

COPLLEY VOICE



Inside this issue



**MACMILLIAN CHARITY DAY
AT TESCO, STALYBRIDGE**

PAGE
4



**GIVING TO CHILDREN
LIVING IN POVERTY**

PAGE
4



THE GIFT OF READING

PAGE
5

PAGE
1 & 2

**Copley hosts on
Comenius Project**



Copley hosts on Comenius Project



A blustery and cold Sunday evening saw the start of the third leg of the Comenius Project which was being hosted here in Stalybridge. Everyone was feeling anxious about how the week would go and some had concerns about being away from home for the whole week. First to arrive at The Sea Cadets Centre were pupils and teachers from Greece, who actually arrived in Manchester on the Friday, then Romania, followed by Turkey and then, after a long journey to get here, Denmark.

It was a reunion for those pupils and staff that went to Denmark and Turkey last year and everyone was happy to see each other again. Year 10 pupils were feeling slightly nervous; it was the first time they had come face-to-face with their partners. After a lovely evening meal and ice breaker activities they realised they had nothing to worry about.

Monday morning pupils and staff awoke, still feeling sleepy (thanks to the girls being up half the night chatting!) but excited about the week ahead. A trip to Copley Academy was the first order of the day after a traditional English breakfast. Teachers from the visiting schools were so impressed when they visited our school and loved the bright displays – so much so that it took them two and a half hours to have a tour as they were taking lots of pictures. They were extremely positive about the attitude and behaviour of pupils, commenting how polite and attentive they were, something we should all be very proud of.

The focus of the five day visit was to explore the industry that has helped shape Manchester into what it is today, starting with a trip to Compstall, which is well known for being an old mill village. The afternoon stayed sunny which was perfect for a walk around Etherow Park. Pupils learnt all about the cotton industry, how water was vital in producing clothing and how awful conditions were for children working in the mills all those years ago.

On our return to school, pupils had the opportunity to show their foreign partners how they usually spend evenings here in Stalybridge. Some went bowling, others shopping and some lucky ones got to experience a traditional home cooked roast dinner.

Tuesday meant an early start as there was a busy day lined up. First stop was The Lowry Outlet shopping centre before heading over to Old Trafford for a tour of the football stadium. Pupils were able to try on shirts of past players and some even sniffed David Beckham's old boots!

The afternoon was mostly dry, which was a relief as we had a guided tour of Manchester city centre booked in. This was fascinating, even to those who have visited Manchester many times, as they had never noticed statues or churches before and were interested to learn the relevance of them and the history behind it. The final stop of this tour was at the 5* Radisson Blu Hotel for afternoon tea. Pupils were presented with towers of sandwiches, scones

and cakes which looked and tasted delicious. This was a welcome break after such a busy and tiring day. However, it still wasn't finished as we had tickets to watch the theatre show *Barnum*. This was a spectacular, action packed show which was very colourful and had some amazing circus stunts, including tight rope walking, stilt walking and acrobats. Following the show, everyone was so tired and were very glad to get some sleep after such a hectic day.

Another early start was in store for Wednesday as we were heading over to Liverpool to see the impact the cotton trade had and how the docks had needed to be built for the shipments going in and out of the country. Pupils had a lesson at the International Slavery Museum about the history and conditions of being a slave. They were able to hold the shackles used to imprison slaves and researched the way they were treated. All pupils were very respectful and worked well as teams, teaching each other about what they had found out and how important cotton was.

The final full day we all had together was spent back in school, working with the international dance group, Company Chameleon, choreographing a dance piece that would interpret and reflect the purpose of the visit with the focus being on industry. Some pupils were quite apprehensive about this at first but once they joined in, they realised it was actually good fun and enjoyed themselves. The performance in front of year 7 at the end of the day was fantastic and we even had a visit from a Member of Parliament and a journalist who watched the dance and thoroughly enjoyed it.

Thursday evening was the best night for most of the pupils. The Copley Academy staff weren't as keen on the plans for this evening (except me) which was a night of shopping around The Trafford Centre. All of the Christmas decorations were up and it looked beautiful. Our foreign visitors were taken aback by the size and the amount of shops. Some groups of pupils went to play Laser Quest whilst others chose to do a bit of Christmas shopping and others just bought themselves presents from The Disney Store, which made the journey back a bit of a squeeze on the minibus!

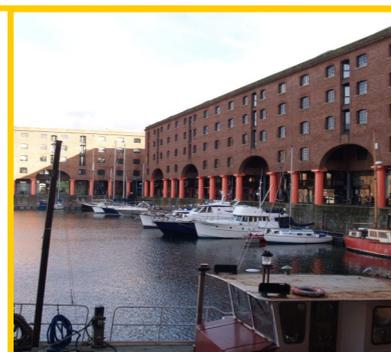


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Friday was a day of goodbyes which was very sad for some pupils as this was their last meeting as part of this project. There were tears and sincere promises to keep in touch, which I'm sure will be kept.

