



BAINES SCHOOL

at its best!

Autumn 2016



This edition celebrates students who exemplify our school motto: Nil Sine Labore - nothing without effort - in all aspects of school life.

Headteacher's Message

Welcome to the Autumn edition of 'Baines at its Best!'

With the first unusually long, half-term already under our belts, a lot has been happening here since the start of the academic year. We have welcomed our new pupils and students in Year 7 and 12 and, as a year group the new Year 7s have made a really positive start to their life at high school. All the teachers and staff have been impressed by their energy, positive behaviour and ability. They are clearly a group that should do great things in the future. Equally, Year 12 students have approached the A level curriculum with rigour and enthusiasm and we wish them well for their Sixth Form career.

Alongside the new pupils, we have also welcomed a significant number of new colleagues to the teaching and wider staff. They will be profiled in more details for you later in this edition but to all of them we extend our warm welcome and are already seeing some of the many and different contributions they are making to the life of the school.

Looking ahead to the new year (and no, this is not the first all too early reference to Christmas!) 2017 is the school's tercentennial anniversary and we will be celebrating our 300-year history, alongside the two Baines Primary Schools, acknowledging the work and foresight of our founder, James Baines. The original bequest in his will of 1717 led to the creation of the Baines Schools and began the traditions and legacy of what we have come to fondly regard as 'the family of James Baines.' There will be a number of celebrations and events throughout 2017 of which you will be informed.

Sadly, we lost a valued member of the 'family' of James Baines in August of this year when we were

informed of the death of our highly esteemed former teaching colleague Arthur Field. A legendary teacher of PE and sport, Arthur lived and worked wholly in spirit of the school motto "nothing without effort". The staff and pupils who attended the funeral service at St Chad's witnessed the celebration of a charismatic teacher who motivated so many of his past pupils to take up sport and study it with a great many going on to teach in schools themselves. A great motivator and role model, Arthur will be much missed.

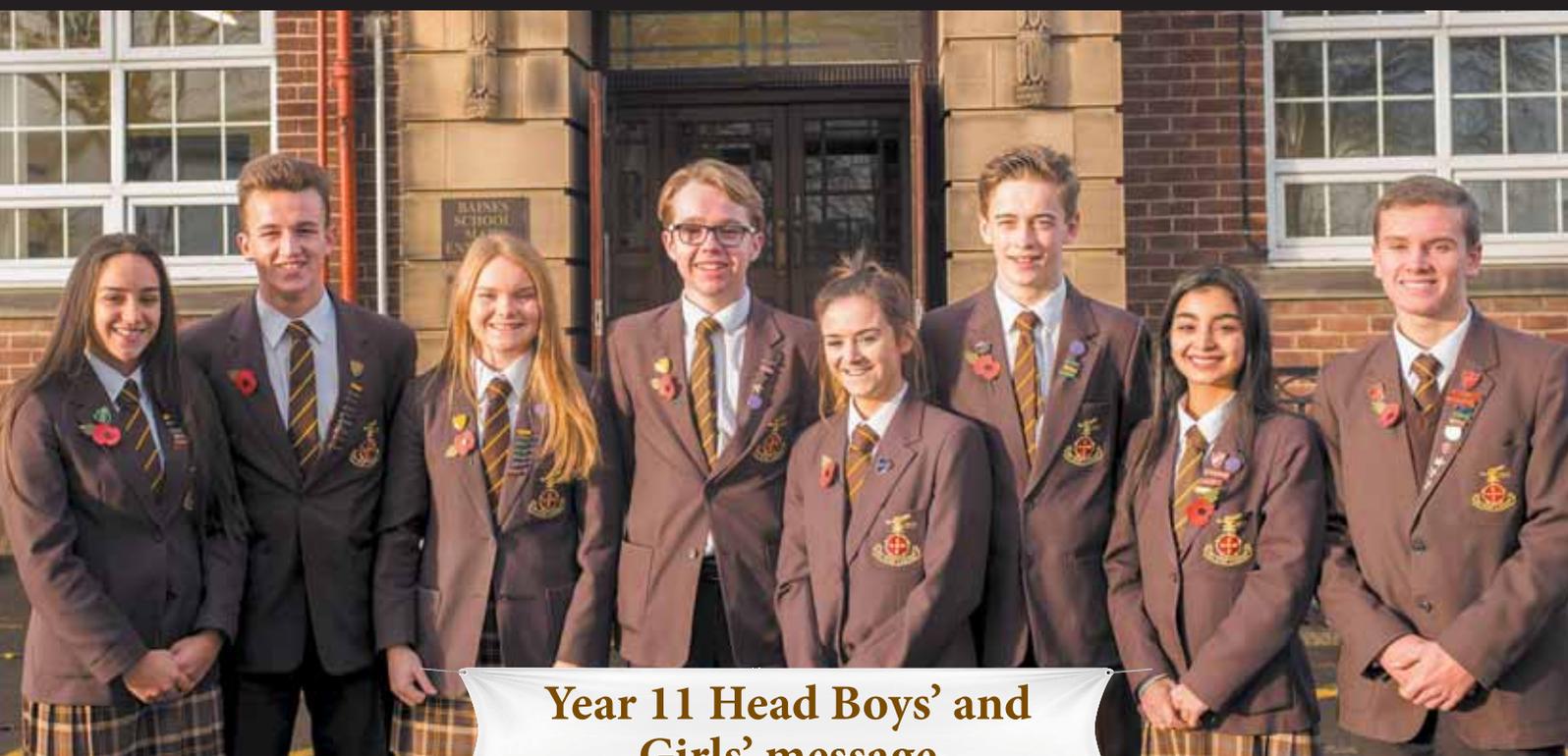
Whilst considering "Nil Sine Labore", we recognised that we could do more to add to the variety of learning outside of the classroom and thus the new enrichment programme came into being. There has been a very healthy take-up by our young people and as just one example, I have a great time with my trusty band of mini-chefs at the 'Headchef' Cookery Club on Wednesday afternoons and all staff involved in the wide range of activities available are thoroughly enjoying engaging with our young people beyond the classroom.

Obviously the core business of the school, teaching, learning and progress, comes first and all our pupils, at all levels are being pushed hard to achieve their best. Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 all face key assessments, prelims, mocks and actual assessment examinations in the near future so they need to remain focused and organised in the ever-changing and more challenging qualifications that are being demanded.

So, in conclusion I hope that you enjoy your copy of '**Baines at its Best**' and please remember, full as it is, it still only represents a mere sample of the time, richness and diversity of life at the school for your children.

