

the voice

OF SILVERDALE SCHOOL

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Talent to succeed

Our students draw on their skills

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Exam results beat the record



I AM pleased to confirm that this year's examination results improved at every Key Stage. In fact, this is our best year ever. More than 85 per cent of our pupils achieved Key Stage 3 SATs results in English, Maths and Science at Level 5 and above in all three core subjects.

Average A level points scores, and the number of A and B grades achieved at A level, also improved. Five students have gained prestigious Oxbridge places and the majority of Silverdale students were able to attend the university and course of their choice. We wish them all well in their future careers.

Most pleasing of all were the GCSE results, with 84.7 per cent of pupils achieving at least five A-C grades and 99 per cent of pupils gaining at least one A-G grade.

Well done to Ellie Price, who achieved one of the top five marks in the country in GCSE German, but also to all our students and staff who have worked hard to achieve their best.

Top marks: Pupils achieved the best ever Key Stage results.

Support for our school



Parent-friendly: Our supporters take an active part in school life.

FRIENDS of Silverdale School (FOSS) evolved from the Silverdale Parent Teachers Association. The primary aim of the organisation is to raise funds for the benefit of Silverdale School, while events such as quiz nights and car boot sales provide an opportunity for parents to socialise and be involved in their children's school.

Money has been raised for projects such as the creation of a Sixth Form common room, refurbishment of the reception foyer and offices, and a Food Technology room and the re-decoration of the main hall. For many of these projects FOSS contributed half the monies, which were matched by the LEA. Future funds may go towards an extension of the multi-gym.

Kiran Barn, the Secretary of FOSS, said: "I will be taking over the position of Chair from Debbie Davison, who is standing down, as is the current Treasurer, Martin Kelly. We will, therefore, be seeking to appoint a new Secretary and Treasurer."

Race to raise money – and awareness

THE tenth annual Race for Life took place in May, with 15 intrepid members of staff from Silverdale joining the 4,500 women who were running or walking the 5km circuit around the streets of Attercliffe.

The team were spurred on to raise a total of £800 towards research into cancers affecting women.

Gillian Scaife

Fundraisers: Teachers Rebecca France, Gillian Scaife, Diana Corker, Colleen Furness, Kathy Grieve, Linda Drury and Chrissie Garnock-Jones.



Disposed to charity

AFTER several attempts to find a reliable source to dispose of empty toners and ink cartridges in an environmentally friendly way, we contacted Cartridge Revival, who both remove all our empties - and pay us for the privilege. Staff and pupils are encouraged to bring their empties from home as well. All monies raised go to charity, and this year pupils in Year 9 have chosen a local children's charity, Safe@last. If you think you can fill your own box, why not contact Cartridge Revival on 07984 120078.

David Miles

Building on our strengths

THE school's Managers and Governors are working closely with the Local Education Authority on the thorough refurbishment of the school buildings, including the provision of additional accommodation. This work is at an early stage, and we cannot expect to have our "new Silverdale" before 2008. In the meantime, we

will continue to improve our current facilities. This summer, we refurbished the boys' and girls' toilets, and provided new accommodation for the caretakers, whose present home will be converted into a new medical room and Sixth Form office.

Richard Exton

our primary links make the grade

Silverdale speaks your language

AS part of the national initiative to improve language learning in schools, Sheffield LEA has appointed three Advanced Skills Teachers to introduce French to primary school pupils. Silverdale's Ann Evans, who is working at

St Ann's School in Stocksbridge once a week teaching Years 4 and 5 using techniques and resources such as puppets, songs and games, said: "C'est une bonne idée, n'est-ce pas?". Year 7 pupils at Silverdale are also benefiting from the initiative.



New horizons: Elliott Roberts, from St Wilfrid's Primary School, with Silverdale student Chris Hampton, Year 12.



Blowing bubbles: Matthew Muggleton and Jake Liver from Ecclesall Junior School.

Tried and tested

AS part of our induction programme, the Science department at Silverdale has, for several years, been involved in the Bubbles Project. This has resulted in Year 6 pupils from our feeder primary schools visiting Silverdale in the summer term for

hands-on practical activities. It is an opportunity for them to extend their investigatory skills and experience working in a laboratory, in what pupils and the staff have found to be a rewarding and stimulating day.

