

# Levenshulme LIFE

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WINTER 2020

NEWS • REVIEWS • FACULTIES • TRIPS • PERFORMANCE • SUCCESS



*In this issue...*

- ART SHOW
- STEM FAIR
- GOING GREEN
- SLAM POETRY

*and much more...*

*Dedicated to achieving*  
**DREAMS**



PARKS

KELLER

SEACOLE

NIGHTINGALE





Welcome to this Winter edition of Levy Life, I hope you enjoy reading it. There is an incredible range of activity showcased here, which has already taken place in less than half of the school year! So many articles have been submitted that there are an extra 2 pages this time. It is great to see more of the articles being written by students instead of staff and how proud they are of their achievements and contribution to school and the community. I am particularly excited by the way that school and our students are engaging now with the challenges of looking after our planet and the environment, and how we can all contribute to this. The quality and quantity of sporting and creative opportunity and talent is incredibly impressive too – we are very blessed to have such a wonderful school community.

**Dr J MacKinnon Ph.D.**

Academy Headteacher and Executive Headteacher



Leading Parent  
Partnership Award

2019–2022

In September 2019, we were awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award. The LPPA is a nationally recognised award that schools who work very closely with the families of pupils can achieve. We were assessed by an external advisor. We are delighted at having achieved this award and will continue to work hard to ensure that parent engagement work is as good as it can be.

If you have any suggestions with regard to how we can develop our work in this area further, please do get in touch.

## HEAD GIRL REVIEW

2019 has been nothing but an accomplishment for the whole school. It was a year of growth, in which everyone learnt how to develop into a better version of themselves. An example is the effort and care that students and staff put into lessons, but also the kindness that is shown throughout Levenshulme. The school has grown also in how it works with the wider community, with more organisations involved and more opportunities than ever before.

But I think that 2020 will be an even bigger success than 2019. For me it will be the start of my journey beyond Levenshulme, however for others it will be the opportunity to continue to learn and succeed here. The future is unpredictable, but it will most definitely be great.

**Aribah - Head Girl**

## WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

Our school community are becoming more and more outward facing, working with and supporting a range of people and organisations:

- This year, we donated Christmas hampers of food and other essential items to Burnage Foodbank and Reach Out Into The Community. These were gratefully received and gave us all a chance to reflect on the world around us.
- Working with GM Citizens, our pupils helped with a review of hate crime legislation run by the Law Commission, in order to make our communities safer and happier. Members of GM Citizens will be leading workshops from February on identity, gender and making our communities safer for all.
- The School Council have been very active in responding to the national Make Your Mark survey, encouraging further work in school on caring for the environment, local opportunities for youths and public safety. They also met with other school councils from across Greater Manchester to share ideas on leading change in their communities.

## LEADERSHIP WITHIN SCHOOL

Student leadership was once again launched at the start of the school year. Students from all year groups applied for responsibility posts within subject areas, hoping to be appointed in a role. Over a third of our students are now in these responsibility positions, and currently working closely with staff leads to create opportunities and experiences for everyone to be a part of.

Student leadership not only allows our students to have their voice heard within school but also helps students to develop skills vital to the outside world. These include skills in Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication, all of which support these students when applying for college and University, but also when they eventually find a job.





## SLAM POETRY

During January, representatives from 'Young Identity' came into school to deliver a Slam Poetry workshop to 20 pupils across Year 8 and 9. These pupils had been selected by their English class to take part in this experience after they performed their own original poetry inspired by the theme 'Identity'. The aim of the workshop was to allow students to refine their skills in performance poetry and pick up some top tips for their performance in the live final later on this term.

'Young Identity' poets, Chris and Billie, did a fantastic job of encouraging the pupils and instilling in them a sense of confidence in their recitals as well as themselves. They took them through techniques such as 'falling' (allowing themselves to make a mistake and push through it) and the now infamous 'Walk' (walking, jogging, dancing – whatever you like – towards the performance space, so that you are ready to speak with confidence and have fun!) It was especially wonderful to see some of our more reserved students come out of their shells, deliver some really moving performances, and leave the session with big smiles on their faces saying they were really looking forward to the final.



## YEAR 10 VISIT TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM

Year 10 Ancient History group had a trip to London in December in order to visit the British Museum to look at artefacts that they have studied in their Ancient History GCSE. After travelling down by train we then had a very busy day looking around the Egyptian, Roman and Persian galleries at the British Museum. The girls were fascinated by the dead bodies and Egyptian mummies. Even the mummies of cats and crocodiles.

After a cultural morning we then walked down to Covent Garden and Trafalgar Square admiring the Christmas decorations and the Christmas Tree.