Nil Sine Labore

R J M McCowan
Headteacher



Year 11 Head Boys' and Girls' message

At the end of the last school year a rigorous selection process led to eight Year 10 pupils being identified as Head Boys and Girls to represent Baines School for the current academic year. In addition, a number of senior prefects were selected to work alongside them sharing the responsibility for representing the school at various events, the first of which was attending former staff member, Arthur Field's funeral. At this very sad event the head pupils in attendance expressed their condolences to Mr Field's family before entering St Chad's church where they witnessed a very moving service during which they reflected on the sadness of the occasion, and the long and distinguished history of Baines School and its former staff and pupils.

Another event was the recent Baines School Open Evening for prospective Year 7 pupils and their parents. Head Boy, Samuel Dow, and Head Girl, Emily Harrison, both of Stafford House, gave an interesting and insightful speech reviewing their experiences as pupils of Baines School. The Head Boys and Girls of the three other houses organised an enthusiastic group of Year 7 tour guides, and

the Senior Prefects also attended and remained available to co-ordinate support for teaching staff and attendees when required. Commenting upon the support he received on the night, Assistant Headteacher, Mr Geoff Mates said, "*The behaviour of everyone who helped to ensure the evening was such a success was exemplary, and all those involved were a credit to the school.*"

The selected students have also assisted in successfully organising and delivering this year's Careers Convention, and proudly represented the school at Poulton le Fylde's Remembrance Day parade. Cain Donnelly, Head Boy of Tomlinson House, said of his first term's official duties, "*I have really enjoyed representing the school, particularly at the Remembrance Day parade, and I am really proud to have had the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the school and its reputation locally.*"

Cain Donnelly
Head Boy
Tomlinson House

Remembrance Day

Annual Remembrance assemblies are an important part of our school's history and tradition.....

These are held for all pupils throughout the school and 6th Form in the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday. The assemblies follow a traditional pattern which includes a short presentation on an area of conflict, the laying of the wreath on the war memorial in the hall by the Head Boys and Girls, the playing of The Last Post by Mr Hobbs, the observation of a minute's silence and the reading of a prayer of remembrance by Mr McCowan.



As a school we are proud to have the 2 war memorials in the main school hall. They remind us all of the history of our school and the past pupils and teachers who played a part in the two world wars and in doing so secured a future for our school and its pupils.

This year the presentation focused on the roles played by animals in war, raising awareness of how the number of casualties and loss of life could have massively increased without the work of the trained animals who worked alongside their human allies. The pupils commented that this was an interesting focus and something they had not thought of previously.

Henry, Year 8, said *"It was really interesting to hear about the different roles dogs had played in the wars. I knew about the pigeons and the canaries but didn't know about sentry, scout, casualty and messenger dogs."*



A new addition to the assembly this year was a poem read and written by 3 Year 9s, Alice Hurt, Catriona McArthur and Charlotte Pilling. **“Flying from Flanders”** was written at Poetry Club with Mrs Streetly and Miss Wallace. A copy of the poem is shown on the right; this is a fantastic achievement by the three students!



On Friday 11th November a minute’s silence was observed across the school and then to round off our week of Remembrance the Year 11 Head Boys and Girls attended the Sunday Remembrance Service held in Poulton centre. Here the students laid 4 wreaths, one from each of the Houses in school. Oliver, Cain, Joe, Will, Jess, Emily, Sunny and Maisie were wonderful ambassadors for our school at this public event.

Throughout the week the pupils were highly respectful of the traditions observed and in doing so took advantage of the opportunity to reflect on lives lost and changed through conflict in the past and the present in order to secure a future for us all – *“we will remember them.”*

Mrs Robinson.

Flying From Flanders.

By Charlotte Pilling, Catriona Mc Arthur and Alice Hurt

The piercing sound of gunshots, coming from land ahead
Overpowered my curiosity and the thoughts in my head.
I soared across the sky to uncover what was going on.
Unravelling the truth and the innocent that are gone.

I over looked the trenches, the trenches filled with those in pain
In pain of witnessing the fallen and knowing they may not see their loved ones again
It was like a game of chess, but no one had said:
Make one wrong move and you are dead

Overtime land returned to normal although death drew families apart
Twenty two years passed before gunshots began to start.
This war was different but similar at a glance
Yet likewise this war was a game of chance.

I witnesses their faces as the awaited alarm rang out,
However, it was hard to distinguish the formation of the hideout.
The hideout that would take place in every household,
The hideout that would allow the reason for screaming to unfold.

Wars continued to be fought one by one
Even one hundred years after the battle of the Somme.
I glided through the sky as the heat began to rise
As I was soaring over I could hear the ear-splitting cries

Wars not just about power but culture instead
Whatever reason, vast numbers still dead.
Technology develops, drones drop bombs from the sky.
Where is the progress when people still die? .

I glided across the sky at the sight of sunrise,
Noticing the relief, of the traumatised,
Is it all over? No more unnecessary deaths,
But we will never forget the soldiers who took their last breaths.

They were heroes dressed as soldiers whose brave actions we all remember,
Remember to this day, on the eleventh of November
They share a minute of silence so they can reflect
And they wear poppies on their blazers to show their respect.

Lest we forget

A Level Results

.....with the majority of our students still opting for moving on to study at University. This year students have gone on to study subjects including Law at Nottingham, Philosophy at Manchester, Physics at Sheffield and Civil engineering at Coventry.



Cameron Donnelly – Biochemistry at Manchester

We are really proud of the individual successes of our students in their A levels in the summer.....

We are looking forward to seeing them develop over the next few years as they progress and graduate from their courses to begin their careers.



*Charles Bellamy – Law at Nottingham and
Ellena Hunter – Law at Chester*

Sixth Form Applications



We are now taking applications for Baines Sixth Form from students in Year 11 who are considering joining us in September 2017.

Our next open afternoon is on Monday 27th March between 4pm and 6pm and students are invited to attend to speak with subject teachers about entry requirements and course details or alternatively students can arrange to visit the sixth form centre with parents by contacting the main school office. Application forms and copies of the latest prospectus are available from the school office.

For further information please feel free to email Miss Kasmir, Head of Sixth Form ekr@baines.lancs.sch.uk

Class of September 2017

On Monday 26th September we opened our doors to welcome potential young people to the Class of 2017!

This is a wonderful evening which gives us the opportunity to open our doors to families and children who may never have stepped inside Baines School as well as welcome those families from our school who have younger siblings considering Baines as their future High School.

