



Moor House School News and Events

Moor House School Buddy / Mentoring Programme

Wednesday 9th February 2010

On Wednesday February 9th the Buddies and Mentors enjoyed a delicious group lunch followed by a friendly competition on the Moor House School Sportswall.

All students participated and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was just fantastic to see such a happy group of students enjoying spending their lunchtime together.

Mentors helped their Buddies select healthy food options for lunch and included them in group conversations.

The Mentors were extremely supportive of their Buddies when playing on the Sportswall and it was sensational seeing the Buddies and Mentors working as a pair as part of a team.

The Mentors are taking on the role of decorating the 'Buddy and Mentor Programme' display board, so, next time you are in school please have a look at the photos on the display and the positive comments from both the Mentors and Buddies.

This term we have welcomed Sebastian and Kate into the programme and they have been extremely supportive of their buddy Lara.

Congratulations must go to our Mentors of the Month for January; Kane and Kate and to Mentor of the Month for February; Kate.

Mentors have been meeting with their Buddies on a weekly basis which is proving to be enjoyed by all. The next Buddy and Mentor event will be in April and staff and students are already looking forward to it.

The Buddy and Mentor programme is as successful and rewarding as ever and it is a real pleasure working with such a positive and energetic group of students.



Report by Lisa Campbell, Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist.

Visit to Stanbridge Earls School

On 1st February 2011 Nick Hart (Teaching), Lisa Campbell (SLT) and Danny Carroll (Residential Care) visited Stanbridge Earls school to find out more about the school particularly with regard to what student profile they are looking for when determining whether a young person would be right for entry to their sixth form. The visit was extremely useful in this respect, and also provided the opportunity to find out about the good practice occurring in other special schools. It was also good to see an ex-Moor House School student coping extremely well in their new placement.

Nick Hart

3HU Class Trip to The Golden Hinde

14.02.11

Learning intentions:

- To develop students' understanding of Tudor Explorers including knowing who they were, what they did and why they were important.
- To encourage pupils to imagine what life was like on board a Tudor Galleon; to make comparisons between then and now.
- To develop an understanding of events that lead to the Spanish Armada.
- To motivate and engage pupils in this topic.

During this trip, students had an opportunity to tour a replica of The Golden Hinde, lead by a costumed guide. The guide told them many interesting facts. These included a brief lesson on the history of Sir Francis Drake and his voyage, Tudor superstitions, everyday life on board a ship, mutiny and piracy. Some of the language involved was fast-paced and challenging for pupils to follow so school staff tried to support pupils by explaining things in simpler terms accompanied by Makaton signs.

The trip was highly interactive and the students learnt a lot from the hands-on activities. They were given an opportunity to drop the anchor using heavy machinery, whilst we all sang sailor songs. They were also taught how to clean the cannons and acted out the process of firing a cannon during a battle. We also role-played what would have happened if someone was caught stealing food. Not nice!

This trip took place just after we had finished learning about the Tudor Explorers. I was very impressed at how much knowledge some of the pupils were able to recall when we were on the ship.

On returning, students wrote about what they learned for homework. The next day we made a comic strip about our trip. It was interesting to see which elements had lodged in their memories: some of the details of the daily grind really captured their imaginations and helped them to imagine what life must have been like. It was also a good opportunity to practise writing in the past tense.