

Calendar

Friday 21st July 2017
School Closes for Summer
Holidays

Monday 4th September
2017 School Closed
Staff Training Day

Monday 5th September
2017 School re-opens

Friday 20th October 2017
School Closed Half Term
Holidays

Monday 30 October School
re-opens

Thursday 30th November
parent/carer Info day and
Christmas Fair

Friday 22nd December
2017 School Closes
Christmas Holidays

Monday 8th January 2018
School re-opens



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BFET SportsDay

Melland High School joined with fellow BFET academies; Altrincham Girls Grammar School, Cedar Mount High School, South Shore Academy, Stanley Grove Primary Academy, Rushbrook Primary Academy, Marton Primary Academy and Connell 6th Form College; to take part in the annual BFET Sports Day. The event was hosted at the National Squash Centre and in collaboration with The Alliance for Learning and the Diane Modahl Foundation, the pupils had an amazing day competing in interschool athletics competitions and listening to musical performances by partner schools and academies. Our new CEO John Stephens was on hand to present medals to all the participants and competition winners.



Melland High School Sports Day

Melland Sports Day took place on Thursday 6th July. Every student took part in activities showcasing their skills in throwing, jumping and running events for all abilities. The weather set the tone for a fun packed day which tested the skills they had learnt in their PE lessons. This was followed by our annual Sporting Achievements assembly where all school teams were celebrated and awarded medals for all the competitions they had been involved in throughout the year.

Our top scoring pupils from the sports day were announced on the day. We would like to congratulate the following pupils; Riqiya, Danyal, Shah, Isac, Irfan, Marshall, Feroze, Damarius, Armadeep, Saracern, Joseph, Michael, Abubakar and Nicole, who were our overall sporting champions.



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Melland High School
BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Bright Futures
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

MELLAND STAR

SUMMER TERM 2017

Celebration of School Improvement



Message from our Principal - Sue Warner

As another fantastic year comes to a close it's always a real pleasure to reflect on the outstanding achievements of all of our students at Melland and across Bright Futures Educational Trust. All our students from across Bright Futures have had the opportunity to take part in a number of exciting collaborative events including the CPNW 'Illuminate' conference in Blackpool, The Bigger Book Bash' and the annual showcase 'Gortons Got Talent'. Aspirations for our students continue to grow and the extension of work related learning opportunities, whether in school or within the local community, have been particularly successful again this year. Having recently attended our whole school celebration I am always so impressed by the wide range of activities undertaken and the outstanding achievements of our students. IT and technology continues to be strength here at Melland with students taking part in a wide range of creative media projects including the BBC News Schools Report, TV game shows, podcasts, animation and film making. The school continues to be at the forefront of research into the benefits of accessible interactive music technology for young people with a wide range of disabilities. Our sporting achievements this year have yet again been outstanding, with groups of young people continuing to access sensory, interactive water based activities in the hydrotherapy pool for example, while others are taking part in a range of experiences from table cricket to circuit training with paralympian Beverley Jones! Many thanks to our longstanding community partner MCFC for all their continued commitment to improving sporting opportunities for our students and for their very kind donation of a brand new football kit. We are looking forward to continuing our work with new partners The Diane Modahl Foundation who have been helping develop our Young Sports Leaders this year. As we celebrate another great year for Melland High School many thanks must also go to our amazing, hardworking students, our exceptionally supportive parents and carers and our outstanding and committed staff and governors. Have a great summer break and I look forward to another exciting and successful year ahead.



Our Chair of Governors Peter Tite, our CEO John Stephens and Gary Handforth Director of Primary Education attended Melland High School's Summer Celebration on Thursday 13th July and this is what John had to say about our annual event.

"A remarkable event at Melland. Sue Warner and her team had put together a celebration of school improvement in which the work of the school over the last year was presented to staff, parents/carers, governors, partners and visitors through a series of filmed or live performances by the students themselves. I have never before seen such an innovative way for a school to express its accountability to the people that it serves. The progress of the students over their time at Melland was not simply told to us – it was enacted before us. A great example of the kind of innovative practice that so often emerges from the special school sector of necessity. I was particularly struck by two things. The first was the insistence on quality. Whatever the children did in this presentation, they were expected to do it to a very high standard. The second thing that struck me was the young people's readiness for work at the end of their time at Melland. The progress that the youngsters are making, the richness of the opportunities offered to them and the commitment to continuous improvement are some of the reasons why this school is so impressive".



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Other School News



Safety in the Community

During the Spring and Summer term, Learner Groups 1 and 2 have been researching and learning about how to stay safe when out and about in the community.

They were so enthused by what they learnt and the importance of it that they wanted to find a way to share it with others. Therefore they decided to set about writing and creating an animation. Lots of hard work and time went into this, the students had to work both collaboratively and as an individual; they undertook trips using public transport, filming on location, using art material to make characters and sets and of course using media and technology to film and edit!