This event was run mainly by our new Year 7s who, only 3 weeks into their new school career with us and the most recent additions to the 'Family of James Baines', worked so hard as guides, speakers and classroom helpers around the school. Without exception visitors to the school commented on how polite, helpful and enthusiastic they were and all the staff agreed that they were fine ambassadors for the school. It was a long day but a very positive one and our thanks go to all the staff who organised a range of activities to engage the visitors in the classrooms along with the pupils of all ages who willingly gave of their time to support this really important event in the school year.

Any families who were unable to attend or who would like to visit the school on a working day are more than welcome to do so by calling the school office who will arrange this for you.



Year 7 Starters

Wow! Where do we start?

The first half term at Baines School has been such a thrilling adventure and we've more or less just started...

So, as we took our first small steps into Baines grand hall there were gazing faces dotted around the room. We waddled tensely towards our houses. I couldn't see any available seats but then two girls called my name. I remembered them from summer camp, they beamed a smile at me and I felt contented at that warming moment.

After this everyone got called into a group. This turned out to be our form group.

My first lesson was English. I paved into the classroom of Mrs Streetly who welcomed us with a nice, warm greeting. This half term we studied all aspects of school life. Next lesson was maths with Mr Smith, we learned how to calculate algebra. After that it was history, we learned about the historical events of the Battle of Hastings.

We've really enjoyed our first term at Baines! We can't wait for next term.

Evie Pettigrew and Harvey Jones



The Good, The Bad and The Ugly of Social Media!

As a teacher of Life Skills, I have been so impressed with the interaction and pupil engagement from my Year 8 class. Every pupil has put so much effort into creating these posters, which represents their awareness of the good, the bad and the ugly of Social Media.

Cameron Brookes (T-CSH) says *"Our life skills lessons are really exciting! We have been working on Social Media recently. Being able to interact with our friends is a really positive part of Social Media, but we have learned so much about the negative side of social media and things to look out for to stay safe!"*

Miss Pass

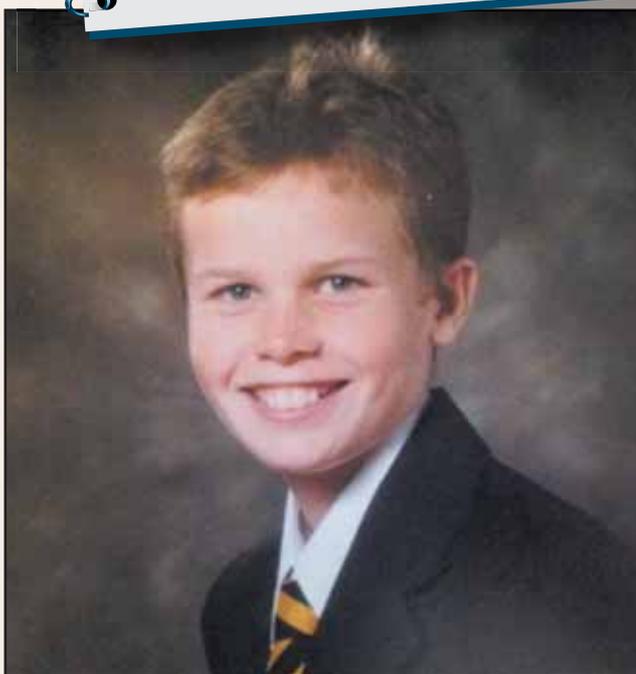


From Pupil to Teacher!

This year we have welcomed eleven new teachers to school who are contributing fully to life here at Baines. One new colleague, Mr Hallsworth, describes below what it's like to return to the school where he and his father were once pupils...

"In 1993 a fresh faced and excited Year 7 arrives at Baines. After meeting his first form tutor Mr Cotterall, his form is led into the newly opened "New Block", little did he know that 23 years later he would be arriving back to teach just two doors down the corridor from his old form tutor.

So many things have changed over the years... the New Block has grown and is now the "N Block", what was the boys' changing rooms now serve food, the old wooden Technology Block and Refectory has made way for an impressive ILC and Sports Hall. One thing remains the same, the warm greeting received on your first and every day by the teachers who are now my colleagues.

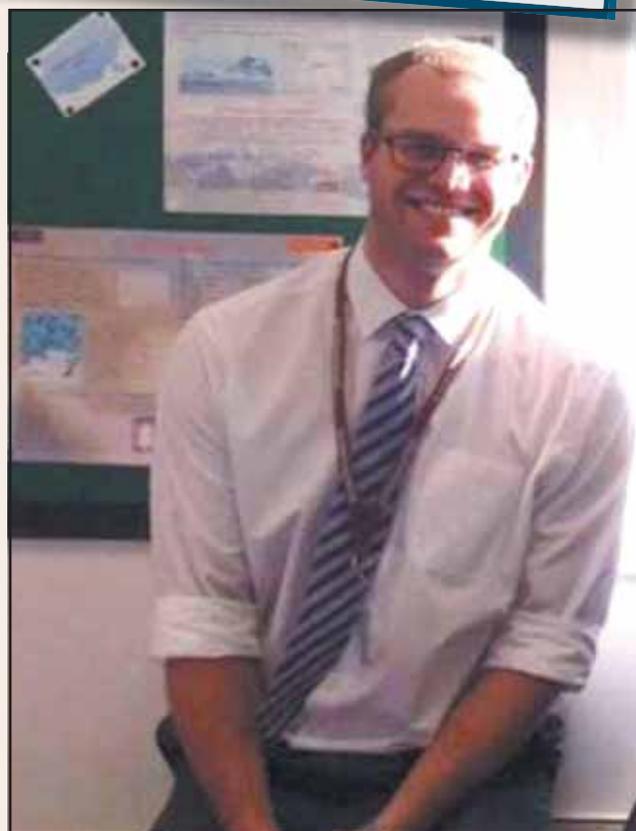


After leaving Baines for the first time in 2000 to study Genetics at Lancaster University, I returned in 2004 to complete my second PGCE placement. Back then Mr McGrath was Head of Science and guided me through the pitfalls of my teacher training and I learned a lot from the teachers who made me enjoy Science so much as a pupil. Little did I know that I would then get my first teaching job at a school in Preston working for Mr Callagher, my former PE teacher from Baines.

11 years on and I was drawn back to Baines, to hopefully pass on some of the love and care I have been given by this school, to the pupils who are starting their time here. I was taught by two of the same teachers who taught my father when he attended Baines Boys' Grammar...

