



**Sheffield Park Academy**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

**Newsletter**  
Summer 2018

# RIKSA AND REECE WIN TOP AWARDS



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# Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Summer edition of our newsletter.

I am delighted to be writing my first welcome message as the new pincipal of Sheffield Park Academy. I am very proud to be here and look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure all our students achieve their best and have the best possible opportunities, both in school and in the world beyond. Sheffield Park Academy has a good reputation in the city and my team and I are looking to build upon this and provide an outstanding education for all our school community.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr Hannan for his work as Interim Head of School since January and wish him well in his next post.

I hope you enjoy reading about some of the many activities our pupils have enjoyed over the past few weeks.

Mrs D. McShane - Principal

## Pupils get in on the AcT with the BalletBoyz

Pupils from Year 10, Year 12 and Year 13 students were invited to participate in a United Learning AcT project with dance company BalletBoyz this term followed by a masterclass and performance at The Dance House in Manchester on April 12th. The pupils were tasked with creating a performance to one of the BBC 10 Pieces, which they did in collaboration with Mrs Booth. Pupils were critiqued live on stage by members of the BalletBoyz, with 'overwhelmingly positive' feedback.



# BIE Awards

Riksa Amin and Reece Matthews are celebrating after receiving special honours at United Learning's national Secondary Best in Everyone Awards.

Riksa won the coveted Pupil of the Year Award in the Year 10-13 category, with Reece receiving the Drama Award.

The Best in Everyone Awards celebrate the exceptional achievements of students and staff at United Learning schools and academies across the country. They include awards for academic excellence, extracurricular achievements and for service to school communities.

Hundreds of nominations were received, which were then carefully considered by a judging panel, with Riksa nominated by her teachers for the many ways in which she volunteers to help others. As well as volunteering in a primary school's homework club, she has run arts and craft activities at local historic site, Manor Lodge.

Along with other academy students, Riksa has participated in a Bag Pack at Tesco and raised over £400 for Weston Park Cancer Hospital. In addition to giving up her spare time to help others, she is very committed to her studies and is a role model to younger students, showing what can be achieved through hard work, determination and ambition.

Reece's nomination was on account of his dedication to drama and his many achievements. He took on many of the leading roles in the academy's extravaganza '24K Magic' and has worked with many of the academy's feeder schools to deliver inspiring drama workshops.

Riksa and Reece picked up their awards along with the other winners at a special ceremony held at Oxford Town Hall on Friday 29 June.

Commenting on her award, Riksa said: "I am really proud that I have won this amazing award. I didn't even know that this award existed and being nominated is just wonderful."



Said Reece: "I am very proud that my hard work and dedication has helped me achieve this award. Moreover, thank you to my teacher Mrs Pleasance for having faith in me throughout my time at school and nominating me for such an amazing award."

Congratulating Riksa and Reece, Craig Dillon, Executive Principal at Sheffield Park Academy, said: "The whole academy community is thrilled for Riksa and Reece - we congratulate them on their achievements. They are both exceptional students and are fantastic ambassadors for Sheffield Park Academy."

# Cambridge University Visit



Three Year 12 English A level pupils, Sofia, Nasimah and Tasnia, were invited to visit Cambridge University earlier this year and sample first hand what is it like to study there.

The girls participated in 3 lectures, giving their opinions on Japanese ancient literature and William Blake's "The Tyger" poem. Their visit included lunch in the University's refectory and a tour around the beautiful grounds.



## Inspiring Youth Awards

Mrs Ashforth has been busy coordinating the Inspiring Youth Awards again this term, with 14 of our pupils successfully completing various levels of their portfolios, culminating in official recognition at an amazing awards ceremony at St. Pauls Hotel in Sheffield.

Pupils were in good company at the event, with attendees including dignitaries such as the Lord-Lieutenant of South Yorkshire, the High Sheriff of South Yorkshire, Gul Nawaz Hussain QC, the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chief Constable for South Yorkshire Police and a number of High Court Judges and politicians.

