



“Role models”: Two students praised by Headteacher for community achievements

Two of our students from Year 7, Beth Jones and Ruby Murphy, have participated in two events within the community, for which teachers have praised them for - Beth Jones has won first place in a gymnastics competition, and Ruby Murphy has played a leading role in a recent performance at Stafford Gatehouse Theatre. Beth Jones came first out of 49 competitors in the West Midlands Regional Gymnastics Grade 4 Championships that took place on 7th March. She started gymnastics because she liked it and thought it looked interesting when she was 5 years old- she has currently been training for over 6 years, and practises a whopping four times a week! Even though she enjoyed the entire day, her favourite part was her floor routine, which she also came first in. **See page 2**



Star students: Ruby and Beth

Welcome from the Headteacher

It is that time of the year again where the exam season looms and our students prepare for their exams. Having held honours assemblies before Easter it was encouraging to see so many students with high progress points earned through event logs, house points, merits and excellent effort in class, and beyond; and all of these should be praised for the hard work and effort they have put in to their studies and preparation. It was a successful term at King Edward's last term and we have seen yet another fantastic Business Enterprise Challenge. Well done again to the winning group, we shall watch your progress with enthusiasm. The term has seen our Year 8s success with the Maths Masterclasses, two of our students taking part in the WW1 Battlefields Tour, Ruby Murphy recognised for her role in a local theatre production, Beth Jones coming top in a regional gymnastics competition, 8RKK's successful bake sales to raise money for charity, Readathon and World Book Day organised by Miss Lambe, our rugby, football, basketball, indoor athletics and gymnastics teams proving successful, Year 10s running their own Valentine's messaging business in school and our KS4 and KS5 attending a youth debate with local politicians, Mrs Gibbs and the sports leaders leading some successful sporting events for our primary schools and much more. A big thank you and well done to all students and staff for their hard work and effort last term. We all wish our Year 11s and Sixth Formers every success in their examinations to come this term.

Mr J Christey
Headteacher



Mathematical masters: Charlotte, Jack, Oscar and Robbie

Year 8s take part in Maths Masterclass

Four Year 8 students have successfully taken part in a series of Maths masterclasses organised by the Royal Institute and Staffordshire University.

Jack Gulliver, Charlotte Bradley, Robbie Cartlidge and Oscar Harte took part in six Mathematics masterclasses on their weekends to help extend their Maths skills to a higher level. All four students have a keen interest in Maths and seemed to have enjoyed the whole experience.

Sessions included looking at binary coding, probability, problem-solving and even the Maths behind juggling in what was a action-packed series of events.

Jack said, "It was really fun and I enjoyed the juggling and binary classes. I could see how Maths applied in real life."

Robbie agreed, "It was fun and I would love to do it all again, especially if there were more practicals as I learned a lot through those."

Oscar said, "I really enjoyed it - I like problem-solving and learning in different ways. We certainly did that in these masterclasses."

Charlotte commented, "I enjoyed the problem-solving too and was quite good at it. It was certainly much better than algebra!"

Their Maths teacher and Assistant Headteacher, Ms Knights, said "It was a great opportunity for four budding Mathematicians and they certainly got a lot out of it. The masterclasses showed how Maths is and can be used in everyday life and has certainly inspired them".

All four are considering future careers in Maths-related jobs with Jack considering a job in computer programming and Oscar as a Maths teacher.

The students will join countless other students in the UKMT Maths Challenge later this year.

Headteacher, Mr Christey, said "Well done to Jack, Robbie, Oscar and Charlotte for taking part in these masterclasses. It has clearly broadened their Mathematical minds and I am glad they have benefitted from them. You have given up your free time to extend your learning which is highly commendable. I wish you the best of luck with your Maths Challenge later this year."

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Ruby Murphy was part of the play that was recently showed at The Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, and originally joined because her mum thought it would be good if she took part in it. Out of the entire performance, her favourite part was her costume, and is only been doing it for a year!

The school is very proud of these two for taking part in activities outside of school, and we hope other students will continue to do so.

Headteacher, Mr Christey, said "Ruby and Beth are excellent role models for other students in their year group. On top of their school work they have devoted their free time to demonstrate their unique talents. To come first out of 49 worthy competitors is a huge achievement and Beth should be proud of her hard work and training. Similarly to get a leading role in a theatre production and to demonstrate your talents to a large audience is challenging yet Ruby has achieved this through her hard work and dedication to her interest in drama. Well done to both of you on your achievements. The Governors, your school and I are incredibly proud of you both and wish that your success continues into the future."

Leader of Year 7, Mrs Harte, added, "Well done girls, what an incredible achievement. You have both proven yourselves talented young people. You are an asset to your year group, your school and your community."

