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THE NEWSLETTER FOR SHELLEY COLLEGE

H He Li Be B C N O F Ne Na Mg Al Si P S Cl Ar K Ca Sc Ti V Cr Mn Fe Co Ni Cu Zn Ga Ge As Se Br Kr Rb Sr Y Zr Nb Mo Te Ru Rh Pd

In this edition...

Outstanding
Ofsted Report

All in a good
cause

Helping students
Change4Life

National Science
and Engineering
Week

Sporting Update

... and lots more!



Shelley College celebrates exceptional Ofsted report



shelley college

A SPECIALIST CENTRE FOR SCIENCE

"Excellence and Enjoyment"

Shelley College celebrates exceptional Ofsted report

Staff and students at Shelley College are celebrating a very positive report following their recent Ofsted inspection. Head Teacher, John McNally, said: "It truly is very positive and one of the strongest reports you will see for a secondary school under the new inspection framework."

Positive statement

"I am delighted the report recognises the students' exemplary behaviour," he continued. "I have never seen such a positive statement about students in any Ofsted report, and it is thoroughly well deserved. The students do behave exceptionally well every day and their contributions make Shelley College such a special place. The inspectors also highlighted the outstanding pastoral care the students receive which, together with our excellent positive behaviour system and parental support, creates the right environment for them to achieve exceptionally well.

"I think we performed magnificently in terms of the prime judgments relating to pupil outcomes, with six out of seven deemed outstanding. The overall headline is that we are a good school with many outstanding features. This is a similar judgment to the previous inspection in 2006 but marks substantial progress under what is widely recognised to be a much more demanding inspection regime. Our curriculum was judged to be good but was close to outstanding and this one alteration would have led to an overall outstanding for the whole report.

"I am also pleased the inspectors confirmed we had already identified the areas we need to improve in order to become outstanding. Plans to further improve assessment and develop one or two aspects of our curriculum will be implemented in September and I can assure you we will keep looking for ways to improve the school further. The Sixth Form also received lots of praise and inspectors recognised the improvements that have led to the college achieving the best value-added performance in Kirklees last year."

Online Prospectus

As part of his A-level ICT studies, Matthew Maxfield had to create an online multimedia product, the choice of which was totally unrestricted.

After much deliberation, he decided to produce a Sixth Form online prospectus – something that would provide potential students with a greater level of information about the college.



Mr Hewitt, Matthew Maxfield and Edwin Wainwright

With guidance from Mr Hewitt, Matthew managed to pinpoint the areas of Sixth Form life that were not always covered by the paper prospectus and set about designing the online version. He then produced several prototypes, before selecting the most effective design.

After this, followed around 7 months of collating resources, interviewing teachers and taking pictures of any activities that were going on. By the end of January, the prospectus was ready to be uploaded onto the school's website, in order to gain feedback from a variety of users. The final version was completed in early March and can be viewed from the Sixth Form page of the college website. Be sure to have a look!

Computing Project...

For my A2 Computing project my brief was to 'analyse, design, implement, test and evaluate a computer solution to a substantial problem'. Bearing this in mind I decided that I would take on the challenge to create a new electronic PB system which could help record and monitor issues relating to Positive Behaviour at Shelley College.

Although the system in place at the moment works well and is effective however collating the data isn't always as easy as it might be. This is because it is recorded in individual planners and on SIMS. A new electronic system would centralise information and provide a greater fluency of data access to staff and students.

In practice the test system has recently 'gone live' with pleasing results, members of staff have been impressed with the final product and there are talks a foot for it to become an accepted 'norm' of college procedure. The need to share important data on student discipline and achievements is part of an ongoing project to improve data access within the college.

This project wasn't the easiest I have ever completed but I am always ready to rise to a challenge, it has further expanded my knowledge of the programming language. I will now be able to use this experience to further expand on projects that I have previously undertaken.

Edwin Wainwright
(pictured above)

Music

On Wednesday March 10th year 11 GCSE Music students at Shelley gave a concert to an appreciative audience. The aim was for students to share work which they had completed on the course, including pieces written by themselves.



Performances ranged from songs such as "Fields of Gold" to a Brass Ensemble. Several students showed work they had created using music software which was displayed to the audience on a screen while the music played.

There was also a performance by the Jazz group. The Music department would like to congratulate all students who took part and say thanks to all parents for their support and encouragement.

ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE

PB sessions in Year 13 are usually spent tying up loose ends with ever-troublesome UCAS applications, and writing the personal statements that make students stand out from the crowd. Over recent weeks, however, Year 13 Shelley College students have selflessly used their PB lessons to make plans to raise a small fortune for numerous charities and good causes. Congratulations to everyone involved!

13AT get on the ball with Dodgeball

During their last few PB lessons, 13AT devised a far from 'dodgy' way to raise cash for those less fortunate than themselves. After deliberating over the merits of salvaging scrap metal and foraging for mushrooms, they were eventually forcefully directed (by Euan McFalls!) towards Dodgeball.

Having all enjoyed the film, the class decided that organising a Dodgeball competition, in the college sports hall, would basically be the same as the one hosted in a Las Vegas super casino! Just as in the Dodgeball movie, teams of six will compete for an ultimate prize (yet to be decided, but definitely AWESOME) after school on 4th May 2010.

The cost of entering is just £1 per person. The event is open to all years and all proceeds will go to the Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice. So come along, have some fun – and help 13AT support a wonderful cause!

13JH have a cracking idea with Eggheads

During their PB lessons, 13JH have been organising a charity event to raise money for Medecins Sans Frontieres. The event will bring the TV show, Eggheads, to a live audience in the Shelley College drama theatre, pitting a team of students from 13JH against a team of Year 13 form tutors. The event will take place during PB on 1st April 2010 with the aim of raising approximately £150. Tickets cost £1 per student/£2 per staff member and are available from any member of 13JH or Mrs Hampson.

13 HM support Barnsley Hospice

13HM's chosen charity is Barnsley Hospice – a highly worthwhile cause brought to the attention of the class as a member of staff has a family member being cared for there.



The class began by making contact with a representative from the hospice who provided posters, collection buckets and stickers. After much consideration, 13HM decided on a team effort for their fundraising and arranged to do some bag packing at a local supermarket. Members from the tutor group then spent PB sessions contacting local supermarkets in order to gain their support. The tutor group also invited Vicky Stead, who works for Barnsley Hospice, into the college to talk about the hospice's work and to explain how any money raised would be used.

In the end, the Co-op in Holmfirth happily allowed 13HM to spend a full day bag packing for their customers on Saturday, 17th April. The whole experience of working together as a team towards a worthwhile goal proved thoroughly enjoyable for everyone involved and has encouraged many class members to continue fundraising when they go to university.

13MBR goes 'smiles better' with Smile Train

Over the course of the past year, 13MBR has tried to change at least one child's life for the better. Under the guidance of their tutor, the group found Smile Train; a unique charity devoted to giving children not just a new smile, but a new life by eradicating cleft palates.

Considered a minor nuisance in our country, a cleft palate is normally fixed at birth with a relatively small procedure. There are millions of children in developing countries, however, with no prospect of ever being helped. Most cannot eat or speak properly, and many aren't allowed to attend school or hold a job when they're older. The result is very difficult lives filled with shame, isolation, pain and heartache. Worst of all, the parents of these children are so poor, they can't afford surgery.

On hearing that every single child with a cleft can be helped with surgery that costs as little as £150 and

takes around 45 minutes to complete, the class chose to focus their efforts on raising money to fund surgery for a deserving child.

In each PB session, form members donated money and even held an assembly to raise awareness of the cause to the rest of the year group who also generously contributed. As a result, £150 was raised to provide life-changing cleft lip and palette surgery for a little girl named Mayra, along with additional funds for a further operation.

Match the Smiles competition

13MBR now wants to make a difference to as many children's lives as possible and will be running fundraising events and a 'Match the Smiles' competition. (Yes, there are even some smiling staff members!) Best of all, the prizes are generous and include kindly donated sweets, an iPod and even an hour-long power kiting lesson.

Please give if you can. Every penny raised will go towards funding the straightforward surgery that will give new life to a child. To find out more about Smile Train, please visit: www.smiletrain.org

13DM 'snap to' with cake sale for worthy cause

SNAP (Special Needs and Parents) is a local charity that supports individuals up to 25 years' old who have special needs and disabilities, and also offers help to their families. The SNAP Centre includes: a multi-sensory room, a special needs IT suite, a children's activity hall, a training room/club and many more beneficial facilities.

