



MELLAND STAR

AUTUMN TERM 2015



Message from our Principal - Sue Warner

At Melland High School we are once again celebrating the fantastic achievement of our students who continue to accomplish so much in so many exciting and creative ways.

I would like to congratulate our new Year 7 students and their parents/carers for making an excellent transition into their new school. I am equally proud of all our students who constantly push the boundaries in terms of their outstanding aspirations, effort and achievements.

This summer Year 11 students achieved an outstanding 94% of their targets in English and 89% in maths. A marked improvement in achievement in Science resulted in a fantastic 94% of Year 11 pupils achieving their Key Stage 4 targets. In 6th form, 100% of Year 14 students worked hard to achieve ASDAN/OCR accreditation in a range of vocational skills, functional literacy/numeracy and Duke of Edinburgh Award - Bronze/Silver. Two Year 13 students achieved Arts Award, Silver - an incredible achievement equivalent to GCSE levels of attainment.

Following a fantastic Leavers Prom, all our Year 14 students successfully accessed their preferred post-school destinations. Three students also graduated from the challenging "Bridging the Gap" project at Manchester Metropolitan University, with a new cohort beginning the course this September. Good luck to all involved!

Following a nomination for a Manchester Sports Award, Melland went on to win bronze for the school's "contribution to sport and physical activity in education."

Our thanks go to Mrs Allen and Mr Beddows who attended the prestigious ceremony at the Hilton Hotel and collected the award on the school's behalf.

Finally, many thanks to everyone for a positive and exciting start to the new school year.

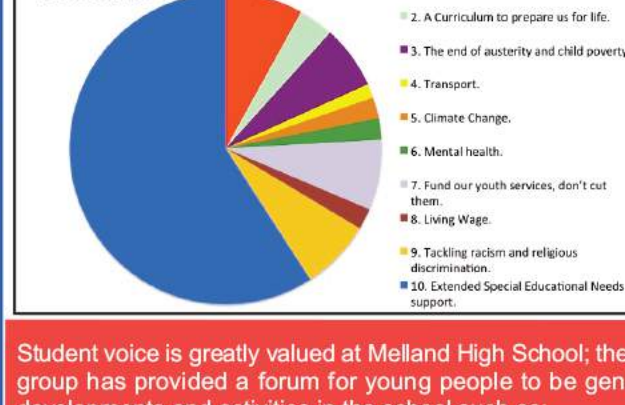
Very best wishes for an enjoyable and well deserved half term break.



Citizenship 'Make Your Mark' Campaign

This term Citizenship students will be studying the UK government and democracy. As part of this project students will have the opportunity to take part in the national Make your Mark project and vote in the youth parliament election.

On Friday 2nd October Melland High School took part in the 'Make Your Mark' campaign. The whole school voted on which of 10 current topics they deemed to be most important. The campaign is run across all schools in the UK with the most popular topic being debated in the house of commons by the National Youth Parliament..



Student voice is greatly valued at Melland High School; the establishment of the student leader group has provided a forum for young people to be genuinely listened to and contribute to developments and activities in the school such as:

- Consulting pupils via a range of questionnaires.
- Responsibility for taking students from other schools around our own school.
- Making presentations to the IMPACT group.
- Fulfilling a specific leadership role during whole school events.
- Making suggestions as to how the student planner can be improved.
- Launch of new house system.

Students speak with confidence and can articulate clearly their feelings about being a member of the group "I feel more like an adult" and "I feel honoured and proud".

The student leader group promotes student independence, capitalising on opportunities for them to take responsibility for themselves and the things they are doing. Developing a range of life skills such as self-organisation, punctuality, being good role models, communication and social skills.



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Boxtrolls & Bubbles

G Group have been learning about Boxtrolls. The film gave us the idea to create our own Boxtrolls and we have been incorporating maths and English into our work. We have done lots of printing and painting and have learnt how to stack different boxes according to their different sizes. We have used bright colours and have thought carefully about how they are all decorated with items that reflect a special name we have chosen for each one.



Our second project is all about bubbles. We have baked rainbow bubble cakes, blown bubbles in different sizes and looked at all the different colours in bubbles. We have created magic bubble paintings that light up under UV light and we made scented bath fizzies in different shapes and felt the bubbles as they



dissolve. We have made our own felted soap and have caught bubbles with our hands and we have used bubble wrap to help us print two sides of a ladybird.



Meet Our New Staff



Miss Dolan
Maths, Textiles and Technology
I am looking forward to teaching and getting to know the pupils even more and really enjoyed being at Melland.



Mr Hughes
English & Media
I am looking forward to working with all of the Melland Students this year. I've been teaching English at KS3 & KS4 and teaching Media with the 6th Form. I can't wait to get going with lots of creative projects.



Mr Gleeson
Citizenship & PE
I am excited about working at Melland High School, I have worked alongside Melland staff and pupils whilst teaching at Cedar Mount for the past 15 years. I'm looking forward to teaching Citizenship and PE and being involved in lots of enrichment programmes.

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House System

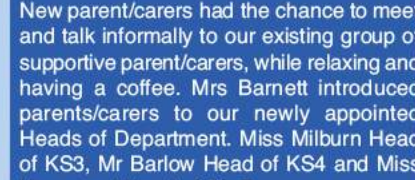
Next term we will be rolling out the changes to our current house system. There will be 4 houses instead of 3 and all the house names have changed. The new houses will be Einstein, Martin Luther King, J K Rowling and Shakespeare. The SIMS computer system we use in school will allocate all our students into one of the 4 houses. When a student earns a merit point they also earn it for the house they represent and during the year there will be opportunities for houses to earn extra points through inter school competitions and challenges.



