

'Hear' To Help!—news from the EAL department

28 volunteer students from Years 10 & 11 are now trained as Student Interpreters as a part of City of Leeds School's plans to improve home and community communication with school.

Training on three separate sessions after school, the students have learnt some of the vital skills needed for interpreting as well as having some fun!

Year 11 student Ishfaq Shafiq said "It was better than I expected. I even learnt some new things." Thanks, Ishfaq! University of Leeds MA student, Rui Feng, who came to support the group, was 'excited'

by the course and very complimentary about the volunteers' new skills.

Student volunteers will be available to interpret during school hours, when they can be spared, and at after-school events.

Mrs Mitchell, EAL Course Leader and trainer of the interpreting course, said, "I was extremely impressed with the maturity and enthusiasm of these students. Thank you to all of you!"



Student Absences

Please can we remind all parents and carers that they must contact school as soon as possible on the first day of their child's absence, if they are unable to attend school. Please contact school by:

Telephone: 0113 3368310

Email: info@city.leeds.sch.uk

Text: 07537401271

100% attendance to school will raise our students' achievement—good for everyone!



Lights, Camera, Action!

In conjunction with CM Media, Leeds City Council and Schools Network TV, some of our students entered the NEEC Film Competition. They had to come up with ideas for what learning could be like for children and young people in Leeds in five years' time.

We had 5 students in year 9 taking part—Ikra Ahmed, Darren Phillip, Nyla Akhtar, Abdulaziz Al-Shabibi and Ahmed Abdulghani. They had six one-hour sessions to finish their three-minute animation. They did really well and came 2nd. Well done to all of you!

It's a Family Affair!

We would like to tell you about the Howarth/Wilkes family. They all work at City of Leeds School, with each one of them having a different role.

Sheila Howarth is Student Progress Leader for Years 7 & 8, Raymond Wilkes is a Learning Mentor and teacher of dance, Simon Howarth is a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and Claire Howarth is an Exams Invigilator.

They believe that City of Leeds is a family school that has strong community links. Their work is never-ending! They organise after-school clubs, summer schools, break and lunchtime clubs, making all the children in the school feel as though they belong to the school family.

Their motto is "you learn together, you play together". At City of Leeds the students all learn together, play together and respect each other.

LEADING EDGE

YOUR NEWS, YOUR WAY

City of Leeds School

Winter Vibe

On Wednesday 14th December City of Leeds School held a winter concert called 'Winter Vibe'. The evening included items from the Year 10 Performing Arts Class who performed their version of the pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast', 'City Choir', 'The New City Dancers' and 'The Leeds Silver Sparrows'.

There was also a variety of musical performances including the traditional Chinese instrument 'Hulusi', an Iranian folk guitar solo and a rhythmic solo to a traditional Russian song using only his teeth! Students worked really hard all term to prepare for the concert which was a huge success and greatly enjoyed by all who attended.



Northern Ballet Performance

On Thursday 19th January, 20 students from year 9 attended the new Northern Ballet building to watch a performance. This will be followed up with a dance workshop in school, led by Northern ballet, on Friday 10th February, where they will work with students from years 9 and 10.



Dear Parents and Carers,

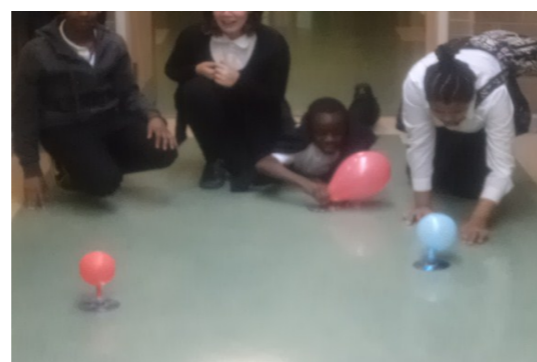
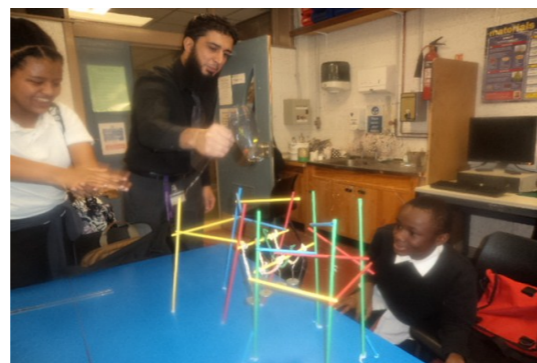
In January we had a full OFSTED inspection; you can read the full report from February 20th on our website. In the meantime, I have included our press release with this newsletter.

