

MOORSIDE High School

A SCIENCE SPECIALIST SCHOOL

www.moorside.staffs.sch.uk

MESSAGE FROM HEAD TEACHER

It has been a busy month and we have come to the end of the exam season. I think we are all a little exhausted. Well done to everyone who received an award at our Awards' Evening and who performed in our Expressive Arts Evening. Moorside has a great deal of talent. I want to thank Parents for their understanding when we had to move both evenings due to clashes with the England matches.

GREASE

1950s fever has swept over Moorside as the wheels of old Greased Lightning have, at last, been set in motion!

Following the phenomenal success of this year's magnificent production of *The Little Shop of Horrors*, demand for a follow-up from students, staff and audiences alike has been so high that we simply couldn't refuse. We have decided to - for the first time in almost 20 years - present to you none other than *Grease!*

After an audience of students packed out the Music Room for a screening of the iconic 1978 film, auditions were held to identify next year's up-and-coming stars. What was evident was that there would be no easy choices. Girls and boys from Y7 right the way up to Y10 were practically falling over themselves to demonstrate their acting, singing and dancing talents; what a pool of talent there was to choose from! It was certainly enough to give the staff a headache over the selection, and after much deliberation, the casting was finally made.

Dance rehearsals have already started, and have featured quality instruction from Inclusion's Miss L Taylor. Everybody did so well learning brand new moves to a classic *Grease* tune - but you won't find any spoilers here! What we will say is that it looks fantastic already; these kids were definitely born to Hand Jive!

Rehearsals will start in earnest in September, and the eagerness and enthusiasm from all involved has been infectious. Mr Meakin stated that he was "super impressed with the amount of talent displayed during the auditions for *Grease*".

Keep your eyes open for more information coming soon, it's certainly one you won't want to miss!

Ten set 5 had the amazing opportunity to visit Stratford-Upon-Avon on an English trip. We are currently in the midst of preparing for GCSE, and *Romeo and Juliet* is a key text on the GCSE English syllabus. It is very important to understand texts in English, especially those that come with such meaning and old language attached. As a fun and different way of understanding how the play was performed (outside of the classroom), we decided to go and see it for ourselves!

Students had a tour around Stratford-Upon-Avon, and even got to ride the Ferris Wheel, overlooking William Shakespeare's hometown. They got to watch *Romeo and Juliet* be performed in The Royal Shakespeare theatre, like it would have been performed in The Elizabethan Era, with barely anything on stage but their acting skills. All pupils were very impressed, and this has helped with understanding the play massively!



Geography Rocks!

The Y10 pupils visited Birmingham to develop data collection skills and to collect data for the Human Geography part of their GCSE. The hypothesis they investigated was that there is inequality between different areas in Birmingham. The two areas they looked at were Sutton Four Oaks and Sparkbrook. In each area they collected data on house type, environmental quality, ethnicity, traffic and the types of shops and services. On return to school they wrote up their enquiry, and reached a conclusion on inequality in Birmingham.

The Y9 pupils visited the River Wye in Derbyshire to investigate if the natural features change along the river as you travel from the source area towards the mouth of the river. They developed skills needed in all good geographers by collecting data on the width, depth and speed of the river, sediment size and the landforms. The more adventurous got into the river and collected the data first hand (on a very hot day it was nice being able to get into the river). They visited six sites between Buxton and Bakewell looking at how the river changed. Back in school the pupils used a variety of skills to present the data and to carry out statistical analysis. Nothing beats putting theory into practice!



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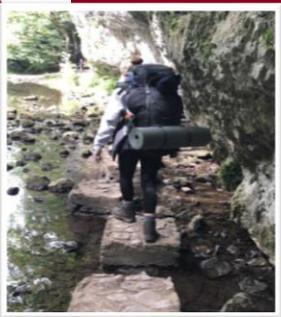


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MOORSIDE

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

A few weeks ago our Duke of Edinburgh Award Silver and Bronze teams embarked on their Practice Expeditions across the Peak District. Like the rest of the country it was roasting hot, but they all managed to achieve their goals; carrying everything they needed to survive a weekend camping. The Silver team had to do a 3 day expedition covering 50km, whilst our two Bronze teams had to do a 2 day expedition covering about 24km each. The teams had to do all their own navigation which lead to one team going the wrong way and getting lost, even though they were walking with a member of staff! At the campsite the



teams then had to erect their tents and cook a well earned meal, which was followed by plenty of cakes and chocolate! Somehow, they all had enough energy to play football, which one of the Silver team carried with them (with a football pump)! The next day all the teams walked to the finish line, where they were greeted by some well deserved ice creams!

Over the next few weeks all the teams will be doing their Qualifying Expedition where they have to do it all over again, but this time under the watchful eye of an assessor.

In September, applications will be open once again to any Year 9 who wishes to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. It really is a fantastic opportunity to challenge yourself and go for an adventure!



APPROVED
ACTIVITY
PROVIDER

School Council

Over last few months, the Moorside School Council has been slowly building its foundations, with the help of Miss Edgley and Miss Goodfellow. A representative from each form group was chosen across the year groups, in order for every form to have a say about what they want from their school!

Megan Wold in Year 8 has spoke out about the importance of this union: "The school council is very important, as it allows all students to speak their minds. It allows teachers to understand the needs of students too. It also lets students have a voice. This is vital as it shows real issues and needs. I believe that the school council is an integral part of the school, as it gives students responsibilities, and also helps set them up to be part of the top teams when they get into Year 11." Wise words and a thoughtful insight!



EXPRESSIVE

The hall of Moorside High School

was electrifyingly lit up on Wednesday, 4th July for the annual Expressive Arts Evening. A host of talented singers and musicians flooded the school grounds with melodious tones, leaving the insatiable audience going wild for more. The evening was *compèred* by two wonderful Y10 Drama enthusiasts and was made possible through the volunteering of time and effort of myriad students and staff. Here's to next year: keep your eyes peeled for *M-Fest 2019!* You heard it here first, folks!

Arts

hairspray the musical

On Tuesday the 12th June the Expressive Arts team headed by Mr Meakin took a party of students to see 'Hairspray' at the Regent Theatre. This is a musical romantic comedy that is full of fun and attitude challenging some of the more conservative values of 1950's America. The production didn't disappoint and staff and students thoroughly enjoyed the kitch and somewhat zany performance and we are now looking forward to seeing what shows are set to arrive at The Regent in the next academic year.