As a new teacher at Baines I am loving the enthusiasm and personal drive to be the best they can be from pupils in my classes at all levels and ages across the school. I wonder if one of my Year 7s will return in 23 years to find me two doors down the corridor?"

Mr Hallsworth, Science Department



New Pastoral Structure for Year 11

*Year 11 is an exciting and vital stage
in a student's school career.....*

...one where students are faced with not just having to sit their GCSEs but also make some potentially life changing decisions with regards to their future.

In response to feedback from both staff and students we felt that Year 11 would benefit from an increasingly focused intervention and support network. Consequently the decision was made to separate the Year 11 from the lower school vertical house system. Vertical groups have been incredibly successful but the opportunity to focus our expertise on the students at such a crucial time was felt to offer even more benefits.

Starting this year, the Year 11 group now register as an independent year group with our Subject Leaders as their form tutors. This allows all students the opportunity to be supported by our most experienced staff and, as the year progresses, we can more rigorously track each individuals progress and provide all students with focused support in the areas they most need it.

To date students have spent form time with a Subject Leader in a pastoral role and over the coming weeks Subject Leaders will be meeting to develop a more fluid form time focusing on providing students with access to targeted tutorials, individual intervention programs, one to one mentoring and help to improve their preparation for examinations, and develop their confidence in completing controlled assessments, meeting deadlines and sitting examinations.

Careers Enrichment



Enrichment at Baines

Many of our students are taking advantage of the wide variety of enrichment activities offered by staff each night. The activities available (listed below) develop our pupils' skills in and beyond the academic curriculum. Commitment to an activity is an important part of growing up and provides more opportunities for our pupils to shine. Please encourage your child's involvement as other benefits include raising self-esteem, building relationships with other pupils and staff and developing creativity.

- Art Club and Life Drawing
- Your Future Career
- Glee Club and Choir
- Chess Club
- Coding Club
- Craft Club
- Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award
- Debating Society
- English Study Club
- Euro Club
- Tomorrow's Engineering Robotics Competition (with Lego!)
- Gardening Club
- Geography Club - supporting your Controlled Assessment
- Geog Squad Year 7 Club
- Geog Squad: Reach for the stars
- Graphics and Photography Club
- Head Chef
- Homework Club
- Maths Clinic
- Newsletter Club
- Origami
- Philosophy
- Poetry Club
- Project Nepal 2017
- Project Rocket
- Religion, Media and Culture Club
- Rock School
- Sport: Football
- Sport: 5 a-side Football
- Sport: Netball/Trampoline/Dance Club
- Sport: Netball
- Sport: Rugby, Football and Cricket Club
- Science Club
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Club
- Student Support Club
- Ukulele Group and Orchestra
- Yoga

Photography & Graphics Club



Stem Club



“ I like to do after school activities because sometimes you can help other people or the school. I do photography after school on a Tuesday and this week we took pictures for the school's Facebook page. Or you can do it for your own entertainment like hockey, Euro Club and Head Chef. At lunch on Tuesdays I do trampolining to improve my skills in PE. In hockey I train for when we go to matches so I can represent the school team. Tonight I went to Head Chef club with Mr McCowan and we baked chocolate chip cookies that were delicious.

Grace, Year 7 ”

Careers Convention

On Wednesday 26 October Year 10 and 11 attended the Careers Convention in the sports hall.

There were several career paths on show, some advertising Sixth Form and University, and some practical diplomas and apprenticeships. There were also other opportunities for students such as NCS (National Citizen Service), which is in place for teenagers to take part in team activities, building several life skills.

Pupils had the opportunity to look at several stalls including the Community Trust for both Blackpool Football Club and Fleetwood Town Football Club. The event took place within the Year 11 Life skills lesson (period 4) and for Year 10s period 3. Being able to look at possible career paths provided the Year 10s with an early chance to consider their futures and what they may wish to do. One Year 10 said: *"I think that the Careers Convention gave myself and my peers a look into the not so distant future, and allowed us to consider what we may wish to do when we are older."*

Students interested in a career in the Army were able to talk to a representative at one of the Armed Forces stalls. There was also a stall for students interested in equestrian courses and also one for students interested in apprenticeships. Each stall had lots of information for students such as

booklets and prospectuses. Mrs Wright recalled *"It was a very positive experience for the students!"*

Myerscough and Blackpool and The Fylde College also had stalls with representatives keen to talk to the students about their future career prospects. When talking about some of the apprenticeships and courses on offer one Year 11 student took a particular interest in construction. He explained that: *"There were several construction courses available that took my interest. The stall representative was very helpful and informative."*

The Careers Convention was also the students' first chance to get some information regarding Baines Sixth Form. Invites for the Open Evening were handed out to the Year 11 students. There was a stall based at the door with information for students to take regarding continuing their education at Baines Sixth Form.

The event went down a success with the students leaving with a clearer and more informed understanding of what they wish to do with their future. The students felt it went especially well with one saying: *"There was a variety of stalls providing lots of information about several pathways in to different careers."* The students' positive attitudes and attentiveness towards their futures showed Baines at its best.

**By Brad Patisso
Year 11**



Manchester University

A group of Year 13 students visited the University of Manchester campus on Thursday 10th November to support them with the Extended Project Qualification.

The students attended sessions to be able to conduct effective research into their chosen subject. The workshops were led by staff and postgraduate students from the University and introduced them to academic research through a series of interactive activities and group work.

In the afternoon there was a library session led by University of Manchester Library staff. This session was an introduction to locating materials – both books and online resources – for their assignments. Afterwards, students had independent research time where they could make use of the extensive resources the library had to offer. Many students returned to Baines with a variety of invaluable resources for their project!

Kevin Egan



Student Support



Ellie Kelly is one of our Year 11 pupils who attends Myerscough College twice a week. Ellie really enjoys her time there and wrote a report for us on the benefits of attending Myerscough.

“I think Myerscough is a very good college; all of the staff and students are very friendly and you get to choose your own course. I chose Animal Care because I love playing with the rabbits, dogs and hamsters. It is a very good course and I really like the tutor, Emma. I have been doing the course for a year and a quarter, but last year I had a different tutor, she was called Julie. I liked her because she was really funny. Myerscough is a good place to make friends and the students in lessons are very nice and friendly; if you get lost they will help you.

There are some good places to eat at the college; you have the choice between Richmond, Plant World or the Equine Centre where you can watch the horses while you eat your lunch. I would definitely recommend Myerscough and it is where I am going to after Year 11.”

