



Manor Academy

Successful, Happy, Confident

# School Matters

Issue 3 February 2018



## ENRICHMENT DROP DOWN DAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2018

Friday 2nd February saw all students take part in the second of this year's 'Drop Down Days' giving students the chance to get involved in a variety of enrichment activities.

Students had the opportunity to take part in off-timetable activities including visiting various attractions and external providers coming in to school.

Year 7 visited Magna Science and Activity Centre, Year 8 took part in the 999 Challenge day, Year 9 students visited

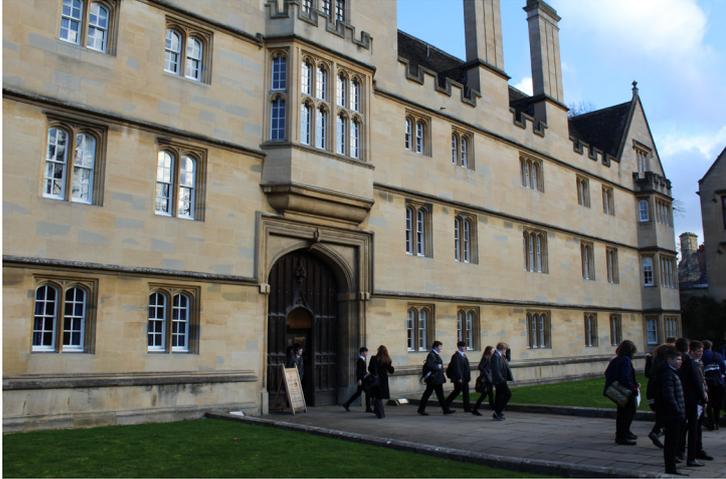
Cadbury's World, Year 10 took part in a Fair and Activities day, Year 11 took part in a Developing Confidence day with HumanUtopia and Manor College students were visited by guest speakers from University.

Students had a great day taking part in their various activities and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We can't wait to run the next one so students can again be involved in something a little different!



# THE BRILLIANT CLUB, SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

On Tuesday the 5th of February, a number of students in Year 10 visited Wadham College, part of Oxford University to celebrate their graduation on completing a scholars programme run by 'The Brilliant Club'. This gave students the opportunity to get a taste of Uni life and to reflect on the past 3 months completing the programme.



Students left for London at 7.30am and arrived at the college just in time to start the day planned and led by 'The Brilliant Club' and Dr Hugh Monro, a member of Oxford University. Students enjoyed an inspiring talk by Dr Hugh Monro about the benefits of going to University and shared interesting facts and figures about Oxford. After the morning's session, students were invited to the picturesque dining hall to enjoy lunch, provided by Wadham College. During the afternoon session, there was a chance for The Brilliant Club to reflect on the scheme to give our students more of an insight of the skills developed. Prior to the celebration ceremony, students were invited to tour of the grounds. Students then re-joined other schools in the theatre for the celebration ceremony, where they were presented with a certificate for their incredible achievement.



## What is the Scholars Programme?

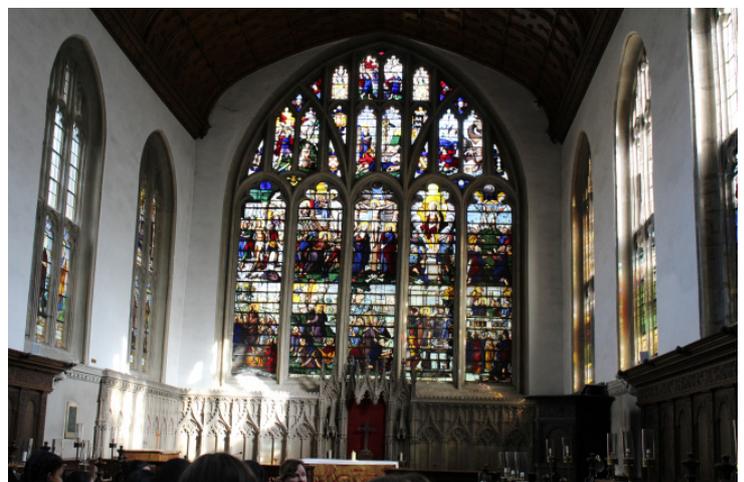
The Scholars programme is a great opportunity for students to gain valuable skills going into their final year at GCSE level and to gain knowledge and information to help with their choices in further education. For students to complete the programme they had to attend a session each week, run

by an expert from Nottingham University, Margareta Clarke. They had also been to Sheffield University on a day trip to meet members of The Brilliant Club and to experience Uni life. In the final stage on the programme they had to write a two thousand word essay on the topic that they had been studying. This was then passed onto Margareta to mark and was then nationally moderated by The Brilliant Club and other PHD's, to determine their overall result.



Margareta also commented that one of the essays completed was to the standard expected by an undergraduate in their second year of university! This is truly remarkable!

Three of our students received firsts which is truly a fantastic achievement!



The students really enjoyed the programme and would recommend it to anyone who is interested in finding out more about University. Not only does this programme offer great opportunities and visits, but it also improves skills of resilience, essay writing and the ability to research on topics.

As members of the Academy we are really proud of everyone who has completed the programme. You should be really proud and hold your head high for your achievement. After all, you are working at a whole Key Stage above your age! Well done!

## BRITISH MINI BIKE CHAMPS

We would like to congratulate Zac Shelton after his first year of competitive racing! Zac is one of our Year 9 students and has been competing over the past year in the 2017 British Mini Bike Championships, against other competitors aged between 9 and 15 years.



Zac finished the competition in fourth place and to say that this is his first year of competitive racing, this is an incredible achievement! He is also really pleased with his

success and we wish him all the best in his next competition.