## YEAR 8 EPR

### 'Create Your Perfect Place'

Following on from their 'Life After Death' unit of work, Year 8 were set a homework project to create their 'perfect place'. They had the option to design a model, produce a written piece of work or create a drawing- as you can see, one pair were very original and made an edible (and very tasty) cake! The important part of the project was that each student had to think carefully about who and what was important to them and how it affects their life on earth. The RE Leaders had a real challenge to choose the overall winners as the standard was so high. I'm sure you will agree that there were some excellent and varied ideas that they came up with!



## YEAR 9 & 10 TRIP TO THE BATTLEFIELDS

In November Ms White took four students from Year 9 and 10, Noor; Namra, Soba and Daniella, on a four day visit to the Battlefields of the First World War. This was a visit organised by UCL's Battlefield Studies Centre and involved groups from across the city. We visited many sites on both the Ypres Salient and the Somme, ranging from battlefields to cemeteries and memorials. Highlights included a visit to the Memorial to the Indian forces and attending the memorial service at the Menin Gate in Ypres where Daniella took part in the ceremony laying a wreath.



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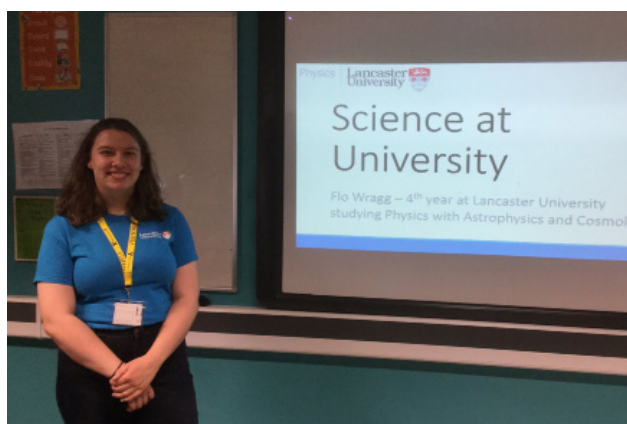
NIGHTINGALE



## YOUR HEART HOSPITAL EVENT

### Wythenshaw Hospital

A small group of Year 10 Triple Biologists spent a very insightful day at Wythenshaw Hospital, talking to Cardiac Surgeons about different types of heart disease and how they cause heart attacks and cardiac arrests. It was a brilliant opportunity to discuss their questions with some of the UK's leading Cardiac experts, as well as to see and touch amazing surgical apparatus such as stents and metal valve replacements. The students also underwent CPR training; they know how to administer chest compressions to someone undergoing a heart attack, plus, they can also work an automatic defibrillator!



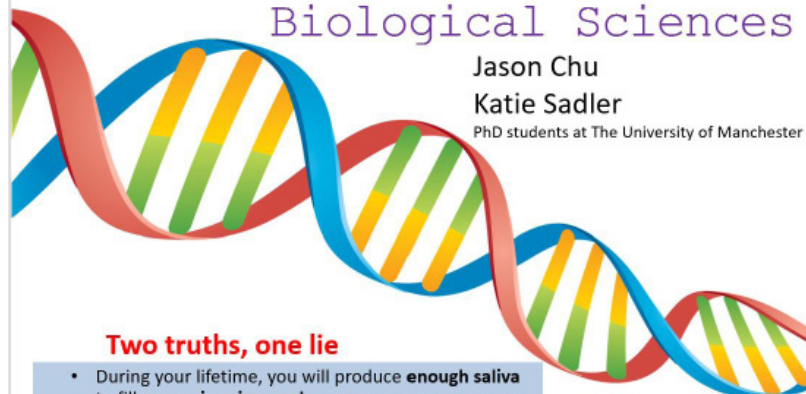
Our Year 10 physics class was really lucky to have Flo Wragg, from Lancaster University speak to us. She told us about the unique opportunities and challenges of studying physics at A-level and university. She was passionate about opportunities to study ever-more interesting topics, gain a greater understanding of the world around us and develop essential problem-solving skills.

She addressed candid questions we had about studying in a predominantly female environment, and the challenges in transitioning between GCSE, college and university. There are support networks we can develop and a range of extra-curricular opportunities (including Quidditch Club, Physics Societies, rowing and fencing) we can experiment with.

She encouraged us to look beyond reputation of universities, visit and find the place that feels right for us. Most of all, she encouraged us to choose subjects we enjoy, which makes us want to work hard and master.

### Why study? Biological Sciences

Jason Chu  
Katie Sadler  
PhD students at The University of Manchester



**Two truths, one lie**

- During your lifetime, you will produce **enough saliva** to fill **one swimming pool**.
- Wild yellow bellied turtles can **hold their breath** for up to **6 months**.
- Every nucleus in the human body has **6 feet of DNA** inside it.

**MANCHESTER 1824**  
The University of Manchester



Our Year 10 students were very lucky to have Jason Chu (@jchu0) and Katie Sadler, two PHD students from The University of Manchester to give a talk on Why study Biology? The talk allowed pupils to get an insight into Biology as a subject, careers within the NHS and other job you can get with a biological sciences degree.