Jane Armstrong

On course for Summer School

SUMMER School at Silverdale continues to go from strength to strength. We offer a variety of stimulating experiences, which are all intended to ease any potential transition difficulties. A series of exciting activities provide the basis for literacy and confidence-building exercises. These include a visit to Chester Zoo, the Mac Gruesome Bannockburn Battle Special, the Paul Dungworth drama school and Paul Bradshaw's Sheffield Wednesday revival day.

Paul Kent

Maths lessons add to the equation

TO further ease the transfer from primary to secondary school, Maths teacher Susan Bower, accompanied by Jane Harrison and Philip Christopher, visited Dobcroft, Springfield and Ecclesall primary schools during the summer term. The idea was to introduce themselves and give a lesson to the new Year 6 pupils coming into Year 7, many of whom already have brothers and sisters studying at Silverdale.

Where are they now?

Batting for Silverdale

THE school's all-conquering Year XI cricket team were thrilled to be presented with the Sheffield School's Trophy by former student Michael Vaughan. Michael faced a barrage of questions and deliveries during an exhilarating assembly. Liam Brooke, the Year 11 captain, impressed the England captain with some elegant stroke play.

Paul Kent

Back to school: Former student Michael Vaughan returned to Silverdale.



Curtain up on the pe

At Silverdale School, we believe that performance plays a big part in boosting
Performance encourages teamwork and collaboration, skills that are essential



What a gas: Sam Barnsley as the mad dentist Orin Scrivello.



Silverdale pupils form a chorus of disapproval.



Feed me: Pupils get their teeth into the school's annual production, *Little Shop of Horrors*.

performing arts

the self-confidence and self-esteem of our pupils. in order to be successful in the modern world.

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

IN the past year, we have developed a number of exciting opportunities for pupils both within the school curriculum and beyond. We have been fortunate in collaborating with High Storrs, which is now a specialist Performing Arts school, to provide an AVCE (Advanced Vocational Certificate of Education) course to our Sixth Form students. Through the Excellence in Cities initiative, Gifted and Talented funding has enabled pupils to participate in projects as diverse as Mathematical juggling and African drumming.

We have maintained our excellent dramatic tradition of an annual school production which, this year, was *Little Shop of Horrors*. Meanwhile, the whole school has enjoyed listening to pupils singing and playing instruments in assembly on a number of occasions. In addition, our Multi-Cultural Evening earlier in the year celebrated the music, literature and dance of our rich and diverse school community.

We aim to continue to develop these opportunities so that all our pupils can learn the skills of presentation and performance, hopefully growing in confidence, while enjoying the experience along the way.

MUSICAL MAESTROS

In July, the School Hall was transformed into Mushnik's skid row florist's shop for this year's musical production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. The show, which is a sublime blend of love and romance, horror, comedy and general silliness, starred pupils from Years 10 to 12, with the chorus made up of pupils from lower down the school. Brenda Duszanskyj, Head of Drama, commented: "The play demonstrates to all the lack of wisdom in feeding a plant blood and dismembered dentists!".

Meanwhile, AVCE students in the Performing Arts from Silverdale and High Storrs were given the opportunity to act, direct and stage the play *Our Country's Good*, by Timberlake Wertenbaker, in their first joint dramatic performance at the newly opened Performing Arts Studio at High Storrs. The course aims to prepare students for work in the Arts and features Dance, Drama and Music.

Hands up if you're afraid of the dentist: Joe Aiston, as the hapless florist Seymour.



INSTRUMENTAL TO OUR FUTURE

Our pupils can also take part in a range of musical activities. Recently, a series of African drumming sessions, followed by a ten-week workshop, gave GCSE Music pupils in Years 10 and 11 both an educational and enjoyable way of preparing for their exams. The four, two-hour sessions were run by Sheffield teacher Steve Rivers, who has travelled in West Africa on several occasions. Pupils were able to gain hands-on experience of a variety of instruments as well as a valuable insight into a different culture. The opportunity was also extended to pupils in Years 7 and 8 through the Gifted and Talented programme.

SHAKESPEARE'S SHREW

Our pupils are also given every opportunity to experience live drama. The annual trip to Stratford by the Drama and English departments is often both entertaining and informative. This year's pilgrimage provided an object-lesson in how to deal with troublesome wives! Fifty-five pupils from Years 10 and 12 spent an afternoon taking in the sights of Shakespeare's home town, and an evening watching one of the Bard's earlier comedies, *The Taming of the Shrew*.



Gifted musicians: Rachael McIntosh and Sally Freeman, Year 9.