Overall, it was a very tiring but successful week. A huge thanks to all of the pupils who were involved in this visit, you represented Copley Academy incredibly well and you should be proud of yourselves.

Miss Clegg English teacher





Up and coming events at Copley and in Tameside

Staff at Copley Academy are taking part in a Card-free Christmas Appeal again this year. Instead of buying a box of Christmas cards they will purchase a Christmas bauble with their name on to wish all their colleagues a very Merry Christmas. These will be hung on the staff Christmas tree. All the money raised from the card-free appeal will go to **Tameside 4 Good**, helping local good causes across the borough.

Saturday 13th December Staff and pupils from Copley Academy will be bag packing at Asda, Ashton-under-Lyne. They will be there to lend a hand to those busy shoppers and all proceeds will go to **Tameside 4 Good**.

Sunday 14th December A Stamford Santa Stroll is taking place in Stamford Park, Ashton-under-Lyne. The whole family is invited to take part—even the dog! Simply register on the Tameside 4 Good website, collect your fundraising pack (Santa suit £10 adult, £5 Child, £1 dogs), drum up donations and turn up on the day. After the walk there is a Santa sing-a-long and a festive treat. This is organised by **Tameside 4 Good** who are joining forces with **The Believe & Achieve Trust** (set up in memory of Alex Williams) helping to raise money and awareness of meningitis and to increase physical and mental health of those affected by the disease and those who wish to succeed in a sport through funding or the need to purchase special equipment.

Friday 19th December Staff and pupils are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas colours to raise money for **Save the Children**. Donations of £1 per person enables you to take part in this festive fun whilst fundraising for such a good cause.

Spring preparations in Millbrook

The Copley Academy Eco Committee went to help the Millbrook Residents Association plant daffodil and blue bell bulbs in Oak Park in Millbrook ready for spring time. It was a really windy, cold day and we did have to finish a bit early but we got all of the bulbs planted in the hour and a half we were there. When we got back to school we were all frozen so as a treat we had a drink of hot chocolate.

We have since been invited back to Oak Park to witness the Civic Mayor of Tameside, Dawson Lane and his wife plant the first oak tree in Oak Park. It was a much warmer day and we got chance to have a look at the new playground that the Millbrook Residents Association, who are all volunteers, have worked so hard to achieve. The playground is at the top end of the park near the new oak tree. There is a basketball court, snakes and ladders and a racetrack marked out on the floor.

The Eco Committee would like to give a big thank you to Cathy and Katy from the Millbrook Residents Association for inviting us along and to Miss Atkin and Mrs Patel for making this possible. We all had a great time and are looking forward to our next job.

Lauren Shuttleworth Eco Committee

Fifth year cheering at the top of Tameside

Congratulations to the Copley Divas who were named champions for the fifth year running at the Xtreme cheer competition hosted by Copley earlier this month.

Key Stage 4 Divas won Tameside Urban Xtreme. Astley secured 2nd place, whilst All Saints were named 3rd.

The Key Stage 3 squad were also 1st place winners.



Macmillan charity day at Tesco, Stalybridge

Twenty five Copley Academy pupils again went to Tesco, Stalybridge in November this time to raise money for Macmillan.

Tesco worker Violet supported the effort by having her hair shaved for the charity. She started with bunches of hope, where the names of people close who have suffered from cancer were written on pieces of ribbon. Then the ribbons were tied into bunches in Violet's hair and cut off. She later had her hair shaved completely. Violet commented "I'm not the brave one, all those suffering cancer are the brave. I want to represent that they are beautiful even without any hair".

Violet and her daughters were doing tombola prizes, a raffle and face paints to raise money. Meanwhile the Copley Charity Committee supported by year 7 pupils were bag packing, armed with their buckets alongside Miss Atkin, Miss Cunningham and Mrs Cunnington. The grand total raised by the end of the day was £640.84. Thank you to everybody who came along and helped!

Danielle Singleton Charity Committee



Key 103 Mission Christmas

Copley Academy's Charity Committee have been supporting Key 103's Mission Christmas this year.

In Greater Manchester 1 in 3 children live in poverty. This means that 150,000 children in our local area aren't expecting a gift from Santa this Christmas. Key 103 are encouraging us to buy one extra present this year – a gift that will make Christmas 2014 special for a child living in poverty.

Mission Christmas are looking for new and unwrapped gifts. Food and clothes aren't accepted but accesso-

ries such as hats, gloves and scarves are fine. Gifts should be suitable for children aged 0 to 18 years and you can donate at Copley Academy. We are focusing on presents for children aged 11 – 16 but gifts for any age range will be gratefully received.

Please drop gifts at school by 15th December.



Oh Christmas Choir, Oh Christmas Choir at Tesco, Stalybridge

Copley Academy school band will be playing in Tesco, Stalybridge with Stalyhill Juniors Choir on Tuesday 16th December 1.30 - 3.30pm. Ready for Christmas the pupils will be performing festive songs. It would be lovely to see some familiar faces passing by!