The presentation also involved Challenges and opportunity, the impact of Biological Science in Society and Bio quiz.

Our 12 newly appointed Science leaders have been busy at work over the winter term. The KS3 science leaders were able to attend the University of Manchester's 'Flash Bang Show', where they observed a series of visually impressive chemical reactions. Hadiyah did an excellent job of leading the Y7 Christmas Slime event in the final week. Our KS4 science leaders, Amina and Mahnoor, took a key role in running the Year 7 Spelling Bee Competition. Meanwhile, all leaders have began planning their meeting that they are in charge of this year. Amina and Mahnoor led a science careers meeting that included a Kahoot quiz and Zunairah and Humairah led a treasure hunt activity. To assist the science department, the leaders have produced science careers starter activities and are currently researching LGBTQ+ scientists for LGBTQ+ history month in February.



## SPELLING BEE

All Year 7 pupils participated in the Science Spelling Bee. This involved fierce within-class competitions before the star spellers from each class competed head-to-head in the final round in the hall with house points up for grabs. The outstanding winner was Qurratulain from Nightingale House who managed an incredible 21 spellings in one minute. Yes, that's an average of one word every 2.86 seconds! She will be going on to compete in the regional final at the University of Salford in the spring term. In joint 2nd place were Minaal and Husna from Keller and Parks houses, respectfully, who each completed 18 spellings in one minute.





## LHS IS GOING GREEN!

The Geography Leaders would like to raise awareness of our efforts to make Levenshulme a more sustainable school. Since September we have been working towards gaining Eco-School status and we are working towards a Bronze Green Flag Award. We are working on ten Eco themes, with the support of MEEN (Manchester Environmental Education Network).

Ten Eco-School Themes: Marine, Biodiversity, Litter, Energy, Water, Waste, Global Citizenship, Transport, Healthy Living, School grounds

Our Year 10s and 11s are working on a clean air and transport project. They have won £500 funding from the GMYN (Greater Manchester Youth Network) to kick start their campaign. They have started by researching and then ordering a "Flo" personal air pollution monitor and tracking app. We can't wait for it to arrive, so that we can get started! We are hoping that by monitoring air pollution levels at key points in the day, we might be able to persuade parents of the health benefits of cycling or walking to school.

Our Year 9s are concentrating on the School Grounds and Biodiversity and Year 7s and 8s are working on Global Citizenship themes. They are hoping to learn more themselves before sharing their ideas with Primary School Eco-Groups.



A massive thank you to Flo from MEEN (Manchester Environmental Education Network) for coming in each week to work with our Geography Leaders. She is pictured here with Bethany from P09.



A massive well done to Samia - Year 10 P01, Eesha - Year 10 P01 and Saniyyah - Year 10 P06 for leading a workshop at the Climate Summit at the Manchester Convention Centre on Friday 17th January 2020.

## FILTERED NEIGHBOURHOOD

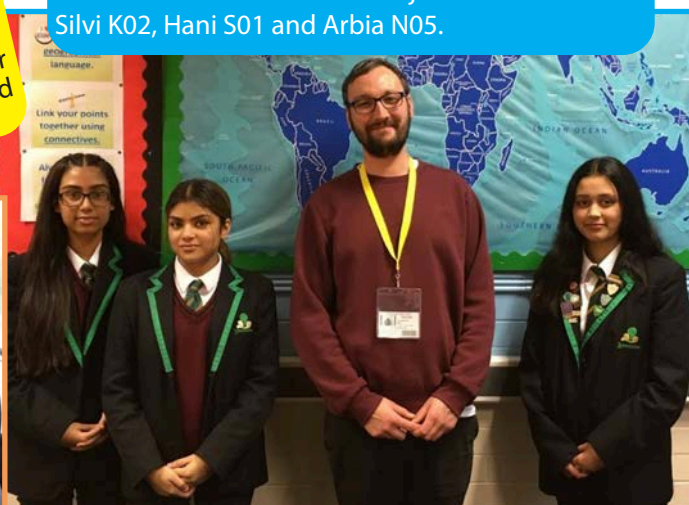
The Beelines proposal defines a filtered neighbourhood as: "A neighbourhood where the movement of people is prioritised over the movement of motor vehicles. Typically, this is achieved by creating cul-de-sac style access for cars, but allowing through traffic for people walking and cycling. As part of the community-led approach of the Levenshulme Bee Network scheme, Sustrans are working with local people and schools to co-design a 1 mile radius filtered neighbourhood. We are really pleased to be working on this initiative too!

## ECO-COMMITTEE

All of these ideas and more will be shared in our first meeting of Levenshulme High School's Eco-Committee on Thursday 13th February at 3.30pm. Although our committee is student led, members can include teachers, parents and local community members. If you are interested in joining or supporting us in another way, please get in touch. We have had huge support already from community groups such as, the Levenshulme Bee Network and Sustrans who have been into school to deliver workshops and to help us set up a competition to gain views and opinions for their 'Filtered Neighbourhood' Project.