In addition to Zac's efforts, he also gets sponsored by Merlin Contracts Interiors, RSR and Scope Signs. This will help Zac to push on, to get to his best!

From all of us at the Academy, we hope that Zac can continue to progress in racing. You never know, we may even see him on TV in the future!

Good luck Zac!

## #CHALLENGING STUDENTS TO SUCCEED

The progress of our most able students is a key focus for the Academy this year.

As part of our programme to support our most able learners, we are using #Challenge tasks to encourage our All Stars to attempt higher level tasks which meet top GCSE question criteria.

Students are awarded stickers in their books and achievement points every time they complete a #Challenge task. Each week, the students with the most #Challenge points receive a postcard home to celebrate the achievement.

## DODGEBALL



On the 13th of December 2017 our Year 7 Dodgeball team took part in the Mansfield School Games Competition and achieved a very respectable Bronze medal.

All members of the team put a great effort into the competition, beating two teams from All Saints Academy and Meden school.

Not only was this great work by the Year 7's, but this achievement was also made possible by the help of our Year 11 team, who have been training with the Year 7's to help improve their skills.

## JUNIOR SPORTS LEADER

We are pleased to announce that on December 11th 2017, Ben Worboys, one of our year 11 students, was awarded with the Mansfield Junior Sports Leader of the Year Award at the Mansfield Sport Recognition Awards.



Ben represented Manor in the 2016-17 Mansfield Leadership Academy and has committed to all the sessions provided. During this time, he has gained his FA Junior Football Leaders Award and his Mini Soccer Referees Qualification. He has volunteered his time to referee many Primary School Football matches inspiring younger players to referee and currently referees at weekends for the mini soccer leagues.

From all here at the Manor Academy, we congratulate you on your achievement. Keep up the great work you are doing, not just for yourself but others around you. A true inspiration to others.

## CHESS CLUB

Manor Academy has recently added chess to its extensive extra-curricular activities.

The benefits of playing chess are that pupils are encouraged to sit down, concentrate and improve their problem solving ability in a digital detox environment. It helps to boost the children's self-esteem and gives the children 'grit' – the tenacity to cope with adversity – which helps them grow into rounded and employable individuals. It does this by teaching children how to lose and how to win gracefully, to think ahead and foresee the consequences of their actions.



The Chess Club started in October 2017 with just eight members and has expanded to seventeen regular members. The club hopes to continue to improve and challenge other local schools to matches next year.

Club Captain Jack Clarke explained, "It has been a very satisfying experience learning the game of chess from scratch and then winning a tournament against friends!"

Vice-Captain Charlotte White said, "You meet new people in a calm and friendly environment".

Mr Savage who runs the chess club every Monday and Wednesday lunch in M8 exclaimed, "The members of the chess club have taken to the game with enthusiasm and are a pleasure to help. The club hope to enter a team in the National Schools Chess Championships 2018/19 at Kings School in Grantham next year. It is not too late to join in!"

# In the Spotlight

## Headteacher Kat Kerry

In every newsletter we will put the spotlight on a different aspect of the school. Some you may be familiar with, others you will not. We aim to highlight the huge variety of aspects of the school which help support, encourage and give students the resources they need in order to be Successful, Happy and Confident.

In this newsletter we get an introduction to our Headteacher, Kat Kerry.

*Dear Parent / Carer*

*I am writing to introduce myself as the new Headteacher at The Manor Academy. I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed to this role and very much look forward to supporting each and every child to achieve their full potential with us.*

*I have worked at The Manor Academy for 14 years and I have held a variety of leadership roles throughout the past 10 years. I have achieved many things throughout my time at the academy and one of the things I am most proud of is the much improved standards in outcomes at both GCSE and A-level. I am truly excited to be the Headteacher and look forward to having the opportunity to share my vision with the whole community of Mansfield Woodhouse.*



*My priority for the academy is to aspire to achieve outstanding outcomes for all, through a culture of learning and pastoral support, leading to improved life-chances for the students we serve. This will be achieved by meeting the needs of all our children in all areas of school life, firstly, through continuing to develop a culture of learning for all, leading to student success, which, in turn, promotes confidence and enthusiasm. Secondly, I will continue to develop a strong pastoral system which, not only cares about our students, but supports and challenges them to be successful in both academic and wider curricular opportunities.*

*I hold a strong belief in the power of education to improve children's life chances and the right of every child to receive an excellent education. I am dedicated to building opportunities for students to achieve the highest academic standards, ensuring that they are known well as individuals and that their unique personalities, talents and interests are nurtured and developed to the full. Education at The Manor is about developing the whole child and providing opportunities for them to flourish within and beyond the classroom. It is the aim of the whole academy to help each child become a successful learner and well-rounded individual who is ready to become a valued member of society and make the next steps in their learning journey, whatever they choose to pursue.*

*I believe the academy should be a happy, caring, respectful and hardworking environment, in which all staff should utilise their skills to enable the children in their care to recognise their true potential by feeling listened to and supported. In the future I plan to build a real sense of community across the academy where students value and are valued as part of the wider community. We really want to be viewed as an open and friendly academy with increased links with the community. It is clear to see from Parent View, the external view of the school is now much more positive. I appreciate the time parents have spent attending the parent forum over the past 18 months and look forward to meeting more of you in the future.*

*Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries, suggestions or there is anything I can do to help and support you with your child's learning and school life; we are here to listen and we want the opportunity to respond to the community we serve.*

*I would like to thank you personally for your continued commitment and support towards the staff and students of the academy and look forward to continuing to work with you as we steer Manor Academy into the future.*

*Yours faithfully*

*Mrs Kerry*

*Headteacher*