To assist with this worthy cause, 13DM has organised a staff cake sale that will not only be fun, but also will hopefully raise a substantial amount of money and extra awareness for SNAP. Look out for the total amount raised in the next edition of Minerva.

National Science and Engineering Week 2010

Reach for the Stars

During the 2010 National Science and Engineering week, Shelley College students took part in a host of events to celebrate all things scientific. Since becoming a Specialist Science College in 2003, Shelley College has promoted Science subjects during this special week every year – and this year was no exception.

The launch event took place on Saturday, 13th March from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm and comprised an action-packed day that included six workshops, a

WOW Space Bus and a rocket launching grand finale. Over 40 families joined in 3 challenges which included: Fastest F1 Race, Best Rocket Launch and Best Glider. Event co-ordinator, Mrs Lumb, said "It is great to see so many families sharing the learning experience and

engaging with science-related topics." Mrs Lumb went on to thank Mr Beaumont, Mr Tipler, Mr Bardsley, Mr Nash, Mr Quigley, Dr Marchesini and Mr Turner for their help in delivering the workshops.

For many, the highlight was going on the WOW Space Bus from Space Connections based in Bradford. On the bus, students watched animations of rocket launches, looked at meteors and carried out demonstrations to illustrate how craters were formed. Younger visitors were a little frightened by a green alien intruder!



Astronomy Night

On Monday, 15th March, students from Shelley College, Kirkburton and Scissett Middle Schools enjoyed an amazing astronomy evening. The pupils, along with some enthusiastic mums and dads, also took delight in spotting the International Space Station (ISS) as it passed overhead at 7.15pm – just as predicted by Mr Beaumont.

To really bring space to life, there was also the chance for visitors to log onto www.schools.telescope.org, select their favourite moon, planet, galaxy or constellation and programme a robotic telescope in Tenerife to take an image of it. A demonstration was also given by Dr Marchesini and Scott Marley from Bradford University about other software that is available for students to use free of charge.

With a team of teachers eager to inspire students to star gaze, we now plan to run a number of lunchtime workshops and put on a variety of special events throughout the year when certain planets are particularly visible or when the ISS is passing by again!



To take part in Astronomy Club, please speak to either Mr Beaumont or Dr Marchesini.

Simple Science at Morrisons

Students from Shelley College, Kirkburton and Scissett Middle Schools teamed up to put on a big science show for shoppers at Morrisons on Tuesday, 16th

March. Simple Science experiments, designed by Mrs Lumb, allowed students to demonstrate their scientific knowledge to passers-by. This event is key to National Science and Engineering Week because, as a Specialist Science College, we are keen to promote Science in our local community. Students explained to baffled shoppers how chromatography separated the colours in Smarties and how different fruits could act like batteries. Some students even made alien blood, while others invited shoppers to predict the pH of some household liquids.

Project Trust

Two Shelley College students will soon embark on projects overseas through an education charity called Project Trust. The students attended a 5-day selection course in Scotland and were successful in securing places. Now they just have to raise over £4000 each in order to work with underprivileged children in poor countries!

Andy Clayton of 13JH is travelling to South Africa in June 2010 for a 12-month project. He will be working in primary and secondary schools, teaching English, Maths and Science as well as being involved with sporting activities and possibly working with youth offenders. So far Andy has raised £2600 following a range of

fundraising activities including a Skydive in March. He has organised a raffle at the Armitages Garden Centre over Easter.

In January 2011, Caroline Openshaw of 13MBR will travel to rural Uganda (Africa) where she will work for eight months. Whilst there, she will be working with either orphaned children, children with disabilities or in first and secondary schools. To raise the money needed to join the project, Caroline has been doing various presentations to charities and working with Huddersfield Youth Explorers. She has arranged bag packing, organised a charity gig in Huddersfield and has been doing various other fundraising activities in and out of college.

Both students have been working very closely with Shelley College, as both have been given bursaries, and have had much support in raising funds, getting necessary equipment and creating awareness amongst students, teachers and parents.

Revise Wise @ Shelley College

Need help with your revision?

Don't know where to start?

Having problems getting organised?

Not sure what to do?

Let us help. Over the next few crucial weeks we will be working with Year 11 on study skills and time management to help our students prepare for their GCSE's this summer.

Students and parents can find help and advice on the new 'Revise Wise' link accessed through the student courses on Moodle. Get access to loads of revision ideas, website links and exams advice. Find help and advice about how to get through your exams, how to reduce the stress and how to achieve success.