Two of our Year 10 pupils, Thomas and Riksa, were brave enough to stand up in front of all the dignitaries, parents and teachers at the event and deliver a speech about the programme and what it meant to them.

Other awards on the evening were presented to Riksa, who achieved the highest accolade of being a Gold Award Winner. Her fellow Year 10 pupil, Reece, received a Special Recognition award, acknowledging all the extra work he did to complete the award, while also having many commitments outside of school.



# Sports Day

June saw the arrival of our annual Sports Day. Year 7 to Year 10 pupils took part in a fun packed day, organised by the PE department. The event was a little different this year - once pupils had participated in their athletics events, they were invited to tackle the inflatable assault course in a Form to Form competition.

Pupils performed fantastically, especially in the hot and sunny weather. Unfortunately, there could only be one winning Form group from each year, who were:

- Year 7 – VTO
- Year 8 – AWA
- Year 9 – STA
- Year 10 – DSU

Even members of staff attempted the course, with the PE department leading the way!



## Sheffield South East Learning Partnership Awards

Celebrations were in full swing at the Sheffield South East Learning Partnership (SSELP) Awards evening recently, where Sheffield Park Academy's Mrs Wright picked up the coveted Community Cohesion of the Year award.



Mrs Wright is an invaluable member of our team, working at the academy since its inception and at the predecessor school before that. Mrs Wright's deep knowledge of our pupils, families and community is the result of many years hard work, forging positive relationships with our stakeholders. Over her time at the school, hundreds of pupils have remained in education and gone on to achieve outstanding exam results due to the care and support she has given them.



# Fundraising

We were extremely proud to present Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity with a cheque for over £15,000 earlier this term. This was the single biggest donation they have ever received from a school!



The money was raised through a combination of activities including non-uniform days, a coast to coast staff cycle ride, a tuck shop – run once a week by a group of volunteer pupils, bake sales and a sponsored skydive which Executive Principal Mr Dillon, Assistant Principal Mr Wainwright and Interim Head of School Mr Hannan bravely undertook.



# Fundraising

Previous attempts to complete the skydive had to be cancelled due to poor weather but April brought blue skies and the jump went ahead from an eye watering 15,000 feet.

After completing the skydive, Mr Dillon said: "It's something I've never done before, it was incredibly



daunting at first, but an amazing experience and all for a very worthwhile cause - one which is very close to the academies' collective heart. As part of our commitment to provide our pupils with an Education with Character, we work very closely with the local community, actively seeking to help those less fortunate than ourselves, whilst helping instill a sense of care and compassion in all of our students. We are delighted to be able to support the amazing work that Weston Park does and we would like to thank everyone who has donated and supported us throughout."



Jade Hearsom, Community Fundraiser for Weston Park Hospital Cancer Charity: "We are so proud of the team at Sheffield Park Academy, who have gone above and beyond to raise such a phenomenal amount to support the charity. Their dedication and perseverance to complete the jump and all of the other activities shows how committed they are to making a difference to the lives of local cancer patients. We are so grateful for their support, you are all amazing!"

# Dates for your diary

## Autumn Half Term 1

- Term starts: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018 until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
INSET Day: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2018
- Half Term holiday: Half term holiday Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2018 until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018

## Autumn Half Term 2

- Term starts: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 until Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018
- INSET Day: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018
- Christmas Holiday: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2018 until Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## Spring Half Term 1

- Term starts: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- INSET Day: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019
- Half Term holiday: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019

## Spring Half Term 2

- Term starts: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 until Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- INSET Day: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- Easter Holiday: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

## Parent Communications

Parents, do we have your up to date contact details?

Our primary means of communication with home is via phone calls and text messages. Please help us in ensuring your contact details are up to date.

You can do this by emailing [info@sheffieldparkacademy.org](mailto:info@sheffieldparkacademy.org) or calling the Academy directly on 0114 2392661.

Thank you for your support with this.

Follow us on Twitter to keep up with all of the latest news and information:



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**Sheffield Park Academy**

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