

Year 7 York Shine Trip

The Shine project delivered by the University of York aims to offer many activities to schools both locally in York and further afield, to help raise awareness of Higher Education among their pupil.

Over the course of this Academic year a group of year 7 and 8 students have been involved in working on the Shine project and as part of this work attended the University last week on Wednesday 20th April. This trip was aimed primarily at our year 7 students



and the year 8 trip is to follow on Wednesday 18th May.

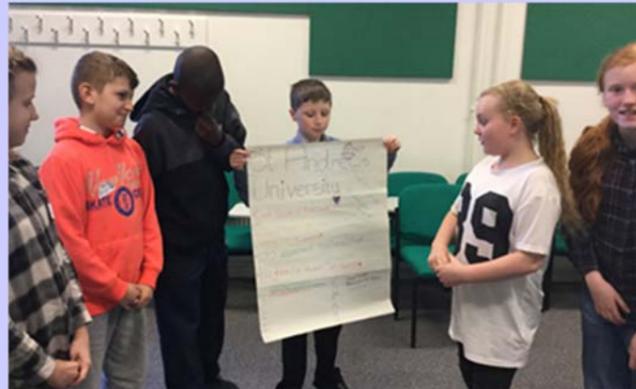


The visit was an outstanding opportunity for our students to observe University life and develop an understanding of how the York University is structured into colleges, similar to the house system at The Ruth Gorse Academy.



The day involved a tour around the grounds with a University Ambassador which provided the students with an opportunity to ask questions about the available courses, university

accommodation, student loan and sports facilities.



The afternoon involved students working in teams to research key information about a range of Universities including the Leeds Trinity and Oxford University. This allowed students to deepen their understanding on where these universities were located and the courses on offer. Each team was then required to present this information to the rest of the group.

Over the course of this day, Miss Mir was extremely proud of how our students conducted themselves as representatives of The Ruth Gorse Academy. They displayed high levels of engagement through regular questioning, excellent organisation during team work and maturity when discussing their career options and future ambitions.

We have no doubt this visit has inspired many students to start planning their academic journey which will involve some milestone events like the GCSE's and A. Levels.



Newsletter Number 8 May

Now the weather has brightened, we are starting to look forward to the Summer Term and our last term here in our temporary accommodation at The Morley Academy. There is lots planned for the coming weeks, and of course we are looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students later in the Summer when they will join us for their induction day.

We have been extremely busy recruiting new staff who will join us in September as the school becomes larger, but we have also had some changes to staff for the current year.

Before the Easter Holidays, we said goodbye to Mrs Harris, Mrs Lowery and Miss Rabbit and we have welcomed the following new members of staff:



Mr Mallinson
Vice Principal



Mr Hall
Assistant Principal



Mr Bateman
Director of Mathematics



Mrs Rowbottom
Teacher of Learning Challenge



Miss Eyre
Head of Year



Mrs Lister
Teacher of English

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ◆ Tuesday 17 May - Year 8 Parents Evening (Letter confirming arrangements has been sent home with students).
- ◆ Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June - Half Term - School Closed.
- ◆ Wednesday 29 June - Teacher Training Day - School Closed.
- ◆ Thursday 21 July school finishes for summer holidays at lunchtime.

Astronaut Visit

On Wednesday 20 April, Mrs Mason and a group of students went to The Elliott Hudson College to meet NASA Astronaut Mike Foale.

Mike spoke about his journey to become an astronaut and he told the students what it was like on his seven journeys into space! Mike Foale had wanted to be an astronaut since he was a child. Once he had the qualifications needed to be an astronaut, he applied to NASA. At first they rejected his application, however he persisted and on his second attempt he was successful. This showed us that resilience can achieve almost anything!



On his journeys into space, Mike had experiences on the International Space Station (ISS) and the Mir Space Station. One of the most terrifying experiences was when a hole was made in the Mir Space Station. Fortunately, the team managed to repair it, but they were without electricity for several days, leaving some areas freezing and others boiling hot!

Mike also showed the students videos on what water was like in space. Believe it or not, water is actually a bubble in space and you can insert a straw in and drink from a floating bubble!

From their experiences on this day, all the students agree that being an astronaut would be incredible fun, yet incredibly challenging!

Year 8 Assessment Point 3

Before the Easter holiday, Year 8 students were awarded their assessment point 3 current levels and attitude to learning grades. We are extremely delighted with the progress students have made over the course of the academic year. In Mathematics, 42.4% of the year group have made 1 sub-level of progress from their Assessment Point 2 level. This is an outstanding achievement for the students and teachers.

I would like to take this opportunity to share some individual success stories.

These students have all made three whole levels (nine sub levels) of progress from English Baseline Assessment in Year 7

Emma Baker



Ashanti Stewart



Muhammed Bakar



These students have all made three whole levels of progress (nine sub levels) from Mathematics Baseline Assessment in Year 7

McKenna Buttle



Tayyiba Islam



Karlie Midgley



Well Done—Keep up the great work!

The “Masters” examination will commence mid-June. Prior to these assessments, all students must ensure they are seeking advice from teachers and reflecting on their areas of strength and development. It is crucial, students use the next few weeks to develop revision material and to review their understanding of skills and subject knowledge in order to prepare themselves for these end of year exams.

The Ruth Gorse Academy step into the spotlight...

On Thursday 28 April, the Drama and Music Department performed their first Academy production of Aladdin to the whole school including parents and carers. Students and staff had been working on the show since October and I'm sure those of you who joined us on the day will agree what a great success it was.



With Dylan Ncube as Aladdin and Tayyiba Islam as the Genie, a magical spectacle was created for the audience.



The students were a credit to the school, both leading up to and in their performance

on the day. The cast were extremely hard working and worked tirelessly throughout the process, showing great commitment and enthusiasm. This resulted in a wonderful show that was enjoyed by all.

Mr Marks and I were so privileged to work with students from Year 7 and 8 who showed resilience and creativity every step of the way.



The show was energetic and the performances from all involved, including Cara Goodridge as Ameera, Leah Brown as Princess Yasmin, Leo Morton as The Grand Vizier, McKenzie Thompson as Leopold, Vinay Barot as The Trader and Fathema Khanom as The Empress, were outstanding.

It is also important to mention Alex Alexandrou who was due to play The Emperor (and what an amazing job he was doing) but due to him suddenly becoming ill with chicken pox, our very own Mr Marks stepped up to plate and took on the role of the Emperor.

Now the curtain has gone down, we will be looking forward to next year when we will be able to perform on our own stage.

Miss C Loveday,
Lead Teacher of Drama.