A massive thank you to Joe from GMYN (Greater Manchester Youth Network) for providing funding and opportunities for our students. He is pictured here with the winners of the competition for £500 for a Social Action Project.

Silvi K02, Hani S01 and Arbia N05.



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## LEAPFROG

During half-term 2 we completed our inaugural Leapfrog sessions with three of our link primary schools. Green End Primary School, Ladybarn Primary School & Cringlebrook primary school are all part of Kingsway Community Trust. They were invited to send years 5 and 6 girls to either English, Modern Foreign Languages or PE activities over three consecutive weeks.

These sessions were planned to challenge the high achievers in the specified year groups & give primary pupils the opportunity to experience "life at Levenshulme".

We had approximately 60 primary pupils attending the three weeks of Leapfrog with lots of positive feedback from both pupils and teachers. With some students saying "Nothing could be improved it's the best!", "I just wish it was longer" and "Its already amazing!"

In PE, Levenshulme PE Leaders took the sessions as part of their Leadership Level 1 programme. They were encouraged to lead independently and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We also had year 7 leaders who were with each group weekly to allow the primary pupils to ask open and honest questions about Levenshulme High School.

Our next round of Leapfrog will take place at the start of half term 4 with Science, Maths, Art and PE. Three new primary schools have been invited and we are extremely excited to welcome them into our school.



## MACFEST

The "Muslim Art and Culture Festival- MACFEST was held on Friday 24th January, at Levenshulme High School. Our Deputy Headteacher, Mr Neil Johnson opened the festival and he introduced Qaisra Shahraz who is a Founder & Director of MACFEST, UK. Qaisra shared her journey regarding the MACFEST and appreciated the school and students' contributions towards the festival. This year's theme was "Muslims in Performing Arts" which was presented by the following four year 10 students: Amna, Malaika, Aamen and Aaisha. They delivered and talked about the classic and modern era Muslim performers. The talk was very well received by the audience. Year 10 students also had the opportunity to explore the Pakistani artist Mustafa Mughal's calligraphy work which was on display. Closing remarks were made by Executive Headteacher Dr MacKinnon and she appreciated Qaisra Shahraz's remarkable work and contribution bringing the communities together and her message about spreading honey not hate through this MACFEST with the hashtag #spreadhoneynothate. She said that Levenshulme High School is proud to be the partner of this festival since last year and will continue our support and partnership next year.

## #HONEYNOTHATE

### YEAR 10 UPDATES

#### Work Experience:

All Year 10 students will be doing a work experience placement from the 9th-13th March. It will be an opportunity for the students to experience the world of work. Colleges and employers value this experience as it provides an opportunity for the students to demonstrate their leadership, communication and teamworking skills.

#### Year 10 mentoring programmes:

A range of mentoring programmes have started for targeted Year 10 students. GM mentoring will commence in March, The Forward Thinkers group run through the Manchester United Foundation will commence in half term three and Amina, Shauni and Talicia from The Progress mentoring group run by Ms. Bebbington presented their work at a staff briefing in December.

#### Your voice counts:

Feedback from the Year 10 parent forum held in December together with returned questionnaires from the Year 10 Progress evening has been positive and will support a review of how the year has started and will inform planning for the remainder of the year. Thank you for your continued support.

If you are considering Levenshulme High School as your potential future school and would like to speak to a member of staff or have a tour, please get in touch with myself, Mrs Rachael Kerr via email: [rkerr@levenshulmehigh.co.uk](mailto:rkerr@levenshulmehigh.co.uk) or alternatively by contacting the school reception.



## MY MIND MY BODY SESSIONS

A group of Year 7 students have been invited, along with their mums, to join our "My Mind My Body" group. Every week they attend and work together as a pair on a range of health topics or practical sessions. The aim of our "My Mind My Body" group is to develop healthy habits for life in order to lead an active lifestyle.

We cover; An introduction into the fitness suite, Healthy Eating, Fun games, Yoga, Zumba & Health apps that can be used daily.

So far everyone involved has loved the sessions, with some of the girls loving the competition between themselves and their mums. Feedback from the mums has been overwhelmingly positive with one mum saying "Thank you so much for these sessions, not only does my daughter need it but I need it too. It helps my mental health and also lets me have a one on one hour with my daughter. Please can this continue long-term?"

Mrs Kerr & Miss Mcleod are running the sessions after school, alongside Mrs Berry's "Health Bingo Cards" in school. Where pupils are competing against each other to complete their health tasks to get a "Full House".

We are so excited to continue our group for the remainder of the term. If anyone would like to be involved in future "My Mind My Body" groups, then please contact Mrs Kerr via email [rkerr@levenshulmehigh.co.uk](mailto:rkerr@levenshulmehigh.co.uk) Our next group running in half term 4 will be targeted at Year 8's with the support of our year 7 parents & pupils. However, we will be targeting Years 9 and 10 at a later date.