Parent/Carer Working Party Update

This half term Melland parent/carers turned up in force to support our parent/carers coffee morning.

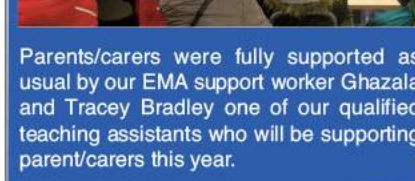
New parent/carers had the chance to meet and talk informally to our existing group of supportive parent/carers, while relaxing and having a coffee. Mrs Barnett introduced parents/carers to our newly appointed Heads of Department, Miss Milburn Head of KS3, Mr Barlow Head of KS4 and Miss Hammond Head of 6th Form.



Parents/carers were fully supported as usual by our EMA support worker Ghazala and Tracey Bradley one of our qualified teaching assistants who will be supporting parent/carers this year.



Our parent/carers working party members took verbal and written feedback from parents/carers and in response have planned for visiting speakers to attend the next few coffee mornings. This will include advice and guidance on Autism, Short Breaks and Speech and language Therapy. Some future Coffee mornings will include fun games like Bingo for those who want to take part.



Mrs Barnett would like to say a huge thanks to our Parent/Carer Working Party for their continuing support and an especially big thank you to all the parents/carers who kindly attended the this fantastic event.

Media Crew

The Media Crew have successfully completed their City & Guilds Unit 706 in Video Production and are now taking a lead role in mentoring the Key Stage 4 Media Options group on Friday afternoons. Working with the KS4 group is giving the crew an opportunity to continue building on their communication skills and developing their media vocabulary. The Media crew, together with the media options group are creating the digital content that will make up the backdrops for this years Christmas performance. The performance will incorporate live action filming, animation and visual effects. The Crew are working hard to learn all the skills needed to produce the digital content and are looking forward to seeing everything come together on the day.



Key Stage 4 Options

This term the KS4 Textiles Options Groups have been enriching their Tutor Group 'Cultural Awareness' knowledge during lessons. They have been learning about different textiles and crafts that originate from different South American cultures. So far they have made "worry dolls", "God's Eyes" and are now moving on to mastering South American weaving. Staff and other students have been very impressed by new decorations in Miss Dolan's room.



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Calendar

Thursday 22nd Oct 2015
School Closes for Half Term

Friday 23rd Oct 2015
Staff Training Day
(School Closed to Students)

Monday 2nd Nov 2015
School Re-opens for Students

Wednesday 11th Nov 2015
MHS School Improvement
IMPACT Group Meeting
10.45 - 1.00

Thursday 26th Nov 2015
Parent/Carer Information
Day & Christmas Fair
10.00 - 13.00

Thursday 10th Dec 2015
Parent/Carer coffee
morning
9.30 - 11.00

Thursday 17th Dec 2015
Christmas Performance
10.00 - 12.00

Friday 18th Dec 2015
School closes for Christmas
Holidays



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Principal: Mrs. Sue Warner
Executive Principal:
Mrs Judith O'Kane OBE



Sports Update

This term Melland High School Girls played their first games of the season in the CITC (City in the Community) All Girls Disability Football League. The games were held at Manchester Tennis and Football Centre at the Etihad campus. Twelve other teams were involved and our team of girls got off to a flier.... Winning 7 games, drawing 1 game and only losing 1 game. We are currently at the top of the league after round 1. Well done! to all the team and staff involved.

Manchester Sports Award 2015

Melland High School was recently shortlisted to the final 3 in their category for a Manchester Sports Award 2015. The nomination was for the 'Contribution to Sport and Physical Activity in Education' for our school volunteers, who have supported many sporting events and attended the Inclusive Futures National Camp held at Loughborough University in Leicestershire. Our students have volunteered at the National Squash Championships held in Manchester and more recently at the World Taekwondo Grand Prix. They are all very proud to be recognised for their hard work and commitment to support these major events.

Congratulations to all those nominated and to the winners in the Manchester Sports Awards 2015. The event recognises and celebrates the contribution made by Manchester's many sports clubs, committed volunteers, coaches, athletes, unsung heroes, youth groups and schools to the development of community sport and physical activity in Manchester. Dean Beddows and Janine Allen (both staff from Melland) attended to ceremony at the Hilton Hotel in Manchester on Saturday 17th October. It was a fantastic occasion for all those involved in sports throughout Manchester. At the ceremony we received the Bronze Award which is a fantastic achievement and well done to all our volunteers.

OCR Accreditation

The sixth form group, LG4, are on route to obtaining an OCR Accreditation Certificate in Computing and media Studies. We have been looking at Roald Dahl's story of 'The Twits'.

Our main theme is the production of suitable sound effects to accompany the story. We have had to think up eight different noises, which we then make using our voice or suitable objects. After we have found the best ones that match the part of the story we want to live up, we record the particular effect as a sound file. This sound file is then put into a computer program

which allows it to be called up at any moment by the operation of a triggering device. The particular device depends on how the individual student can best access it. It gives us all an equal chance to participate in the production.

One of the funniest sound effects was the one where Mrs Twit drops her glass eye into Mr Twit's beer glass!

We are going to video the production too and hopefully you will be able to see it on the website in the future.



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