Community Volunteer Star Student

Erin is a Year 10 student who is a regular volunteer at the Poulton Community 60+ Centre.

The manager of the centre described Erin as “one of our best and most popular volunteers”. Erin volunteers on a Saturday from 9.30 to 12.00 serving teas and coffees along with a friendly chat to local residents who pop in. Many of the visitors are regular and for some this may be their only chance in the day for some company and a chat. The centre has recently undergone a refurbishment and secured a new 10 year lease, Erin was invited along on Monday 14th November to attend the re-opening of the centre which was officiated by the Mayor of Wyre and the Head of Wyre Borough Council.

We are proud of Erin’s work in the community and her association with the centre. Baines School wishes the Community Centre continued success with the special service they offer to local residents.



Debating Group

A Baines Debating Group has been formed.

The objectives of the group are to debate important issues, to structure arguments and develop the ability to speak in public.

Recent discussions included a dress code for teachers, and the hunting of wild animals. The group has investigated how politicians organise their ideas, and the methods they use to discuss issues in Parliament.



Maths

Between January and March, Year 10 students, Cain Donnelly and Wil Farley, were invited to spend their Saturday mornings at Lancaster University participating in Maths Masterclasses hosted by the Royal Institute of Science.

Cain and Wil attended 8 sessions, and each session involved learning about a different maths topic from either an undergraduate Mathematics course or an A-level Mathematics course, such as Topology and Networks.

Mathematics Masterclasses at Lancashire University

The Royal Institute of Science has formulated this programme in an attempt to encourage young people to enjoy maths and increase the number of students studying maths at a higher level. *“Although the sessions were really challenging, this was a fantastic opportunity to meet interesting people and I learnt a lot about understanding mathematical concepts and what it would be like to study maths at a higher level.”* said Wil.

History

In the first term of Baines many Year 7 and Year 9 History students have undertaken ‘takeaway’ homework. The students select their own homework, so they can select a starter or main course that reflects their abilities. The approach also encourages risk taking.

The takeaway homework approach recognises that students learn in different ways. Students can self-select a homework which corresponds with a learning style that works best for them. As a result both the Year 7 and Year 9 students have produced a fantastic variety of homework! Students have done things from in depth research into early Norman castles to producing profiles of family members or important individuals from World War One. Many of which are now on display in classrooms!

Kevin Egan



English

We have got off to a great start in English this year.

Impressive Exams!

It was fantastic to start September with the superb results from the Summer exams. The outgoing Year 11 did the school proud in English, with the best results for some years. 82% of our pupils achieved A*- C in English Language, and 75% did the same in English Literature.

Great results were also achieved in the department's other GCSEs, with 85% of our Media Studies students and 75% of our Drama students getting A*- C passes. We also had successes in the A-levels we offer, with Year 12 and Year 13s doing well in English Language, English Literature and Media Studies. There were plenty of happy faces on both results days, from staff and students alike. Huge congratulations to all of our students in all of our subjects!

Extra Extra... Curricular!

Read all about it! Well, now you can, thanks to 'Nil Sine News'. 'Nil Sine News' is the Baines school newspaper, written by the students, for the students. It was started by a small group of Year 9 boys three years ago, who approached the English Department with their idea. It has gone from strength-to-strength and is now a part of the school enrichment programme. One of the boys, Brad, is now in Year 11 and is editor, leading a staff consisting of Year 10s, Year 8s and Year 7s. The team, with the help of English teachers, aims to produce a half-termly newspaper which is distributed to pupils across the school. The budding journalists write about recent events that have taken place at Baines. The latest issue reported on the role of the Year 11 prefects, on the new start made by our fantastic Year 7s, the Year 6 Open Evening and the various rewards trips from the end of last year. There is often a Sports page, too, where victories (and losses) are reported on.

There are also regular features. In past issues, 'Nil Sine News' has had a 'Day in the Life' article, where pupils with interesting outside hobbies have been interviewed. Still going strong is 'Teacher Feature', where a member of staff is grilled by our reporters on important issues. (We have learnt, for example, that Miss Latham from Science once had Christmas dinner with Frank Carson, and Mrs Robinson once met Dustin Hoffman!)

'Nil Sine News' is a great opportunity for our students. Brad explains it best: *"I enjoy writing for the newspaper. It allows me to express my creativity through my writing. It's really rewarding to see my work in print and it has helped me with my English."*



Stop the press! Brad with the finished article(s)



Editor Brad puts the finishing touches to the latest issue

Excellent Effort in English!

There has already been a lot of great work going on in English at Baines this year. In Key Stage 3, Year 7s have been looking at school life from Dickens to Dahl, Year 8s have been studying poetry ballads, and Year 9s have been using their powers of deduction (and writing!) in Crime and Mystery. In Key Stage 4, Year 10 have been getting creative by preparing their stories for Paper 1 of the English Language GCSE, and Year 11 have been trying to work out 'whydunnit' in 'An Inspector Calls'.

Speaking of 'An Inspector Calls', Mrs Hill's Year 11 class worked hard on their revision by getting creative with wall displays and quote hangers, both in groups and individually.



Congratulations...

to our very first English Department Student of the Fortnight, Ashleigh from Year 7! Ashleigh was well deserving of the award, by producing an excellent piece of description set in Victorian times, inspired by the work her class had done on 'Jane Eyre'. Well done, Ashleigh!



Science

Super Science Students at Baines

Students at Baines have been taking science very seriously and completed many science experiments this term. Science provision has become very exciting. Our science students have shown they are talented scientists of the future!



Geography

Year 7 GeogSquad has been a great hit with our youngest Geographers.

They have enjoyed going the extra mile with their learning and discovering new and exciting places. They have investigated The Geography of Movies and Film, Planet Earth and how David Attenborough got up close and personal with the animals and they have investigated super volcanoes such as Yellowstone, taking their learning from the classroom a little further!

Any Year 7's that are interested in joining Yr7 GeogSquad should see Mr Watters or Mrs Mycock for more details.