Key to success

OUR Music department is set to flourish with the appointment of Andrew Clarke, our new Head of Music, who has joined us this term. Andrew graduated from the London College of Music in 1987 and went on to take his teaching diploma at Kingston University. Since then, he has taught at schools in London and the South East, most recently New Romney in Kent. Andrew said: "I was delighted when Helen Storey offered me the post at Silverdale and I am looking forward to making a real contribution to the musical life and success of the school."

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

The Performing Arts can, of course, stimulate interest in other academic subjects. An example of this is Mathematical juggling, whereby the juggler Colin Wright has devised a way of describing his skills mathematically. He spent a day off-timetable with 60 Year 8 and 9 pupils from Silverdale, Stocksbridge and Chaucer Schools, who were able to design trials and watch Colin perform them.

Mathematical whiz kids: David Wittleston, Joe Cox and Nicola Kilner, Year 10, juggle the figures.





A choice of career

CONNEXIONS is a service for young people, aged 13-19, which aims to offer the practical support and advice they need to get the best start in life. Silverdale's personal advisers, Nigel Madin and Helen Elmore, offer advice and guidance as well as information about careers, education, work, training, voluntary opportunities and the support available from other agencies. We do this through individual interviews, group sessions, informal drop-in sessions, parents' evenings and by supporting the careers library. You can contact us on 201 2809 or via helen.elmore@sheffieldfutures.org.uk

Doctor, lawyer or architect? Alex Wright, Joe Keighley and Alex Birkenshaw, Year 9.

It's the real thing

A VISIT to the Coca-Cola factory in Wakefield provided a group of 20 Year 11 GCSE pupils with a rare opportunity to gain first-hand experience of computer-aided manufacture and mass production. They were given an introductory talk and then toured the factory. It was fascinating to see how few people are actually involved in producing such large quantities of canned and bottled drinks.

Meanwhile, pupils in Year 10 visited Cadbury World at Bournville in Sheffield as part of their GCSE Business Studies. The 45 pupils had the opportunity to browse around the museum and to put forward their ideas and answer questions during a seminar given by a member of the marketing department at Cadbury. Afterwards, they toured the factory and watch the chocolate bars being made and packaged. The trip enabled pupils to learn about the history of the company and how it has grown from being a small family-run shop to a large multi-national corporation.

Pat Deans



All abroad for work experience

PUPILS in Year 10 had the opportunity of doing their work experience in Sheffield's twin town of Bochum in Germany. They worked in hotels, kindergartens and offices as well as enjoying a range of activities both as a group and with their host German families. Organised by

WEBS, this was our first opportunity to take part in a scheme which has been of benefit to a number of Sheffield secondary schools. We look forward to reading about their experiences in the next issue of *the voice*.

Gill Dawson

Jobs - for the boys and girls



Every July, pupils in Year 10 look forward to their two-week work experience placement.

THIS year, more than 180 pupils in year 10 gained a valuable insight into a variety of careers, including retail, nurseries, engineering design and manufacturing. Most of the placements were in Sheffield, provided by Business Education South Yorkshire, although some pupils found jobs themselves and worked in Preston, Nottingham,

Manchester and London. As always, the local business community is very supportive, although parents can also help to locate specialised placements.

Jim Fulton, a local electrical contractor, said: "I think the scheme is an important transition between school and work."

Barry Page

Nutritional supplement

THE Taste of Success Food Award Scheme has been set up by the Food Technology department to reward pupils who do particularly good work. Pupils work on design briefs which are set by Sainsburys and DATA (the Design and Technology Association), producing original food products influenced by foreign cultures. As a result, 20 Year 9 pupils recently received the highest accolade, the gold award. The scheme is being extended to include all Key Stage 3 pupils, with Year 7 working towards bronze awards and Year 8 working towards silver.

Pat Deans

Drawing on the environment

DURING the summer term, Year 12 AS Art and Design students from both Silverdale and King Edward VI School were engaged in a joint Art project, funded by Beacon. The project was based on the Sheffield environment and students were encouraged to experiment with combinations of unusual materials. The private view of the resulting exhibition, *In the City*, at the S10 Gallery was attended by the Mayor of Sheffield, the Master Cutler, students and their parents.

Craig Longmuir

Art on display: Alex Mitchell, Joanna Singleton and Anna Coulthard, Year 12.



