



# ABBEY UPDATE

ABBEY GRANGE C OF E ACADEMY - EDITION 13—JUNE 2018- ABBEY GRANGE C OF E ACADEMY - EDITION 13—JUNE 2018

## PRINCIPAL'S COLUMN

Dear Parent/Carer

As I write this our GCSE and A-level students are right in the middle of their exams, and our thoughts and prayers are with them during this challenging time.

You may notice that we have a few less photographs in this edition of Abbey Update, due to changes that we have had to make about permission for using images of students (as a result of the new data protection regulations). Many thanks to all those who have responded to the request for permission for photo use that we have sent out recently, but if you haven't responded, please do so.

This week we received a certificate from the SSAT (a national school support organisation) which is to recognise exceptional student progress in last summer's GCSE exams, putting us in the top 20% of schools nationally, which is a real credit to our students' hard work and great staff support.



## Abbey Grange C of E Academy

### Sixth Form Election Results

As one era ends, another begins.

With the year 13 students about to embark on their study leave, the process of choosing the new Head Boy & Girl team took place over the last 6 weeks. All of the candidates presented their manifesto to their fellow students and each and every one of them performed amazingly well. Votes were counted and the team was chosen. Head Girl is Emma Head Boy Daniel, Deputy Head Girl Imani and Deputy Head Boy is Joseph . I'm sure they will continue the fantastic work of the outgoing team and they will represent the academy with honour. Congratulations!



# Friendly Host Families Needed



Abbey Grange C of E Academy is an internationally minded school, enabling young people gain the cultural understanding and skills needed to live and work as global citizens. We have links with schools in India, Sri Lanka, Spain and China which offer students a window into different cultures and countries, preparing them for life in a global society. This summer term we are welcoming visitors from Dong En Middle School, China as part of the Homestay Program. 40 students aged 13-15 from Dong En will be spending the week at our Academy, finding out about school life as a teenager in the UK in lessons at Abbey Grange C of E Academy.

Do you have a spare room to host a Chinese student from Sunday 8 July until Saturday 14 July during their visit to Abbey Grange?

Key benefits include;

- Enriching experience for the whole family
- Learning about an interesting and different culture
- Making new friends and international links
- £130 to cover the cost of hosting a student

The purpose of the Homestay Program is to enrich the experiences of both overseas and local students. By agreeing to host a student you not only provide your family with a rich cultural

experience, but also assist the Academy to develop international links. We hope that the goodwill of our school community will help to make the visit a success.

If you are able to host a Chinese student please contact Mrs Ruth Bose  
rbose@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk

## ARTiculation Discovery

Congratulations to Zach (Y11) and Joseph (Y10) for being selected to take part in this year's ARTiculation Discovery final to be held at Leeds University on 11th July. At the final the students will deliver a 5 to 7 minute speech on their chosen artworks and deliver this to an invited judge and a packed audience in one of the university's lecture theatres.

## STEM



In May, 35 students took part in an 'energy quest' run by Shell where they became engineers and solved various challenges involving sustainable energy for the future. This culminated in the design and testing (racing) of model cars on an outdoor track.



After half term, look out for the STEM thoughts of the week being messaged home using Milk Planner, so you can discuss recent developments and current thinking around STEM subjects within the UK and beyond.

## Drop the Chat !

Friday 11 May saw the official launch of @SnappLeeds on **instagram**. The launch was attended by the creators of the app – Sam, Godwin, Cameron, Simon and Joe; Child Friendly Leeds ambassadors and Councillor Lisa Mulherin. The team secured a high profile spot on one of Trinity Leeds' highest impact billboards to support the launch of the app.



So, next time you are in Leeds, open **instagram**; take a photograph that links to the month's theme, use the tag #SnappLeeds and be in for the chance of winning vouchers to spend in Leeds City Centre.