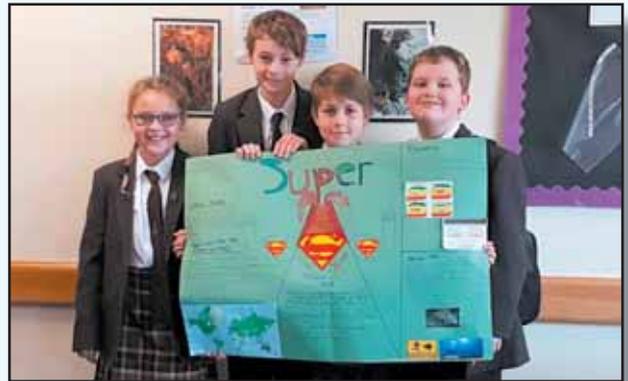
This is what some of our GeogSquad have to say....

"In Geography I have learnt about volcanoes, I found out they are created by the movement of tectonic plates, I really enjoyed that. In GeogSquad my favourite topic was our project on super volcanoes. This was because we learned that they are extremely different to normal volcanoes as a natural disaster." - Harvey

"In class I've been learning about volcanoes and looking at an eruption in Montserrat. We have also just started looking at festivals and using map skills. In GeogSquad I have enjoyed everything we have done from our Kahoot quizzes and our super volcano escape plan." - Joe

"In GeogSquad we have covered super volcanoes, the Geography of film, we have also watched the documentary Planet Earth 2 and one week went into a computer room to design and play a Kahoot quiz. I have enjoyed Geography club more than class because it is more chilled and we all get along." - Elly

"In Geography we have looked at and been assessed on the Earth's tectonic plates. In GeogSquad we designed a poster on super volcanoes looking at formation, location and a possible escape plan. We have also looked at the geography of film and even designed our own films with a geography theme. This week we watched the new David Attenborough film looking at animals on Islands." - Tyler



Year 11 Geographers of the week. Ellie Walker, Cain Donnelly and Will Pickles. All three have worked exceptionally hard on their controlled assessment, their teachers are super proud of their committed approach to making the most of every opportunity given to them. Well done.



Miss Spore, Miss Mawdesley, Mr Mycock and Mrs Mycock are looking forward to celebrating with more of our amazing Geographers as the year goes on.

Photography

All of the Year 11 photography students have been working very hard to complete their GCSE coursework. Over the last 18 months they have produced a fantastic range of work and each student has built an amazing portfolio for their final submission. Here we can see just a few examples of students work: Ava has created a piece for her 'Day in the Life' project inspired by Graphic Novels, Prentice is manipulating some of his final product shots in Photoshop and Amy has done a fanatic study on rivers.

After Christmas the Photography students will be starting the preparation for their final exam at Easter. If you want to see some of the work they produce, examples of their coursework portfolio and work from all the Creative Design students at Baines, don't forget to visit the Creative Design End of Year Show in July. Details will be sent home and published on the school Facebook page nearer the time.



Our pianists....making the grade in music!



Two of our Year 9 students are working hard in their piano lessons at Baines. Marcus Jolly and Phoebe Coulon have weekly lessons with our peripatetic piano teacher, Gina Brannelli. Both students are currently progressing towards piano exam grades. Marcus is on his way to grade 3 and Phoebe is rehearsing for her grade 5. They are very talented musicians and have a fantastic attitude towards their piano playing. We hope your preparations continue to go well and we wish you all the best for the exams. If students would like to take up instrumental lessons then they can see Mr Hobbs in the Music department for more information.

Mr Hobbs

Summer Concert

On Wednesday 13th July, the Music department hosted a fantastic evening of entertainment. The annual summer concert was another successful musical event. It provided a great opportunity for our musicians to take to the stage and share their superb musical skills with staff, parents, family and friends. We were treated to a wide range of performances and it was great to see so many students from all year groups giving their all in the limelight. From the school orchestra to the choir, soloists to the ukulele orchestra, it was an evening to remember. Well done to all the students involved. All your hard work and preparation paid off. We look forward to the upcoming Christmas concert.

Mr Hobbs



Ukelele Orchestra

The Baines Ukulele Orchestra were invited by Britain's Got Talent (Thames TV).....

to attend their auditions in the Imperial Hotel, Blackpool on Sunday 13th November. Messrs Farmer, Rimmer, Hobbs and Horvath were in attendance along with fifteen very talented pupils, ranging from Year 7 to Year 12 including our lead singer - Year 11, Erin.

There were lots of other acts there, including several other Baines students who were auditioning too. It took a long time - 7 hours! - before we were seen, but we happily kept the other groups entertained with our songs and conversation and were videoed several times by the TV cameras whilst we waited.

Eventually we had our chance and we didn't disappoint, being put forward to the second stage auditions immediately after playing "Live

and Let Die" by Sir Paul McCartney. We were then escorted straight from the first audition to a different part of the building to play again - this time for the camera. The second judge heard our first song and wanted more, so we played "I Will Survive" by Gloria Gaynor, which was also very well received - the producer and camerawoman were both dancing along to our playing and couldn't resist a smile. Despite being pleased, they're not allowed to tell us whether we'll be through to the next round yet (the one you see on TV), but we're hopeful...

Producers and crew all commented on how talented and well behaved our students were and the staff couldn't have been more pleased with the pupils.

They say they'll let us know by the end of December, so we'll try to keep everyone posted about our progress (as much as we're contractually allowed to).

Mr B. Farmer



Art

Year 9 students have been studying African Masks this term.

They have studied the purpose of masks, the culture, the techniques involved in the making of them and the various types and styles. Students were inspired by the masks studied, and created their own tribal mask design. They then completed the piece using various watercolour techniques and a relevant colour scheme. Students were particularly skilled in creating interesting designs which were both symmetrical and contained much interest and detail.



Drama



Hillsborough.....

The Year 11 GCSE Drama group take us back to 1989 and the tragic events that led to one of the largest sporting disasters the world has ever seen. 96 football fans lost their lives and many hundreds were injured. The students' performance tracks the lives of some of those innocent victims and how their families lives were torn apart and left to feel despair and injustice. The students are to use this performance for their GCSE Drama practical exam. They have made excellent progress working together on the different aspects of the event which has resulted in a powerful and moving interpretation of this event.