Need a little extra help? Want to make revision active?

Or do you simply need some help planning a timetable, making revision notes or even creating MP3 revision files to play on your iPod.

Be Active, Go Interactive, Get Revising

www.getrevising.co.uk

www.shelleycollege.org

www.samlearning.com

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitese

Get Revising www.getrevising.co.uk

Jonathan Bates

Year 11 student Jonathan Bates recently took part in the Final of the prestigious BBC Radio 2 Young Brass Musician of the Year – the youngest finalist in the competition's history.

The competition attracted hundreds of entries from around Europe, and was open to Brass musicians of Grade 8 standard and above who are under the age of 21. Jonny's playing throughout the stages of the competition

impressed the various adjudicators and BBC producers alike, but in the end he had to settle for second-best behind Matthew White, a 20-year old student at the Royal Northern College of Music. His performances in the semi final and final have already been broadcast on Radio 2. The finalists were accompanied by the Black Dyke Band in front of a capacity audience of around 500 people.

14-year old Jonathan only began playing the Tenor Horn four years ago, however he has already gained a reputation as being one of the best young brass musicians in the country. Last year he joined the Brighouse & Rastrick Band (one of the world's top 5 brass bands and 2010 Yorkshire Champions) and in 2009 was appointed as Solo Horn of the National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain. He has already performed in many major concert venues such as the Royal Albert Hall in London and Birmingham's Symphony Hall, and is currently looking forward to playing with Brighouse & Rastrick in Barcelona, Spain, next month.



Helping our students Change4Life



Change4Life is a national initiative designed to kick start a lifestyle revolution for every family to halt the rising tide of obesity. Experts say that without any intervention, 90% of today's children could be overweight or obese and at risk from serious diseases by 2050 – and statistics show that there are currently 1 million under 16 year olds in the UK who are obese, with 20,000 coming from Yorkshire alone.

A-level PE and Food students, Carlo Whitaker and George Ayre, were recently chosen as ambassadors to raise awareness of the Change4Life campaign across Shelley College. Along with School Sport Co-ordinator, Mr Morris, they attended a conference at the Galpharm Stadium to learn about the effects of obesity and what they could do to raise awareness amongst students.

As a result of the conference, Carlo and George will now liaise with the Healthy Schools Committee and the College's catering manager, to discuss how best to give students and staff the opportunity for a healthy lifestyle whilst at college. The boys have met with the School Council to train them to deliver a presentation on the Change4Life initiative to all students.

School meals? They're the real deal



At Shelley College, we take great pride in our school catering. We produce excellent meals, use quality produce and support local suppliers. For example, when we make steak pie we use diced steak. Wherever possible, we use fresh seasonal fruit & veg. Our fresh chicken dishes are made using whole breasts that have not been injected with water to make them weigh more.

In return for our support, our local suppliers have sponsored our Healthy Eating League tables, where points are awarded to students who eat healthily.

The uptake of school meals at Shelley College is significantly higher than the National Average and we wish to continue this by providing excellent quality food at reasonable prices. The introduction of Meal Deals at the beginning of the year has been very successful and has led to students eating a balanced meal and not just snacking at lunchtime.

We will continue to use top quality local produce. However, because of rising costs over the last year, we will have to make a small increase to prices from June 2010. We hope you understand how important we regard your child's diet and health, and will continue to give us your full support. Rest assured, the prices will still represent excellent value-for-money.

World Challenge

World Challenge is an organisation that runs one to six-week-long expeditions to developing countries, sending teams of people aged 16+ out to complete different charitable projects. Anybody can sign up to take part in World Challenge events, and this is exactly what Beth Lockwood, (13MBR), and Hannah Wainwright, (13SJS), have done.

In July 2010, the girls will fly to Borneo to begin a month-long expedition. When they finally arrive (after a 24-hour flight) they will face a whole range of adventures, including trekking through the jungle, sleeping in hammocks and climbing a mountain before finally reaching their destination to complete project work. This will include helping out in an orphanage where there are mentally and physically disabled children, as well as taking part in some conservation work, including lending a hand in the Sun Bear sanctuary.

To get to Borneo, however, in order to help these fantastic causes, the girls each have to raise £3500. To do this, they are holding many fundraising events. So please look out for events being advertised around school and give your support to this amazing challenge.



