



## Robotic semi-finals



## Inspirational Award Winners



# Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter.

As you will see over the next few pages, this term has been packed full of extra-curricular activities with a lot of our pupils being rewarded for their skill, hard work and determination. The upcoming term is key, with internal and external assessments and this year's GCSE and A level exams beginning on 13th May. As always, we will be working together with parents/carers and pupils to ensure that each and every pupil achieves the highest grades possible in their examinations.

From myself and my team here at Sheffield Park Academy, we wish you all a restful holiday and a very Happy Easter!

Mrs D. McShane - Principal

## Aiming High in Cambridge

Some of our Year 12 pupils visited Cambridge University's Emmanuel College earlier this term. They were given a tour of the impressive campus as well as taking part in some taster sessions with University staff and current students.

They came away feeling motivated to work hard, do well in their exams and to aim high, so that they have the option to attend such a prestigious University in the future.



Our A level History pupils travelled down to London to visit the Nelson Mandela Exhibition. Their time was spent learning about the famous freedom fighter and political leader from childhood, through his struggles against apartheid and his eventual vindication. Pupils took a lot from the visit, stating that it had made them eager to dig further into history.

## Heroes of History in London

# Aspiration Day 2019



This term we held our fifth annual Aspiration Day and it was the biggest and best event to date!

The day is designed to give pupils the opportunity to think about their future careers by offering them the chance to speak with industry professionals from a variety of sectors and give them an insight into careers and the world of work.

This year saw involvement from a record number of local and national organisations including Cambridge and Oxford Universities, the AMRC Sheffield and the Armed Forces. As well as our own Park Academy pupils, we were joined by others from across South Yorkshire including Springs Academy, Barnsley Academy, All Saints Catholic High and John Smeaton Academy – over 1000 pupils in total attended this year's event!



We would like to thank all of the organisations and businesses that supported us this year (pictured below right) who helped to make the day such a success.

Our pupils are now ready to take on the world of work once their time at school comes to an end!



# Award Winners

## Inspiring Youth Awards

Sheffield Park Academy was once again successful in the South Yorkshire Police Inspiring Youth Award ceremony, attended by a number of staff, pupils and their families.

Year 11 pupil Neelam Sajid was the overall winner of this year's award, which is a fantastic achievement and we are extremely proud of her. Her win also meant that we, as a school, were able to bring home the 'Best School' trophy!

We also had several other successful pupils on the night (pictured) who were presented with the following awards:

- Tier 6 - Lewis Ball
- Tier 5 - Patrick Sesay
- Tier 4 - Summayyah Naeem
- Bronze - Nafisa Rahman
- Gold - Lamees Mukerker
- Gold - Neelam Sajid

Asma Hussain and Riksa Amin both received their Level 2 awards with 10 CPD credits each. Riksa (pictured above right) gave an inspirational speech during the ceremony on how completing the Inspiring Youth Award has changed her attitude to school, work and her aspirations.

A fantastic evening was had by everyone and we are so proud of all of our Inspiring pupils – congratulations!



# Award Winners

## Robot Wars

You may remember from our Winter newsletter that Mr Sivasubramanian has been leading a number of pupils from Years 8 to 13 in their quest to design and build a prize winning robot as part of the UK-wide First Tech Robotic Challenge competition.

After many hours of hard work, planning and building, the teams were finally ready for the Southern Championships, which were held in Peterborough earlier this month.

Teams SPACe23 and SPARTans22 fought valiantly and did well enough to make it to the semi-finals! Despite not winning the overall competition, the amount of hard work and dedication shown throughout this project by each and every one of the team members has been outstanding and the pupils should all be extremely proud of how well they have done.

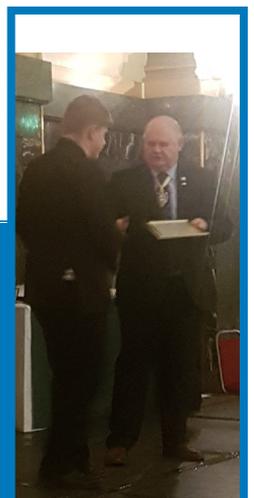


## Speaking Out at Sheffield University

Pupils Mollie Azizi, Scarlett Hobbs, Ellie Naylor-Booth, Balint Lakatos and Robin Kaleja (pictured) took part in the 'Speak Out' Competition at the University of Sheffield, winning the 'IM Pioneering Award' for the second consecutive year. Despite not winning the overall competition, other

teachers at the event, the organisers and the judging panel all commented that our pupils had presented themselves with confidence and had answered the questions that they were faced with in a calm and mature manner.