Report by Olivia Rose and Megan Dashfield

STEM Club fun

Last term at STEM Club we created a cardboard chair strong enough for Mr Christey to sit on. The chair had to be ONLY made from cardboard, no sellotape or glue allowed. We gathered our ideas from the internet and got inspiration to create our ideal cardboard chair. During the process of producing the chair we had to create proto-types which we tested the strength of with weights to see if it would stay standing. After this we picked a suitable proto-type to make as our finished product. After a lot of cutting and fitting, our chair was complete ready for it to be tested out. Mr Christey judged on: folder work, preparation, chair look, stableness and how comfortable it was. Overall our chair won and we have now had points added onto our overall STEM Club progress chart.

Headteacher Mr Christey said "congratulations to Annie, Chloe and Vhari on their successful investigation and experiment. It worked very well and I was impressed with the skills they demonstrated".

Report by Annie Sowerbutts, Chloe Burrows and Vhari MacDonald

Year 9s in Battlefields Tour

Two Year 9 students have taken part in a government-led tour of the World War One battlefields in France and Belgium to commemorate the centenary years of the Great War.

Nathan Phillips and David Bennett along with History teacher Mr Lomas joined teachers and students from around 50 other schools from the Stoke-on-Trent, Chester and Manchester areas on a four-day tour of the Ypres Salient and the Somme.

World War One cost the lives of over 10 million soldiers and millions more civilians. It signalled the start of modern warfare and changed the world dramatically. Between 2014 and 2019, HM Government is funding every state school in the UK to visit the battlefields and learn about the conflict. The tours are led by educational tour operator, Equity, as well as the Institute of Education.

The first day of the tour was devoted to preparation for the visit and was based at Grosvenor Hall in Kent. Students took part in team-building exercises whilst the teachers took part in CPD sessions and discovered ways to deliver WW1 teaching in the centenary years. The day concluded with a WW1 artefacts lesson led by the Institute of Education and the British Army.

The second day saw us head off to Ypres, a key Belgian town which saw some of the heaviest fighting in the entire war. We were given time to look round the "In Flanders Fields" museum inside the magnificent Cloth Hall building before visiting Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery where 9,901 Commonwealth war graves are located along with hundreds of other nationalities. Significantly amongst the thousands of men lies one woman, Staff Nurse Nellie Spindler, who was killed when a shell exploded at her casualty clearing station, she was just 26. We then moved on to the Death Cells Museum at Poperinge to learn about the 306 British and Commonwealth soldiers who were shot by the British Army for various offences such as cowardice or desertion.

That evening the schools took part in the Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, laying wreaths to honour the countless men who died in war but their bodies were never found.

On the third day we crossed the border into France and to the Somme battlefields. We visited the Ulster Memorial Tower, dedicated to the brave soldiers of the 36th (Ulster) Division who attacked the nearby Schwaben Redoubt on the first day of the infamous Battle of the Somme on 1st July 1916. The visit took in a tour of excavated British trenches. We then continued on to Sheffield Memorial Park and Danzig Alley British Cemetery before arriving at the Thiepval Memorial, a grand memorial designed by Sir Edwin Lutwens (who also designed the Cenotaph) dedicated to the men whose bodies are still missing on the Somme. In the evening the Army led workshops to show what a soldier's life is like today.

On our final day, we visited Langemark German Cemetery and Tyne Cot British Cemetery as well as a pottery studio in Ypres, where we all made clay figures which will be used as part of a memorial to all the Belgian civilians who died during the war.

It was at Tyne Cot however where we found the memorial to Trooper Harold Miles Averill of the Household Battalion, a former student of King Edward VI Grammar School (our predecessor), who died on 12th October 1917 and had lived in Middle Friars in Stafford.

The whole tour was a moving and enriching experience for all and perhaps a reminder of why and how war is a terrible thing. Our job now is to pass on our experience to others through the Legacy 110 programme.





Primary netball tournament at KEVI

Tuesday 31st March saw the Year 5&6 netball tournament take place at King Edward VI sports hall. 23 rearing to go students participated in a fun and enjoyable afternoon of skills, games and lively matches. St. Lawrence's Primary School and Castle Church Primary School worked with the sports leaders to improve their skills, passing and practice their shooting through the hoops. After a crash course in netball the two schools joined forces and split into four mixed teams. The enthusiastic teams got involved together and battled it out against one another to be the best.

It was evident that the teachers and parents enjoyed the tournament too. That was due to the four sports leaders and Mrs Gibbs who dedicated their evening to ensure the children left with complete satisfaction and knowledge of the game. The skills that the children showed throughout the matches were very impressive and their improvement during the evening definitely did not go unnoticed! Well done everyone!

Report by Hannah Malpass Y11

See more news and photos at www.kevi.org.uk/school-news

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	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Lunch	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library News Team	Do My Home-work! ICT/Library Hear4U	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library Netball	Do My Home-work! Humanities Support ICT/Library Poi Spinning
After-school	Do My Home-work!		Do My Home-work! GCSE Art	Do My Home-work! GCSE Art	

For a full list and more details go to www.kevi.org.uk/school-clubs or see in school