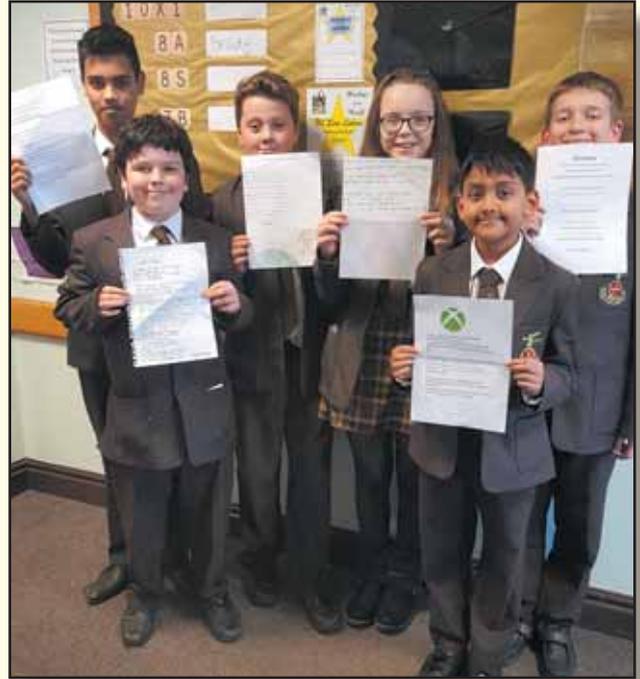
Poetry Ballads

Year 8 have been analysing poetry ballads and were inspired to write their own.

Using 'The Ballad of Hillsborough' as a starting point, pupils in some Year 8 classes then wrote their own ballads about something important to them in order to evoke emotion in a reader. There was a wide range of subject matter: pupils writing about wi-fi and games consoles, various sports and hobbies, pets, and family members. Pupils were able to ignite a range of emotions from laughter to tears and showed a real maturity. Some pupils then went on to create performance poetry, creating videos of a dramatic reading supported with pictures, or putting the words of their poem to music to make it into a more modern ballad.

Throughout the study of ballads, the pupils have been faced with difficult subject matter and showed a maturity and sensitivity in their approach. As a topic we have looked at: corruption and power in 'The Pied Piper' (Robert

Browning); isolation and the treatment of women in 'The Lady of Shalott' (Alfred Tennyson); robbery and suicide in 'The Highwayman' (Alfred Noyes), murder and relationships in 'The Ballad of Charlotte Dymond' (Charles Causley) and the tragedies of two sporting events in 'The Ballad of Hillsborough' and 'The Flowers of Manchester' (influenced by the Munich Air Disaster of 1958).



RE.... Sikh langar

Mrs Sakly's 7S RE invited some 6th Form students to take part in a Sikh langar.

This is a vegetarian meal prepared daily in the Gurdwara and given free of charge to anyone regardless of religion. It promotes equality, sharing and caring for others.



RE....Baptism

Year 7 RE students have been learning about infant Baptism. During one lesson Sean baptised baby Annabelle. Parents and godparents are pictured.

Vicki Gale



Design (Yr 7)

As part of the initial course in Design, pupils produce a piece of typography that is their own idea and reflects something they are interested in. Two pupils who completed excellent work were, Jessica Wharton and Erika Reid, who have both made a very good start at the school.

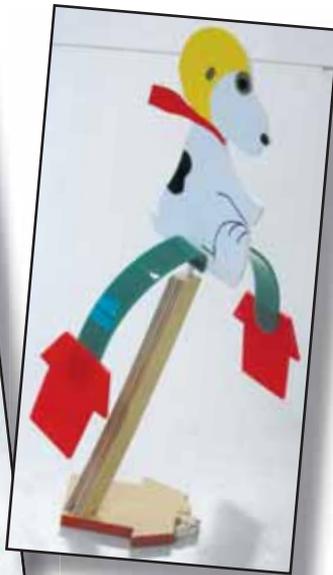
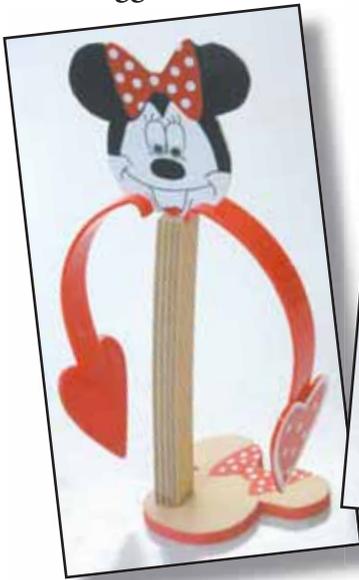
Mr. Biggs



Design (Yr 9)

As part of the Y9 Design Curriculum pupils complete a balancing sculpture project. The project aims to teach pupils about the properties of different materials and encourage them to become imaginative designers. Each year they continue to produce work that is creative and original in its design. The work seen here has been completed by Jordanna Williams, Alex Boyes, Alesha Heald and Laila Butterworth.

Mr. Biggs



Design (Yr 12)

As part of the Y12 Design Curriculum pupils complete a decorative flower vase, which they design using 3D Computer Aided Design software, their finished designs are then made on the school's 3D printer. The project aims to teach pupils about how rapid prototyping technology can be used to realise their ideas, which would be far too complex to make by traditional methods. The work seen here has been completed by James Whitehead, Carys Simpson and Stephen Collins.

Mr. Biggs

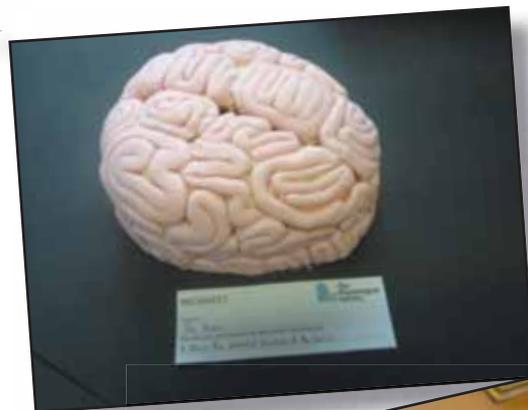


Bake Off

Josh Owen, Ashleigh Hamilton and Courtney Hunt all achieved “Highly Commended.”

Baines Bakes Biological Beauties!

Once again our Baines students have shown that they are very talented bakers. 4 students had cakes submitted to the national Bio-bakes competition for the Physiological society. 3 achieved Highly Commended in the school based competition and Sophia Rothwell-Wild was the overall winner with her “Anatomy of the Face” cake.



Cookery

A group of Year 8 boys making pastry and then cheese and onion tarts in the cookery lessons.

Helen Kimber
Teacher of food
and catering



Dominoes Pizza Lunch

Pizza for Presentation!

Every half term, students have a mouth-watering opportunity and can win a free Dominoes Pizza lunch. There is one simple way to be in with a chance of winning....present your work neatly. The presentation awards have been running over the past year and students are being rewarded for great written work that meets the school's presentation standards. If a teacher sees some work that is presented neatly, then they will award students with a raffle ticket. This ticket is then entered into the raffle every half term. Two raffle tickets from each year group are drawn and the lucky winners get to choose a friend to share a pizza with at lunch!