## #MyMindMyBody



## MATHS YEAR 7 LEGOLAND TRIP

In December 2019, the maths faculty were very pleased to be able to offer to take all of Year 7 to Legoland at the Trafford Centre. The trip took part over 2 days with 7b going on the trip on Friday 6th December and 7a going on Monday 9th December, joined with their maths teachers and other support teachers.

The pupils were given a chance to investigate the different areas of Legoland and attend a special workshop on coding a robot. This involved them, in pairs, putting the components together for their robot first of all, and then coding their robot to move, in order to participate in a race.

Year 7 behaved beautifully during the trip and it was a great day out, with many successful robots built and raced.



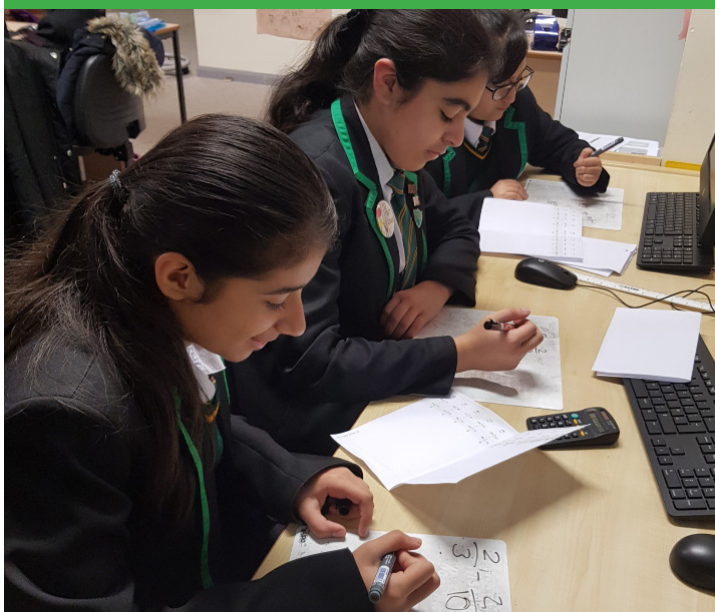
## MATHS COACHING

We have been delighted with the work that our new maths coaches have been doing. Year 9 are working with year 7 and 8 and year 10 are working with year 8, helping them with aspects of maths that they need a little more practice with.

We have been delighted with the commitment, dedication and patience shown by our coaches, in preparing the work for their coachees.

Year 7 and 8 have been responding very positively to their coaching and have been making great progress and can be very proud of themselves.

Well done to our new coaches on a fantastic job!





## FOOTBALL CUP

For the first time in the school history, all year groups have competed in the greater Manchester Football Cup Competition. Year 7 played King David in round 1. This was a thrilling game which ended in penalties. Unfortunately, Levenshulme lost 7-5. Year 8 played against Loreto and Year 10 played William Hulme despite both teams losing they all continued to play with determination and showed great sportsmanship. Like the Year 7 game, the Year 9s lost on penalties 4-3 to Whalley Range High School. Year 11 won their first game against Manchester High and will go on to play Wright Robinson in the Semi-Finals in February.



## U19'S BOCCIA COMPETITION

Congratulations to the KS3 girls who competed in the Greater Manchester Boccia Competition at the Bolton arena on 8th January 2020. As always, the girls showed a great level of enthusiasm and team spirit throughout the competition and won 4 out of 5 games to qualify for the semi-finals before finishing 4th out of 15 schools overall. A great achievement and as a result of their success they have now qualified to represent the County in the Under 19s Regional finals in Liverpool in February. Well done girls and good luck for the next stage we are right behind you!

## INTER-HOUSE DANCE COMP.

During week 5 of HT2 students competed in the annual inter-house competition. This year's competition lived up to the high expectations set from last year. The talent and creativity of the student performances was even higher. The girls competed in heats to make it to the final on the Friday. The performers showed confidence, and determination to perform in front of 600 spectators in the heats and then 800 in the final!

Results: 1st place: Keller, 2nd place: Nightingale, 3rd place: Seacole, 4th place: Nightingale

## ROWING COMPETITION

In the final 2 weeks of HT2 We had 1000 girls compete in the in the Greater Manchester Rowing Competition which is the first time ever. For some of the girls it was the first time they have competed in an inter-school competition and represented their school which shows great resilience and determination. They competed in teams of 4 in which each person had to row as far as they could in 2 minutes. Here are the top rowers in each year group

Year 7	Habiba	433m
Year 8	Limar	454m
Year 9	Fiona	509m
Year 10	Islam	470m
Year 11	Roshan	475m