We are so proud of them all and would like to also give a special mention to fellow pupil Yaseen Khan, who unfortunately was unable to attend the event but was an integral member of the team during the planning process.



## Gold Standard Engineering

We are so proud of Year 11 pupil Keenan Haigh (pictured right) who was awarded the Better Learners Better Workers Gold Award for outstanding contribution in the Engineering category. He was presented with his award at a prestigious award ceremony hosted at the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield.

Well done Keenan!

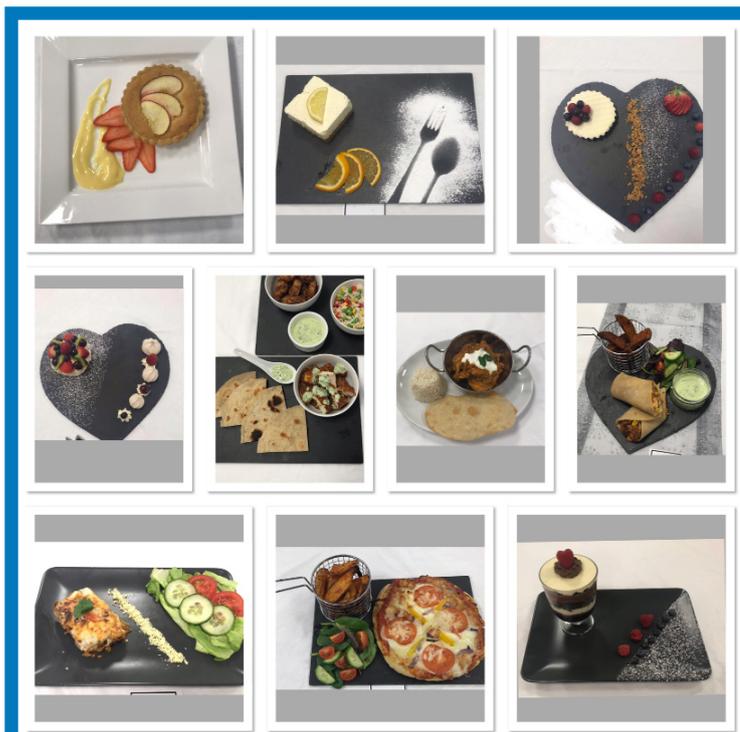
# Education With Character

## Outwood Bound Trust - Wales

A group of our Year 10 girls took part in a week long residential trip to the Outward Bound UK centre in Aberdovey, Wales, at the beginning of term. It was an action packed week full of activities including gorge walking, abseiling and even a swim in the freezing cold estuary!



The girls persevered through every challenge they were faced with and showed immense teamwork and strength of character throughout the duration of the trip. Despite the cold and fatigue, the girls all returned with smiles on their faces and the knowledge that they can achieve anything they put their minds to. Well done girls!



## Food for thought

Our Year 11 Hospitality pupils worked extremely hard in the lead up to their Hospitality practical exams this term.

Pupils produced some absolutely beautiful dishes both in taste and presentation (pictured). Those staff members who were lucky enough to taste test the pupils work all agreed that the dishes were of an extremely high standard and would definitely not be out of place in a professional restaurant environment.

# Education With Character

## Getting into Character

To mark World Book Day 2019, some members of staff came to work dressed as their favourite characters from literature. Amongst others we had a pupil from Hogwarts and King Arthur!

The pupils really loved seeing their teachers dressed up and it got them all talking about literature and encouraged them to read a little more.

Besides, it isn't every day you can go home and say you were taught History by a Wizard!



## Learning with a side order of cake!

During our most recent ACE Day our EAL and Bridge pupils took part in a Life Skills Day, which included them making and enjoying their own afternoon tea.

The pupils made all the food from scratch, including sandwiches and scones with jam and cream. Everyone got stuck in and enjoyed learning some new skills. The only disagreement came whilst preparing their scones... pupils couldn't agree, should you put the jam on first or the cream?!