One-to-One and Academic Mentors

We are delighted to announce the short-term appointment of three tutors who will be working closely with individual students to help raise their levels of attainment.

As part of the government's One-to-One Tutor Scheme, we have appointed Yvonne Redfern and Chris Thompson to work with thirteen Year 9 students for an hour a week over the next ten weeks. The focus of Yvonne and Chris will be to help students improve their literacy skills that will, in turn, boost their chances of being successful across the curriculum.

Academic Mentor

Emma Yhklef has been appointed for a term as an Academic Mentor. She will work specifically with Year 11 students as they enter the last weeks before their final GCSE examinations. A recent graduate, Emma has experience of working in a number of schools. She hopes to pursue a career in teaching and is able to offer students support across a range of subjects. She is currently focusing on helping selected students to finish their English coursework to the best possible standard and on guiding others through revision and preparation for their critical final GCSE Mathematics examination.

Only 'One Way' please around college site

As you will know, we operate a one way system for all vehicles on the college site. This is to ensure the safety of our students, staff and visitors, as well as to minimise congestion.

We have recently added signs at the college entrance and exit to reinforce the importance of the one way system.

The vast majority of parents and visitors follow the system and we thank you for this. There are, however, a number who do not – something that has been witnessed by staff and Police. As a consequence, the Police have raised their concerns. We have, therefore, asked for their support in carrying out spot checks at key times. These may result in warnings or fines.

As the weather and light improves, we anticipate that fewer students will require lifts to and from college. However, if you are driving onto the site, please ensure that you follow the one way system and do not wait or turn in the entrance or exit, or exit the site using the entrance. Thank you for your support in helping improve safety.

Town Hall DofE Presentations 2010

Students from the college were presented with their DofE awards by the Lord Mayor of Kirklees and other celebrities.

Receiving their bronze awards were George Lane, Chris Beal, Charlotte Haigh and Kelsey Dyson-Fleming.



Receiving Silver awards were, Conor Shaw, Joanne Shaw and George Lane.

Eric Yang received his well earned Gold Award. For his award he helped at an after school club for young children, he acquired a first-aid certificate, he swam to keep fit, he did his expedition in terrible weather in the Lake District and for his residential he assisted at the Kirklees Summer Play Camp Scheme. This year we have four bronze groups running, two silver groups and one gold. We hope to see most of them at the Town Hall, next year.



RYLA

Introducing Hayley Ackroyd (12JTi) who will be our third student to take up the challenge set by our local Rotary Club representatives.

Brian Williams

from Denby Dale Rotary Club contacted Mrs Lumb last year to create an new opportunity for Rotary Club member to engage with youngster at Shelley College. Mr Williams was keen to find out more about life at Shelley College and enjoyed a visit last year to see students in action.

Daniel Beech (13HM) was the first student to take an advantage of a sponsored place at the Rotary Youth Leadership Award residential. Quickly followed by Ryan Leeming (11AMD) who took part in a week long sailing residential. Both raised substantial funds for the Laura Crane Trust which was a condition to offering the place on each residential. Mrs Lumb is very proud of our established link with Denby Dale Rotary Club and offers her congratulations to Hayley who will take up her place on this years RYLA course in August.



Pictured are Daniel Beech, Hayley Ackroyd and Ryan Leeming

Estonia 2010

On the 13th Feb 12 young people and three youth workers from Young Peoples Services went to Estonia on a Youth Exchange trip to promote how to raise money for charity. Estonia is a less economical developed country than Britain and the resources in schools there are not as good as here.



Last April a number of Estonian students visited to sample our culture. Amongst other outings we took them to the Yorkshire Mining Museum and York. They also had a tour of the University which they enjoyed; students from Estonia often try to come to England to further their education as it is better than in their own country.



To fund the trip we raised money by bag packing at Morrison's and taking part on a sponsored walk. We had to raise 30% of the costs to enable the trip to take place and the rest was funded by Kirklees. To justify the funding we have to make a final presentation and give a group evaluation.

The youth workers rented a house for us all to stay in for the week. We had invitations to eat with the local families, the food was very good, often home grown and prepared from scratch. We cooked traditional English meals in return for their hospitality.

The school needed to raise money for internet access and other resources. The school was bleak and uninviting, having very few displays etc. Class rooms were not much bigger than the Year 11 office and about 12 students would be in each lesson.