## LIVE SPORTS TRIPS

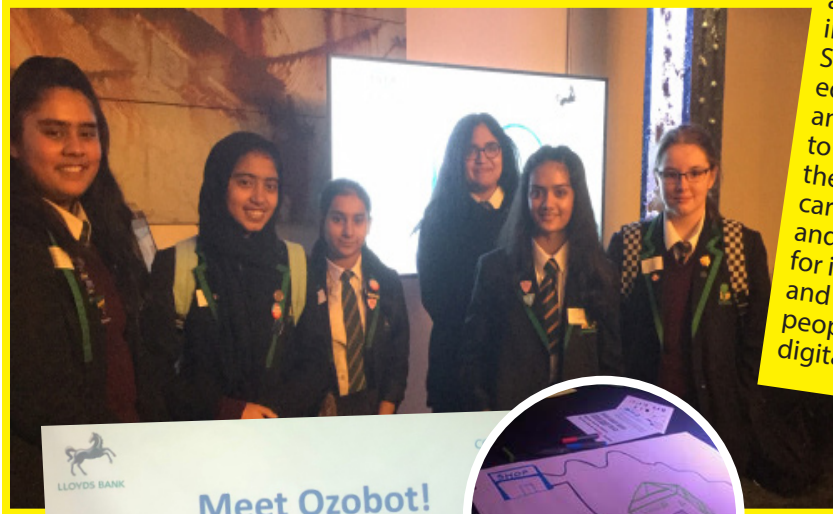
This year our girls have had the opportunity to watch several live football matches. We have been to watch both Manchester United and Manchester City play in their European matches and 50 girls saw Manchester United women play in their very first ever professional football match in the top flight of Women's football.

These were fantastic experiences for all the girls involved in which they got to meet and get autographs from the Women's players. Watching the women play has inspired many of the girls to take up playing football and to watch more football on the TV. **One student described the trip as the "best day of her life."**



## DIGITAL EXPLORERS -YEAR 10

Year 10 Career and STEM leaders participated in a STEM related Digital Explorers event organised by EDT in partnership with TCS (Tata Consultancy Services) and Lloyds Banking Group. This took place at Victoria warehouse where students participated in group activities focusing on 'next step' skills. Students explored and looked at further higher education options, interview skills, a cv surgery and quick fire-careers quiz. Students got a chance to speak and ask established professionals about their own career route and learn more about STEM careers. Professionals spoke about their experience and also discussed what their company is looking for in a graduate. Digital Explorers is a national event and is designed to inspire and motivate young people to take an interest in STEM careers and the digital sector.



## LEVY STEM FAIR

Our STEM fair offered wide and varied opportunities for our students from Year 7-10 to expand their views of the world of STEM. We had employers and professionals from different industries such as engineering, construction, marketing and digital. We also had representatives from colleges and PhD students from Manchester University showcasing their specific STEM related subjects. The main purpose was to expose students to STEM and give them opportunities to explore STEM related concepts, that they will develop a passion for it and hopefully pursue a job in a STEM field. During the fair students got involved in a variety of hands on activities and enjoyed meeting the professionals. We were also delighted to welcome our Chair of Governors, Emma Antrobus, as a special guest to the STEM fair.



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# CAREERS NEWS

## CAREERS TALK

We were delighted to welcome one of our ex-students Ayesha Nayyar for a Career talk with our Year 10 students. Ayesha is a Senior Solicitor/Director at Nayyars Solicitors. Ayesha shared her early journey as a student at Levenshulme High and spoke about her experiences and challenges as a solicitor. Ayesha's background is specializing in high value personal injury and fatal accident claims. She also handles a number of complex family, immigration and debt action cases. Ayesha's key messages were: dream big, work hard, stay focused, surround yourself with good people.

Ayesha said, *"The students were an absolute credit to the school and I left immensely proud and confident that the legacy of Levenshulme High girls achieving will long continue."*

## ALUMNI TALK – WHY STUDY LAW?

One of our ex-students Tanzeela delivered a lunchtime drop-in session with our Year 10 and 11 girls and gave them an insight as to what it's like to study law at University level. She shared her early journey, the difficulties she faced and how she is now enjoying her second year studying LLB at Manchester Metropolitan University.



## BBC BITESIZE

Levenshulme High had a very exciting opportunity to host BBC Bitesize Schools Tour with our Year 7,8 and 9 students. Our Levenshulme High School's hall was set up like a 'Question Time' style setup featuring a panel of 3 professionals that had a career within the creative industry. The event was hosted by Nick Bright who is a British Radio and television presenter.

The aim of the event was to offer insight into the world of work and shine a light on routes into and opportunities within a sector that many of the pupils might not have considered. Students also participated in a Question and Answer session where they got the chance to learn more about the creative industry and about future jobs.

## YEAR 11 MOCK INTERVIEWS

As part of the Careers Hub, school organised a Mock interview day with all our Year 11 students. All the students got the opportunity to have a mock interview with a professional employer where they went through a series of questions. This helped them learn how to answer difficult questions, develop interview strategies and improve their communication skills. Overall the students had a great experience and the feedback from the employers was very positive as to how well our students conducted themselves throughout the interview and gave some good examples which were relevant to questions asked.