If you can pop in it will be a final chance to leave a gift for the Key 103 Mission Christmas Appeal.

Listen to Danielle and Katie from our Charity Committee on Key 103 talking about Mission Christmas on the school website



Book Buzz free books for year 7

Every year Copley Academy registers with the Book Buzz programme to allow all of our year 7 pupils to choose a new free book from a selection of twelve. This year our Book Buzz book order arrived just in time for the year 7s to spend time enjoying them in our festive seating area. This has proved to be quite a success and all years are enjoying this cosy place to curl up with a good book.

Gift of Reading Event 2014

Christmas Gift of Reading came around again and we were delighted by all the pupils who came along to join in. It was lovely to see queues at the library issue desk as pupils waited to take books out during the lunch hour. Our librarians worked extremely hard to issue the books as quickly as possible and the event created real excitement about books and reading. We have already had several fabulous reviews back and will be accepting them until we break up for Christmas. There are still some star prizes left to claim. If you need some Christmas reading inspiration all reviews received can be read on the Eclipse library system.

It was lovely to see queues at the library issue desk as pupils waited to take books out during the lunch hour

New year, new talent

Would you like to work on the Copley Voice in 2015?

Maybe you would like to be around school interviewing staff and pupils about things that matter to you or even just writing about the events that you are involved in. Maybe you are going on a trip or taking part in a fundraiser. You can write on your own or as part of a group.

Photographs are an important part of our newsletter. Could you be involved in taking photographs at school events?

You could even write a review or about a hobby if you want to contribute as a one-off.

Every pupil who contributes to an issue earns Vivos!

Maths inspiration for year 11

Back in November eight year 11 students attended the Maths Inspiration show at the RNCM in Manchester.

They watched presentations about *Patterns predictions and juggling*, *The sacred geometry of chance* and *Hidden connections*.

The students had the chance to invent new juggling tricks based on the mathematical patterns behind it and learnt how Morse Code works. We also learnt some interesting facts. Can you believe that if there are fifty people in a room it is almost certain that two of them will share the same birthday? (A member of the audience lost £1 betting on that!) We also discovered that humans are very predictable and if you start at One Direction on Wikipedia you can eventually link up to philosophy!

Mrs Schofield Maths teacher

Can you believe that if there are fifty people in a room it is almost certain that two of them will share the same birthday?

University Gateway

Fourteen year 8 students went to Manchester University for a Gateways visit earlier this half term.

When we arrived we were introduced to student ambassadors who told us all about how university works, who can go and the ways to pay for university. There are over 4,000 subjects on offer in universities across the UK.

The rest of the day was a collection of workshops. First, we learnt about Brazil including its history and the native language Portuguese. Then we moved on to Julius Caesar where we had to do a murder mystery analysis on his assassination using different sources to work out the details. Finally, we had a physics workshop. We looked at how scientists are working on ways to make the world more eco friendly.

Olivia Costello and Lily Bower Year 8

Remembrance 2014

Copley once again marked Remembrance Day with silence to honour our servicemen and women both past and present. The silence is a mark of respect to those who fought, were injured or even lost their lives in combat for our country.

The Explorers, Scouts and Army, Sea and Marine Cadets, who were invited to attend school in their full uniforms, paraded in the dining hall for the two minute silence.

Continuing Copley's tradition for marking the occasion, the classroom doors were opened around school to allow the sound of *The Last Post* to fill the building.

2014 marks 100 years since the start of the First World War making this Remembrance Day especially poignant. Events are planned across the country to mark the Centenary over the next 4 years.

Thank you to all pupils and staff who donated money to The Royal British Legion through the 2014 Poppy Appeal.



There are over 4,000 subjects on offer in universities across the UK

3D design challenge

After Christmas, we will be running a competition in the computing department for budding entrepreneurs to design a new product. The winning design will be printed out on our brand new 3D printer to allow you to have a lasting memento of your creation.

Watch this space for more information.

Mr Aitken Head of ICT

Light up craft club

Mrs Stones is hoping to get an exciting new club up and running after Christmas. Year 7 and 8 pupils will be invited to make greetings cards which light up using simple circuits.

For information on light up cards visit www.tinkering.exploratorium.edu/paper-circuits. If you are interested in joining this club register with Mrs Stones in room 18 now.

Mrs Stones ICT teacher





THANK YOU

**to the pupils and staff who
contributed to this issue of
the Copley Voice**

Lauren Shuttleworth

Danielle Singleton

Olivia Costello

Lily Bower

Miss Clegg

Mr Boyle

Mrs Thompson

Miss Cunningham

Miss Atkin

Mrs Holding

Mrs Schofield

Mrs Clarke

Mr Aitken

Mrs Stones

Mrs Glaister

Mrs Newton

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