We made power point presentations to try and explain how to raise funds. Danny Conway made a presentation about Kirkwood Hospice and Becky Longstaff gave a presentation on general charity work in the UK. We had a cake sale which we promoted by making and displaying posters and banners to actually show how funds can be raised.

We had quite a bit of leisure time, we were given a few ski lesson which was really good fun. The students ski to school and it is taught as part of their PE curriculum.



We hope to raise enough funds to return this summer.

e safety...

- Cyber Bullying can break laws.
- The police may get involved and you may be prosecuted.
- If prosecuted you will have a criminal record.
- Criminal records remain with you forever.
- The Police have the power to access anything.

Social networking sites like MSN, Facebook and Bebo let you report abuse any time it happens. Look out for the REPORT ABUSE button on the site.

Cyber bullying is the use of mobile phones and the internet to upset, hurt or intimidate someone else for any reason.

It can happen -

- On mobile phones
- By email
- On Myspace and Bebo
- On youtube
- On MSN messenger
- By fax

You MUST tell someone like a member of staff, your parents or another adult that you trust....

YOU are just as bad if you send on the message.
Don't forward it
Don't laugh at it
Don't be part of it

for further information go to:
www.shelleycollege.org/E-Safety.html

STOP CYBERBULLYING

Sporting update

Cross-country

Huddersfield Town ace, Joe Scarz, attended a recent cross-country competition at Shelley College. He spent an afternoon inspiring a group of Year 10 students, held a Q and A session and even started off a race and motivated runners around the course. Staged over a week, the entire event involved over 700 students from Years 9 and 10, competing against each other whilst representing their tutor groups.

The event is part of an annual intra-form competition, organised by School Sports Co-ordinator Mr Morris and PE staff. The girls ran just over a mile around the college grounds whilst the boys' distance was a mile and a half. The Year tutor group winners were 9EG and 10RB. Top girl runner for Year 9 was Helen Phillips and the Year 9 top boy runner was Elliot Kilner. The Year 10 top boy runner was Luke Jackson and the top girl was Lauren Powell.

Badminton

The Year 9 girls' badminton team will represent Kirklees at the West Yorkshire Youth Games at Leeds Met University in June. To qualify for the event, the team won the Newsome SSP tournament and were runners-up in the Kirklees finals, just losing one match throughout all competitions. Well done!



On Wednesday 10th Feb, 50 GCSE PE and BTec students visited Leeds Met Uni for a day of fitness testing and a tour of the sports facilities.

After the morning session of fitness testing using the top class facilities that elite athletes use, students were then given a tour of the facilities. On the tour they saw all the university teams training for their sports and students were particularly impressed with the gymnastics arena and apparatus. They then received an inspirational talk by Tracy Neville (ex England Netball player and sister to Phil and Gary Neville!) Students were very impressed listening to her about their childhood and how they had all become so successful in their chosen sports. A very enjoyable day for all the students involved!



Basketball

The Shelley College under 15s basketball team continued their excellent form this season. Losing only one game last year, they went one better this campaign, winning every single game they played in. This resulted in the team winning the Huddersfield tournament and league, an excellent achievement for the squad.



Cheerleading for D of E

After a superb Christmas-themed performance at the Shelley Christmas Showcase, the Shelley College Cheerleaders recently performed for the Duke of Edinburgh Presentation Evening. The girls were outstanding, showing off their many talents, tumblers and stunts! Training alongside our two professional cheerleading coaches, the team is currently creating its Cheerleading National Competition performance piece for the event which takes place in Nottingham on 17th July. We wish the girls every success after last year's close run for first place!



Dance

Shelley College has been fortunate to host a dance workshop organised by the Yorkshire Young Dancers Programme. Twenty-six girls took part in a technically demanding class and a small group were invited to attend further training. Congratulations to Jaymi English, Jodie Hart, Emily Berry and Esther Hammersley for all their hard work.

SPORTS RELIEF – WAKE UP SHAKE UP

All students took part in a 'Wake up, Shake up!' event during morning registrations as part of the Sports Relief Charity fund raiser. Students were asked to come along and join in the fun and early morning exercise, whilst dancing along with Mr Heath and his 'Heathettes' to the 'Shake Your Tail Feather' song. Congratulations to all those who took part and donated towards this worthy cause.

