and stretch our legs. This service station had a huge tower in it which you could climb up. When we got to our accommodation in France we had tea and went to our rooms which had two floors. Then we went to bed, tired from the long journey.



On the Tuesday we went to the market and beach at Deauville, where the people couldn't speak English at all. We all had to use our amazing French skills to talk to them to get some food for our lunch! Then we went to the beach and had a yummy lunch then hopped on the coach to join our tour of Honfleur. When we arrived in Honfleur we noticed that all the houses were really tall and old fashioned we learnt a lot about the town. After the tour we got to go shopping and had ice cream.



On Wednesday everyone was very excited because we were going to Disneyland. The journey was three hours long but everyone was so excited that they didn't care. When we arrived a Disneyland we had 6 hours to try out all the rides and go to the shops. In this time, we had to meet up twice. After an amazing day we had a 4 hour journey back home through thunderous weather.

On Thursday we went to a bakery, where we made our own bread, a clog museum, where we found out how to make clogs - from the tree to a shoe - and then went to a cider farm, where we found out how cider was made and got to try some apple juice then buy some gifts from the shop.

On the way home we had time for one last stop at Monet's garden in Giverny where Monet had painted some of his bestselling paintings including the water lilies. After this we got on the coach and set off on our journey home (which was delayed by a train). We arrived home a 11 o'clock!



Sport update

Over the past few weeks there have been a variety of sporting events taking place across school and Rotherham. These have included: rounders competitions, athletics, cricket matches and the annual House Sports Day. Well done to all those involved for all of your dedication and hard work. As always, we look forward to seeing you all participate in sporting activities next year.

Sponsored walk

Last Friday, staff and students set off on the annual five-mile sponsored walk around our beautiful local countryside. Spirits were high, as were the temperatures (at least for the first two miles!).

There was a fantastic turnout from Years Seven, Eight, Nine and Twelve. A lot of teachers were also spotted getting their weekly exercise around the route.

Well done to all those who walked round, as well as all those involved in the organisation of this event, especially Mr. Lines and Mr. Shaw. It was really lovely to see so many people within the school community taking part.



Dates for your diaries:

Thursday 15th August—AS/A2 results day

Thursday 22nd August—GCSE results day

Wednesday 4th September—start of term (Y7—8.30am, Y8-11—11.15am, Y12—11am, Y13—11.30am)



Word of the Week Wordsearch

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L O N P F T L J P D G G X S H
Z A O E V O L A O Q N V O U O
R J I U S Y R R E I G L D O R
I E T T I I M M T Z I C T E R
N Y P L N A H A I D L Q T T I
T Y E A N E I T A D H H K R F
R E C T R C U R A C A Q K U Y
I Q N A U T I Q P P U B Q O I
G K O R E T E V E N M C L C N
U L C H Y R H E J S H E E E G
E X S Q O U T S T A N D I N G
E W I N O I S S A P M O C W O
E I M V I G O R O U S N C X Q
Y T I N G I D T Z L Q L G N Q
Y Z L Z N P O V P V Z R Z E I
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COMPASSION

FORMIDABLE

REPARTEE

COURTEOUS

HORRIFYING

SOLIDARITY

DIGNITY

INCONSEQUENTIAL

VIGOROUS

DORMANT

INTRIGUE

ZEAL

EMPATHISE

MISCONCEPTION

EXCRUCIATING

OUTSTANDING

Fascinating Facts

In 1976, there were 15 consecutive days with temperatures above 32C.

Comedy Corner!

*A banana goes to the doctor's and says:
"Doctor, doctor, you've got to help me. I'm
not peeling very well!"*