Thank you

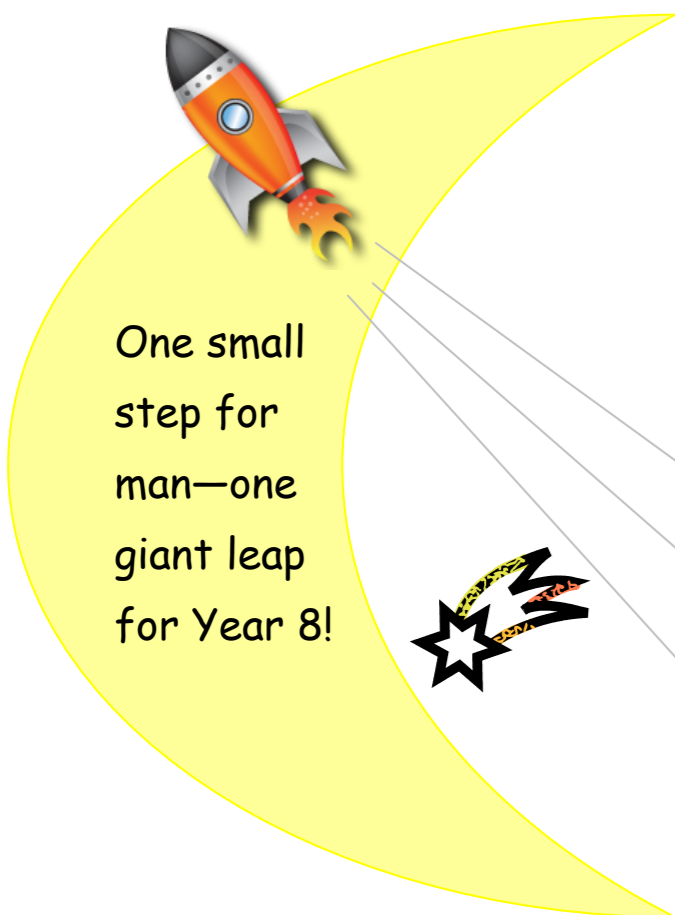
Georgiana Sale, Headteacher

Bright Sparks

The Bright Sparks STEM club has had a very exciting and successful first term. We have been meeting every Thursday from 3-4pm in B42 and have enjoyed a whole range of activities to do with Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Pupils have enjoyed practising their forensic skills, investigating how to make fake blood, learning about space and using telescopes, circus skills and making rockets. Competitions have included making model hover craft, constructing rubber band race cars and building bridges competitions.



The New Year is looking even more exciting with robotics, paper airplane design and soda rockets as well as competitions. Open to Key Stage 3—so come along and see for yourself. Everyone welcome!



One small step for man—one giant leap for Year 8!

Year 8 pupils were extremely lucky to be able to see rocks brought back from the moon by NASA and to touch and hold meteorites, rocks landed on Earth from space. This was all thanks to Dr. Sohan, a space scientist, who came in to talk to Year 8 about how the solar system was formed and about the history of space travel. After the talk, pupils were allowed to touch and hold the meteorites and get a closer look at the rock samples from the moon.

The pupils really enjoyed it and were excited to be able to touch the samples, bringing to life what they had learnt about in the space topic they have recently studied.

Congratulations to.....

Parents and carers of Ikhlq Shafiq (Year 9) and Aminata Samasa (Year 10). Each family won a family ticket for the West Yorkshire Playhouse, to see either Annie or Jack and the Beanstalk, each worth around £100!

All the names of those parents and carers who returned their Parent Communication slips were put into a prize draw.

We really hope you all had a fantastic time at the theatre!



Who works in a place like this?



Hello everyone

My name is Adam Byfield and I am the Data Manager here at City of Leeds School. My main job is to make sure that our SIMS database runs properly. This is important because we use SIMS for everything from registers and timetables to students' subject grades and reports. I also produce lots of statistics to show what our students are like and how well they are doing.

I have worked at City for just over one year and before I came here I worked as a manager for Leeds City Council, helping to support asylum seekers. I am also the UNISON Shop Steward for the school and used to be Chair of Amnesty International in Leeds.

I have a master's degree in Physics and Astrophysics but I am a writer by trade. In my spare time I work as a freelance journalist and have had a couple of paperbacks of my fiction published too. One day I would like to write full time but in the meantime I have found that the staff and students at City of Leeds make it a lovely place to work.

ZUMBA!!

There is a new Zumba class taking place each Wednesday at City of Leeds School between 6.45pm—7.40pm. If you want to get fit and have a great time doing so, just check this class out!!

The cost is: £5.00 for a drop in session, with concessions for students at £4.00 (on production of photographic ID). You can also obtain more lessons with a class pass: 10 for £45 or 20 for £80.

Zumba, Zumba, Zumba!



Cricket News

One of our year 11 students, Havar Munir, has been asked to train with the under-17 Yorkshire cricket team, which is fantastic news. Well done Havar!

City of Leeds School is also trying to create teams for under-11s with the local primary schools. Hopefully there will be an under-15 team too, if we can generate enough interest.