This really was a busy project that challenged everyone to develop their understanding, creative skills and most importantly independence and safety when going out and about

Everyone of the group rose to the challenge and exceeded expectation! As well as creating an incredible film to share with their peers, the animation went towards their home management accreditation portfolio to help them all to demonstrate that they have achieved personal safety in the community at entry level 3. Well done to all involved!



6th Leavers Assembly and Prom

As the school year draws to a close we bid a sad farewell to our Leavers of 2017. We have a massive 23 students leaving us this year all of whom will leave a big gap when they go.

Parents and carers joined us for The Leavers Assembly 2017, a very emotional morning for staff, students and their families. The occasion was a fantastic celebration of our students' achievements, a reflection of the outstanding young adults they have become, mixed in with some old baby-faced photos from their early years with us! Our leavers did themselves and their families proud, they gave speeches, prepared videos and even a prepared a dance!

As if that wasn't enough excitement for one day, the sixth form students then had the Prom to get ready for. The Neon Summer Prom 2017 was a huge success. Students walked the infamous Melland red carpet and took their place at the party of the year. The staff and students worked tirelessly to create all of the decorations, even building a mocktail bar called the Neon Pineapple which was very popular. The Sixth Form students partied all afternoon and gave our leavers a real send off.

The day was also tinged with sadness as it is hard for us all to see our students leave. It is also a proud day, as it's clear that they have all become confident, mature resourceful young people who have the skills to carry on being successful when they leave us to start their next chapter.

Good luck to all of our Leavers of 2017.



Graham Construction and CCS Display

A 6th Form History class have worked extremely hard on a work related learning project this term in conjunction with new business partners Graham Construction. They have learnt about the history of some of our old cotton mills found near Ancoats, regeneration, gentrification and construction and looked at LS Lowry's art for inspiration.

The group designed and created individual and group art work. This was scanned, printed onto plastic, displayed publicly on the Murrays' Mills project hoarding and entered into a competition with CCS and Graham construction.

When visiting Jersey Street near Ancoats to see their work on display the students were filled with excitement and pride.

We would like to thank Graham Construction for their support in this project, the warm welcome they gave us on our visit but most of all for making the students art work look wonderfully professional on the Mills hoarding.

We recently heard that the Murrays' Mills/Melland High School entry to the CCS Ivor Hoodsite Hoarding competition has been named as Runner Up. Caroline Gee Regional Community Engagement Adviser got Graham Construction presented awards at the Melland students at our annual celebration of whole school improvement. A huge congratulations to all the students for a fabulous entry.



The Bigger Book Bash

As part of 'The Bigger Book Bash', Jane Kerr Author of 'The Elephant Thief' visited Melland High School to launch the short story challenge where pupils had the opportunity to create their own piece of poetry 'Meeting Maharajah' inspired by the opening page from Jane's book as the character first sets eyes on an elephant.

Melland High schools pupils decorated a 3D Elephant that formed part of the fantastic 'Bigger Book Bash' festival held at Stanley Grove Primary Academy in Longsight on Saturday 1st July 2017. Other activities included creating and decorating a large scale elephant model, Parade masks and costume making as well as pupils writing poems for the Festival.

The event was a great opportunity to work on a project with our partner schools, Stanley Grove Academy, Rushbrook Primary Academy and Cedar Mount Academy.



Parent/Carer Working Party

This term Melland High School welcomed parents and carers to attend many successful, informative events. During one of the regular, well attended, parent/carer coffee mornings Mary Merritt, parental engagement officer, helped parents and carers navigate, The Manchester Local Authority 'Local Offer'. Later, Cheryl Casey CMFT head of nursing and community services and Karen Phelan, learning disability specialist nurse gave an informative presentation about how to access specialist support during hospital stays. Information was shared about Manchester's 'Disability Access Programme' and Chris Beswick Vice Chair of governors at Melland attended to offer parents and carers support.

Parents, carers, staff and students were then offered the opportunity to gain advice and guidance from a variety of local providers during the annual 'Careers Fair' organised by Amanda Wright, MHS Enterprise and WRL Advisor, who works closely with staff, students and their families. The whole school community gained insights into the support offered to young people by training organisations and colleges such as, 'Challenge for Change', 'United Response', 'Access to Music', 'The Factory Youth Zone', 'The Together Trust', 'Manchester College', 'Pure Innovations' and 'Challenge for Change'. Jodie Booth discussed 'Internships' and the 'Specialist Resource Team' gave out valuable information about short breaks. All the information provided will help students and their families work towards their future destinations as well as providing students, families and staff with relevant information to share during the EHCP process.

Many thanks to parents and carers for their support in attending recent events and celebrations such as Progress Evening, Annual Celebration of Whole School Improvement and the emotional Leavers Assembly.

