



# Shining Lights Newsletter

April 2016

*Celebrating success*

Welcome to our new look school newsletter packed with highlights and information about activities and events that took place during the Spring Term. We hope you enjoy reading about the varied and exciting accomplishments our school community actively participates in.

## Time to Shine success for Paige



A huge congratulations to Paige Rhodes Melling, a pupil in Year 11, on winning the Children of Courage Rock FM Time to Shine Award this month. The Rock FM Cash for Kids event is in its second year and finalists, celebrities and 300 special guests attended a celebration evening to give thanks for numerous unsung local heroes in our community.



Paige is a committed carer, to both her mother and sister Kiera Lowe Melling who is blind, has cerebral palsy, epilepsy and many other life challenging illnesses. Paige is an extremely loving and caring person and is determined that Kiera will have as normal a life as possible. She takes on a lot of responsibilities but never complains. Paige's kind nature shines through day in, day out. School and her family are extremely proud of her. Paige truly is "an example to others."

## Year 8 Athletics Success

Brownedge Year 8 girls represented South Ribble District at the Lancashire Indoor Athletics Competition that recently took place at Hyndburn Sports Centre. Various events were competed in including track events such as 4 x 1 obstacles relay, 2, 4, 6 and 8 lap paarlauf and 4 x 2 lap relay. Field events consisted of shot, speed bounce, standing long jump, standing triple jump and jump. In total 14 District teams took



part from across Lancashire. Our Brownedge girls performed very well and came 8th overall in the County against tough opposition. Well done girls - a brilliant display of skill, effort and determination.

## Year 7 Rock and River

At the end of last term 53 Year 7 pupils accompanied by Mrs Higham, Mrs Ormerod, Miss Smith, Miss Warburton and Mr Hunt went on a full days

adventure challenge to Mawdesley's Rock and River. The children worked in House groups and experienced some demanding tasks that required nerve, cooperation, teamwork and perseverance in the activities they did.

Activity sessions included a climbing tower, building a raft with barrels and having a race to the other end of the lake (which usually involved the pupils getting wet!!)

archery, balance beam and 'leap of faith'. Some of the activities were new experiences for the pupils and it was an opportunity to be out of the classroom, try something exciting and adventurous and challenge themselves socially, mentally and physically.



## Apprenticeship Careers at MBDA



APPRENTICESHIPS can be the perfect launch pad for a well-paid career. We have been taking our students to have a look at what apprenticeships have got to offer, and it is never too early to start thinking about your plans for after school. Right from Year 7, we encourage the growth mindset that leads pupils to aim high and work towards the next stage of their lives. Last month, Year 11 students visited MBDA in Lostock, Bolton. They learned about engineering apprenticeships in the weapons industry, with the largest defence company and missile manufacturer in Europe.

Joel Kindred, a former Browndedge pupil, gave a talk. Joel is currently making a huge success of his career, studying on a Business apprenticeship. Once pupils had learned about apprenticeships they were given a tour of the factory and saw the Brimstone Missile.

## Congratulations Kolbe House

Kolbe House were the winners of this terms Interhouse Trophy. A high bar has been set for the other houses for the new term.



## Charity Afternoon

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April our pupils and staff took part in our annual Lenten Charity Afternoon. There was a buzz of excitement as 37 stalls and fun activities were set up in the school Dining Hall, Main Hall and Sports Hall. An array of different fund raising activities took place including face painting, chocolate tombola, penalty shoot out, teacher porridge ducking, cake stalls and popping balloons but to name a few. A spectacular amount of over £3,000 was raised during the afternoon and will be distributed amongst the chosen Lenten charities.



This year also saw an incredible act of bravery and sacrifice from two Year 9 girls. Caitlin Gourlay and Vicky Brennan gave their hair for Little Princess Trust, which provides wigs and hair pieces for children who have hair loss due to illness and cancer treatment.

## Easter Football in Holland

31 pupils and 4 staff spent Easter weekend in Holland. The group consisted of a Year 9 and Year 10 boys football team. The boys competed in numerous games over the weekend against top European footballing academies.

The trip was hugely successful with the Year 9 boys winning an amazing four matches and the Year 10 boys incredibly winning their group on the first day.



## Primary School visit Operating Theatre Live

On the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016 children in Year 5 and 6 from local primary schools were lucky enough to take part in Operating Theatre Live. Operating Theatre Live is the brainchild of Samuel Piri, a successful science teacher, STEM Coordinator, Head of Science and Director of Teacher Training.

The children enjoyed taking part in a number of procedures using real organs and equipment, including fitting a Pacemaker to treat an irregular heartbeat and a stent to treat angina.



# Key Dates

We are online

Website: [www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk)

Twitter: @BrownedgeStMary



26 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 10 College Taster Assemblies
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Mary Day - school closure at 2pm
16 <sup>th</sup> May	GCSEs commence
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Gillian Cross our Patron of Reading visit
30 <sup>th</sup> May - 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half Term Holiday
13 <sup>th</sup> June - 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole School Examination week
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 8 and 9 girls HPV Immunisations
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Prize Night
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Sports Day
4 <sup>th</sup> July - 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 10 Work Experience
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Valedictory Dinner - Shaw Hill Golf Club
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Induction Evening for new 2016-17 Year 7 pupils
11 <sup>th</sup> July - 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Enrichment Week
11 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Year Reports sent home
15 <sup>th</sup> July	End of School - 1pm

School opens to pupils on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016  
8.50 am for Year 7, 10.00 am for Year 8 - 11

## Easter School

During the recent holidays our Year 11 attended the Easter School to assist them in their revision and preparation for their forthcoming GCSEs. Attendance was excellent with the majority taking advantage of the support and teaching on offer to put them in the best position possible to be successful in their exams. The whole school community wishes them well and sends best wishes for the hard weeks ahead of revision and written examination papers. We will be celebrating with them on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August when all their hard work and efforts will come to fruition.



**Year 11 .....persevere, be resilient, don't give up.....  
you CAN do this and you WILL succeed!**

## Uniform Changes

Over a year ago, we commissioned a change to our school badge which appears on blazers, jumpers and other clothing. The new badge logo is now in production and shows the image of Mary, our patron, ready to accept the challenges God has planned for her. This image captures well the spirit of our school and what we expect of our young people. The new badge is being phased in over a period of two years.

**All new blazers and jumpers bought after Easter this year will have the new badge.** In the academic year 2017-18 the new blazer will be compulsory for Years 7-10 and optional in Year 11. In the academic year 2018-2019 the new blazer will have been fully phased in for all year groups. There will be financial support for parents of children eligible for free school meals who feel they have had to change their child's blazer earlier than planned.