# News from the Chaplain

Kay Brown

Term started with our annual trip to Marrick Priory in Swaledale. 40 students from years 7 to 12, with Abbey Grange staff, Matt Lewis (Leeds Faith In Schools) and Ben Jones set off for a



weekend of outdoor activities combined with worship and exploration of faith together. Students enjoyed playing waterbomb volleyball as for once we had glorious sunshine on arrival. The zip wire over the River Swale proved a hit and many made a 'leap of faith' off the high ropes. The rain reappeared on the Sunday but that didn't dampen enthusiasm for the walk, spurred on by the incentive of the visit to the ice cream shop in



Reeth. In the teaching sessions we explored some of the things that help us in our Christian Faith- the Bible, prayer, determination to follow God and fellowship with each other. Comments such as learning 'to believe in myself and to trust God' and 'that God forgives' ran alongside 'I need to go to sleep more' and 'I shouldn't stand on mud with

white trainers', showing that we all learn in different ways. We returned to school tired but with a deeper sense of God's presence with us and among us.

We have marked the end of teaching for both years 11 and 13 in the last few weeks with a celebration around Holy Communion. Year 11 had a service, led by Revd Jude Smith (also a member of our MAT board), which had lots of contributions by students, especially the wonderful music and singing as students came forward to receive communion or a blessing. There was a lovely sense of joy as we marked this significant milestone. Year 13 was a more reflective voluntary Eucharist, led by Revd Tom Lusty from nearby St Chad's, which was then followed by the Leavers assembly where again the musical talents of our students shone, from the exuberant Jazz Band to the beautiful harmonies of the choir. We are grateful to all who step up in this way, and particularly for the support of clergy with our services.

During the final week before the GCSEs started we had our second 'Mental Health awareness week', with assemblies and lunchtime activities to raise awareness not only of issues around mental health but also what we can all do to look after our mental health and help those around us. We had a great 'brew and biscuits' drop in, which saw a room full of students chatting and just taking time out. In form times students were encouraged to write down things that might cause worry or anxiety, which were then swapped with other forms who used their 'green pens' to offer their advice. These have now been turned into a worry wall as students queue up for lunch so they can see that

others share their worries and what might help. A group continues to meet each week and have explored mindfulness colouring and meditation already and everyone is welcome to join us.

Christian Aid week was a great

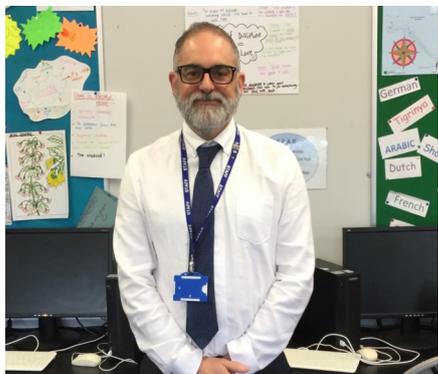


opportunity for fundraising, with chocolate sales then providing the wrappers to make a giant 'superhero' cape to remind us that we are all heroes as we help others. The theme of 'stronger than the storm', with a focus on Haiti, was used in assemblies and in an amazing coincidence we found that one of our students is going there this summer to help at one of the orphanages! The students from the Global Justice group ran a café which they greatly enjoyed and over the week we raised £112.



# Abbey Grange CofE Academy - Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator

Allow me to introduce myself...



Whilst the name Steve Naish will be familiar to many of you, you might not yet be aware of my new role in the academy. After many years teaching in the science department, most recently in the capacity of Assistant Achievement Director, I am delighted to be taking on the position of Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) at Abbey Grange. This post has arisen as a result of Paula Quinn moving on to a role across the Abbey MAT, leading and coordinating SEN provision across our primary and secondary schools.

As someone who has always had a passion for working with SEND students I am very excited by this new role. My first few weeks in the job have given me the opportunity to work closely with Paula and Assistant SENCo Tracey Rowley and our fantastic team of teaching assistants. I am very much looking forward to getting to know parents/carers and students in my new capacity. If you have any questions relating to SEND, please feel free to

contact me via the office or by emailing [снаish@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:снаish@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk)

## Year 7—Champions of Champions

Many congratulations to our Year 7 Football Team for winning the Champions of Champions Cup. The team beat Ilkley Grammar School 6 – 2 in the final. The goal scorers were Thomas, George and Alfie and Man of the Match was awarded to Palmars for a great performance in central defence.



## 5K Pretty Muddy Race for Life



On Saturday 2nd June, 17 students from Year7 to Year 10 ran the 5K Pretty Muddy course to raise money for Cancer Research. They all

represented the school in a fantastic way, and they have currently raised more than £400 for charity



CANCER RESEARCH UK



[info@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk)

[www.abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk](http://www.abbeygrangeacademy.co.uk)