## International Womens Day

Some pupils took part in a female only football tournament, hosted by Sheffield Wednesday Football Club, to mark this year's International Womens Day. The girls (pictured) loved being able to celebrate being female and fight against any gender stereotypes by playing the sport they love. Well done girls!

## Design Lab Nation Project

A group of our Year 10 BTEC pupils had the fantastic opportunity of taking part in a project run by the Victoria & Albert's new National Schools Programme, where they worked in partnership with Millenium Galleries in Sheffield. Only 3 other schools had been selected to take part in the whole of the UK and our pupils certainly made the most of the honour of being chosen.



The project consisted of 3 days at the Sheffield galleries and 1 day at the V&A in London. Pupils were tasked with designing an object to enhance a sense of well-being; they all did exceptionally well and some of the work will be on display in the millenium galleries later on in the year.

# Education With Character

## Life on the battlefields

As part of the First World War Centenary Battlefield Tours Programme, Mrs Turner was lucky enough to take two of our pupils to France and Belgium on a very special visit to learn all about World War 1.

The tour gave our pupils the opportunity to interact with a variety of different historic sites including battlefields, memorials, cemeteries and museums, participate in remembrance ceremonies, and record, reflect and share their own experiences.



Prior to the visit, the pupils had been researching a local soldier from Handsworth – Private Hubert Victor Ellis. They were pleased that they were able to find his name included on the Thiepval Memorial during their visit (pictured below left). Amazingly, whilst visiting the Tyne Cot Cemetery (pictured below right) they found another soldier who was listed as being from the Manor Estate – just a stone’s throw from Park Academy! His name was Private Matthew Winfrow and our pupils left a cross at the memorial in remembrance of him and the others who lost their lives in the war.



The pupils came away from this visit truly moved by their experience and with a real passion for History and finding out more about our country’s past. Mrs Turner and Park Academy are extremely proud of how they carried themselves with respect and maturity during the visit.



## Red Nose Day 2019

This Red Nose Day, staff and pupils organised a number of activities to raise money for Comic Relief. We are proud to say we raised a total of £463.64 this year.

A big well done to all who were involved!



# Sports and Performing Arts

## What a show!

Back at the end of last term, we held our Winter Performing Arts show over two consecutive nights. Our pupils joined together with those from Springs Academy, Barnsley Academy and Pipworth Primary Community School to put on a cluster performance.

There were over 200 pupils participating in total with dance styles ranging from contemporary, tap, musical theatre to street dance. Both evenings were a complete sell out and proceeds from tickets and refreshments were donated to a range of different charities. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to those who attended what turned out to be our biggest and best show to date!



A selection of our Year 8 and 9 girls attended a 'Girls of Our Game' workshop where they got to meet two players from the England Women's squad. They learnt about the different careers and opportunities available in football and also how to organise events and coach pupils of all ages.

The pupils are now our Academy's Football Ambassadors and help to organise and run different Football events for girls of all ages across the Academy.



## The Great Big Dance Off

A selection of dancers from Years 10 to 13 competed in the West Midlands heat of the 'Great Big Dance Off' this term, following their success in the first round. Pupils represented the Academy at the heat in Nottingham and performed to the highest standard; they were placed 7th overall which was fantastic! They performed a routine to 'Run Boy Run' which was inspired by the issue of gang crime and the dangers that surround it.



# Dates for your diary

## Summer Half Term 1

- Term starts: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019 until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019
- Bank Holiday: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2019
- Bank Holiday: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019
- Bank Holiday: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019
- Spring Bank Holiday: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019 until Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 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 by contacting us with any changes asap.

## GDPR Parental Consent Forms

If we have not received a signed consent form for your child, their access to Academy facilities will be limited and in some cases blocked. Please return your consent forms as soon as possible so that your child's full access can be reinstated - copies are available at the Main Office.



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Part of United Learning

Mrs D. McShane - Principal  
Sheffield Park Academy  
Beaumont Road North  
Sheffield S2 1SN

t 0114 239 2661

f 0114 265 9835

e [info@sheffield-academy.org](mailto:info@sheffield-academy.org)

w [www.sheffield-academy.org](http://www.sheffield-academy.org)

t @SheffPark\_Acad