Gold standard

ALL Sixth Form students at Silverdale are given the opportunity to work towards their Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award. This involves a range of activities such as community service, developing a skill, participating in a physical activity, going on a residential and – the highlight – taking part in an expedition. This year, 23 students embarked on a training week at Thornbridge which included a trial expedition covering a distance of 30 miles around the Dark Peak. They are now preparing for their qualifying expedition in the Yorkshire Dales.

John Hamshaw



At the cutting edge

LAST term, Year 8 Design and Technology pupils entered a Computer Aided Design/ Computer Aided Manufacture (CAD/CAM) citywide competition. This involved making projects using cutting edge software such as ArtCAM and ProDesktop. Louis Koroma and Matthew Tuck presented their designs to a panel of judges at the Engineers Employers Federation and gave a very interesting talk on the making of their bag tag, which included casting with pewter. Simon Davis, Alec Thapa, Alissa Bailey and Holly Smith also presented their chocolate designs, which were inspired by ideas from the environment. Although they did not win, all agreed that the experience had been extremely valuable.

Graham Parkes



Designs on the latest technology: Hannah Jacobs.

Full of Eastern promise

GIFTED and Talented pupils in Year 9 recently took part in a two-day workshop with our artist-in-residence, Andy Heath. Incorporating the themes of Japan, gardens and water, they used a range of brightly coloured paints to create a variety of beautiful designs on four

bamboo screens. These were exhibited at Arabesque1 at the Workstation in Sheffield, together with work from other schools, as part of the Sheffield Children's Festival. They will be returned to school for everyone to admire.

Betty Bartrim



On the road to victory

CYCLIST Tim Rowson, who has represented Great Britain in Holland in a mini Tour de France, returned to the Netherlands during the summer holidays to represent Britain in team and individual events. Year 7 pupil Tim joined a team of 20 other Under 12 cyclists competing against a number of European countries. Tim, whose best events are cycle-cross and road racing, said: "I'm looking forward to riding in the World Championships in Belgium in December."

Helen Storey

Fast track to success:
Tim Rowson, Year 7.

Awards for athletic ability



City Champions: Natalie Bryan, Elize Roberts, Rosie Hamer and Emily Goodband.

THE City Athletics Finals took place in July at Don Valley Stadium. A total of 23 boys and girls competed against pupils from 25 other secondary schools. The following achieved a credible third place: Joe Hall in the 400m, Amy Webster and Rosie Hamer in the high jump,

Claire Fitzpatrick in the 800m, Emily Goodband in the 200m and 100m and Joe Woodcock in the 100m. The Year 7 relay team of Elize Roberts, Natalie Bryan, Rosie Hamer and Emily Goodband were pronounced City Champions.

Barbara Davidson

Brains and brawn

The PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) Activity Days for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 were a resounding success. A wide range of activities engaged their minds and bodies, with the aim of promoting co-operation and teamwork.

Year 7 visited the new "Ice Sheffield" and received coaching in skating skills. Meanwhile, Year 8 went to the Earth Centre at Conisbrough and enjoyed

workshops on solar power, ecosystems and recycling as well as participating in a Team Challenge that involved climbing with ropes and abseiling.

The Year 9 Rewards Day was held at Demon Wheelers. Working in teams of ten, the pupils were involved in quad-biking, chariot racing and table football.

Sue Scott

Aid to achievement



On the ball: Ricardo da Costa Brochado learns to play Tag-Rugby.

SINCE last September, the Deaf Unit children have been involved in many extra-curricular activities, thanks to the vision of, and funding provided by, "Within Reach Active Ability Project" and All Saints Sports College. These professional-led activities include Dance and Drama, Art,

Football, Tag-Rugby, Basketball and Golf. As a result, all the children have gained new skills and increased confidence. They have also taken part in a Performing Arts festival at Norfolk Park, "Chance to Dance" in the town centre and a Basketball tournament.

Mary Hearnshaw

A couple of Joes



TWO Silverdale footballers, Joe

Clatworthy in Year 13 and Joe Wood in Year 9, have both completed successful seasons representing South Yorkshire Schools Under 19s and Sheffield United's Under 15 Academy team, respectively. Joe Clatworthy will continue to play football at university, while Joe Wood will be staying with the Blades.

Joe Wood was also a smash in La Manga, Spain, where he came third in a prestigious tennis tournament during the summer. Joe was selected to take part in this elite event as one of England's top six-rated boys in the Under 15 age group.

Paul Bradshaw

Tennis ace: Joe Wood, Year 9.