The winners for half term 1 were Courtney Hunt, Amelie Ainsworth, Elliott Hadwin, Jessica Mason, Luke Shanks, Hannah March, Rachel Carpenter, Ruben Deary, Erin James and Shenton Harris. Congratulations! There will be another draw in the last week before Christmas so remember to take pride in your presentation and rack up those raffle tickets to be in with a chance of winning. Good luck!

Mr Hobbs



Jiu Jitsu

In October Rhianna (Y9) won the Adult Female Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Manchester Open.

She is the current British Champion for her age group (and has been for the last five years) and is the current reigning European Champion. Rhianna trains five days a week for this as well as playing school sport and, of course, working hard on schoolwork & homework!

Well done Rhianna - we are very proud of your success and we know that by the time this newsletter is in print you will have done your best to try to hold on to your European title in Coventry in November. Good luck Rhianna and well done!



Karate

Jordanna Williams Year 9

“I have been a member of Horan Shukokai Karate Club for the last seven years and I am on my brown belt with three black tabs.

The next level I am aiming for is my Black Belt. I am hoping to attain my Black Belt within the next two years, which will make me the first girl in the club to achieve this status. I train up to three times a week with the club plus additional regional training seminars when staged. I have so far participated in two competitions my first competition I came third in my category, and the most recent competition I won three first place trophies, this being two for sparring (fighting) and one for Kata (choreographed routine).”



Racing

Our own Lewis Hamilton?

Adam Smalley in Year 11 has secured a fully-funded season as a racing driver in the 2017 Simpson Race Products Ginetta Junior Championship after winning the Ginetta Junior Scholarship and has already started testing!

Held at Blyton Park, a total of 54 drivers took part in driving, media and fitness assessments across the three days before then receiving one-to-one driver tuition from the likes of Tom Ingram, Jake Hill, Jody Fannin and Mike Epps. As the competition was whittled down, 23 drivers were selected for the finale before judges then selected a final three. Adam then battled for glory with a single run in the Junior car before Adam was ultimately declared the winner.

Commenting on winning the Scholarship, Adam said: *"I just can't believe I've won. There was such a high calibre of drivers throughout the whole competition, that to be chosen as the person out of*

53 others to win this life-changing prize is absolutely incredible. I cannot wait to put everything I've learnt into practice and continue my development as a driver."

As well as his entry and race car, Adam will also receive professional car preparation with an experienced team, insurance throughout the season, a Ginetta race suit and a season supply of race tyres and fuel.

In addition, he will kick start his career with a two hour training session with ITV motorsport presenter Louise Goodman and a half day session at iZone using their driving simulator.

We are very proud of Adam's achievement and we are looking forward to hearing of how he performs in his first race at Brands Hatch in April 2017!



Tap Dance

When I was 2 I got my first pair of tap shoes.

Since then tap dancing has been my passion and there has never been a moment when I haven't been tapping around the house or just dancing in general.

Coming from a performing family I have always been encouraged to do what I love, which is dance. From a very early age I have gone with my mum to her dance school (Whittaker Dance and Drama Centre) which my grandma founded in 1952. I have always done all different genres of dance including ballet, modern, tap, later on Irish and also drama. I love all the different types of dance I do but tap has always been my favourite and has made me more confident in myself when performing.

When I was 11 I auditioned to be an Associate of a tap company called Tap Attack. I had to go down to Denton, Manchester to do some class work and perform my own prepared dance. I had never done anything like this before so I was really nervous and also a bit scared that I wouldn't be good enough to get in. When my mum and I arrived there were loads of people all dressed up with fancy hair and leotards which was intimidating for me but I knew all I could do was my best. After the audition I wasn't really expecting to get in but was just happy that I had done it for the experience but when I got in I was thrilled to learn some more technique about the thing I loved to do. I have been an Associate for 3 years now in Tap Attack and have been enjoying it immensely but only in this most recent time I have been asked to move up to the seniors which is for older people so that has given me even more confidence.

My most recent tap exam I took was my ISTD Advanced 1 tap which is the next to the hardest exam you can do in performing. With all the work I had done with Tap Attack and all the practice/preparation I had done for the exam I was feeling nervous (like always) but also quite confident. After I had finished my exam I felt that I had performed to the best of my ability but was still apprehensive to know my mark in the 6 weeks of waiting that followed. When the marks finally came my mum was glancing through the marks when she suddenly let out a shriek and ran down the corridor. I remember looking down at the mark at the bottom of the sheet and being absolutely ecstatic when I had got a distinction (the highest mark) and 95 out of 100. Also in the summer I took my RAD Grade 6 Ballet, Grade 5 Verse and Prose and Grade 5 Acting gaining distinction in all of those as well making my summer of exams complete.

In the photo is my friend Millie who also got exceptionally high marks for her exams too.

This mark in my tap has really given me the boost and confidence to keep learning more tap steps and to carry on my passion which is to tap and try to translate my passion to other people when I teach which is what I want to do for a living.

By Sinead Norbury



Tennis

The Year 11 boys in the photo (left to right) Joe Neath, Josh Pollard, Sam Dow and Dylan wood, came 3rd in the north regional team tennis competition this half term.



Poland Trip

On Tuesday 15th November two Baines students, Olivia Cordingley and Carla Ellwood, took part in a visit to Auschwitz concentration camp museum in Southern Poland.

The visit was organised by the Holocaust Education trust. The students flew from Manchester to Krakow and transferred by coach to the museum site at Auschwitz Birkenau. This was part of a programme aimed at raising awareness and understanding in schools of the Holocaust and its relevance today.

This visit is one part of a series of events which include an orientation seminar and a post visit seminar where students will be encouraged to reflect on their experiences. Afterwards the students will be invited to lead an event in school which involves the younger students in considering the problems of prejudice and discrimination in contemporary society.

The visit fits in well with our classroom activities because in year 12 and 13 as part of the Religious Studies specification students are required to engage with the Theme of post holocaust theology. Essentially this is a consideration of the nature of God in relation to the problem of suffering and evil.

The visit was an important experience for Olivia and Carla because seeing is not like just hearing about those dreadful events. Seeing the camp at Auschwitz is much more powerful and impacting.



The picture was drawn by a child victim of the concentration camp and can be seen in one of the barrack's buildings.

Ross Raeburn