Our careers twitter account is now live and you can follow us for all the latest careers news in and out of school:

@Careers\_Levy



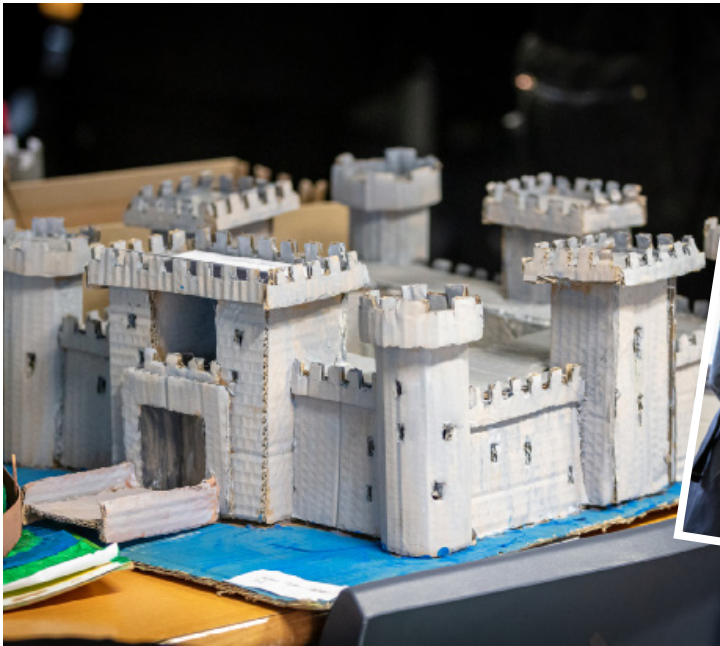


## CASTLE BUILDING

A massive congratulations to Hafsa, Abhia and Maryum who came 1st, 2nd and 3rd in this years castle building competition. Not only were the quality of the builds outstanding but the depth and breath of research shown in the accompanying information packs that students created for their castles was brilliant! The History Leaders and their special guest judges had a very difficult task choosing the best from each class and overall winners. Well done to everyone who took part, what a great year group of masonry workers!

### Overall Winners:

1st Place Hafsa P01 | 2nd Place Abhia N06 | 3rd Place Maryum S01



## SADIE MASSEY AWARDS

Year 9 students were lucky enough to take part in a creative writing workshop with Manchester author Danielle Jawando in December. The workshop was a prize won for the school by two of last year's Year 11 students, Aisha and Thahera, in the 2019 Portico Library Sadie Massey Awards for Young Writers.

Danielle helped the students get started on their entries for this year's awards, and gave us a sneak preview of her young adult novel 'And The Stars Were Burning Brightly', which comes out in March. Pupils throughout school are already working on their stories for this year's Sadie Massey Awards and we hope to have some winners again in 2020.

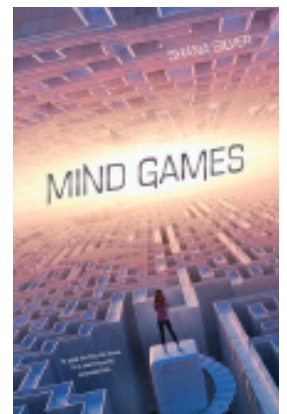


## STUDENT BOOK REVIEW

Marwa in Year 10 was our book review winner this year. Have a read of her riveting review and see if you fancy reading 'Mind Games' by Shana Silver.

I really enjoyed this book, whose protagonist is 18-year-old Arden Varga, a computer genius and hacker whose job is to download other people's memories and sell them. It's set in a futuristic world with awesome technology ideas, such as holographic make-up. In the story, she realises someone has stolen her memories and tries to solve who and why they did it. The mystery unfolds with bits and pieces of memory being played backwards, which Arden has to put together. I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys mystery and thrillers. *Review by Marwa*

Other recommended books last term included 'The Ice Monster' by David Walliams, 'Countries of the World: China' by Carole Goddard and 'The Last Wild' by Piers Torday.





## INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS AT LEVY

### It's All Change on the Leader-board Again!

HT2 saw a busy schedule of Inter-House Competitions, starting off with a school-wide treasure trail to mark Anti-Bullying Week, created by our super-team of Wellbeing Leaders. Then, accompanying our tutorial activities on the aging population, all of our tutor groups participated in a competition inspired by Age UK's 'Donate Your Words' campaign, devising and filming 'wordless' videos to highlight some of the challenges faced by older people within our community. To compliment this, students were able to 'donate' their words in some wonderful festive cards which were sent out with messages of kindness and encouragement to residents of Gorton Park Care Home and the Dementia Friends Group in Heaton Moor. The term culminated in two hugely successful and well-attended dance competitions – one for our incredible students and the first ever for our enthusiastic staff!





## YEAR 11 STUDY GOODY BAGS!

Year 11s have been gifted a 'study goody bag' which include; flashcards, stationary, a stress ball or a rubrics cube, a small treat and a hot chocolate sachet to help students unwind. All students have been given revision postcards which contain useful revision sites for each faculty area.

During the focus day in December year 11s had a session on study skills during which they explored various revisions techniques and created their own revision timetables. Students later commented that they found it useful to share revision tips with each other and enjoyed the practical element of creating revision resources. During the focus day year 11s also had a Stress Busting session in which they looked at the importance of looking after themselves and their mental wellbeing. They discussed the importance of getting enough sleep and looked at practical ways of dealing with stress.



## MULTI-LINGUAL

Languages Week was a huge success, with guest speakers visiting from Manchester United, DA Languages, the University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University. Our French students took part in a Press Conference to interview a new manager for MUFC, and a whole school competition ran to identify the languages spoken by many of our students. The MFL and PE staff joined forces to create a wake up and shake up fitness video for all the school to do each morning, and our canteen served delicious food from the countries where our languages are spoken.



## CREATIVE LANGUAGES

On Wednesday January 8th, 20 students from Year 8 went to the University of Manchester with Mr Allen and Mrs Tawil to work with student ambassadors in using their languages to create some brilliant role plays, and have a sample Russian lesson. Their confidence was excellent and their collaborative skills were supreme. Our students wrote and starred in an Arabic-Spanish birthday party, and a French-German talent show. Sonja Bernhard, Outreach Officer from the University said "Your students were lovely, it was great to have them here".

Our next news from the MFL department is the exciting Japanese club starting in February – watch this space for details!

## STUDENT ART SHOW

Year 9 students visited Manchester Metropolitan University to display their artwork in the resource centre at the Brooks building. The class created work around the theme of journey with each piece discussing the student's personal representation of journey, focusing on a wide range of topics: childhood, recovery, depression, body image, homelessness, salvation, success, growing up, family, trauma, environment and democracy. The students each wrote a spoken word poem about their specific theme which then inspired artworks using the imagery within their spoken word poem, to visualise aspects of their poetry. The class worked fantastically together to curate the space with their original poem accompanying each of their artworks. The show will be displayed at MMU until the Summer if you would like to go and see it, it is free to enter.





## BOCCIA TOURNAMENT

On January 8th a team of Year 7 and 8 from the Sports Inclusion club competed in the Greater Manchester Schools Boccia competition. The girls played brilliantly, amazingly getting through to the semi-finals, it was a tense and nail-biting game with the girls coming 4th out of 15 schools! This means they have qualified for the regional competition in Liverpool, so there are more exciting games to come. The girls represented Levenshulme wonderfully and demonstrated not only their skill in the sport, but good sportsmanship with the other teams. Well played girls!



## MEET AND GREET

Last term, we organised a Meet and Greet for the parents of the students we work with across the Inclusion and EAL departments. The main aim of the meeting was to boost family involvement in our classroom and to help promote positive outcomes for our students.

EAL pupils had a chance to put in practice things they had learnt in their intervention lessons and were in charge of welcoming parents and serving them with tea and coffee. Bilingual staff were available to help overcome any language barriers for parents who are new to English. Parents had the chance to meet with the teachers and teaching assistants and to learn about all the intervention programmes run by the Inclusion department, which empower our students to engage them further in learning. The meeting was a huge success and we look forward to meet the parents again in the Inclusion Celebration Assembly later in the year.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS

On Wednesday 18th December our Inclusion Leaders organised a visit to Gorton Parks Care Home. The purpose of the visit was to engage with the local community and bring gifts and Christmas cheer to the residents. Our leaders were excellent ambassadors for the school: "donating their words" through Christmas messages, having lively conversation and singing together. We were able to take a hamper of "luxuries" with the money raised from our Christmas Market event. The students felt they had a really positive experience and it gave them insight into the needs of our elderly population. One student commented "I learnt that some people go through difficult times but still have a smile on their face." Gorton Parks staff had nothing but praise for our students, commenting, "The school should be so proud of them. They are an amazing group of students."

The residents really enjoyed our visit and everyone was so impressed, they have invited us back.



## INTO FILM FESTIVAL

In November, EAL students and the EAL leaders had a fantastic opportunity to participate in the Into Film Festival. Many of them visited the cinema for the first time and they absolutely loved it. We watched the Grinch, which launched us into learning about the importance of Christmas. Students learnt that to celebrate Christmas we don't need decorations or gifts, because the most important things are love, peace and friendship.

EAL leaders went to watch '2040', documentary directed by Damon Gameau who motivated by his daughter's future, took us on an inspiring journey across the globe to look at things being done this very day to help save our struggling environment. We learnt that if we simply embrace the best solutions already available to us, such as renewable energy and alternative transportation, we can make a massive difference. We all hope that in 2040 the Earth will be a brighter and better place to live in.

