



# M C Schools' Partnership

## Mossley and Carrbrook Schools' Partnership 2018-19

Welcome to the Annual Mossley and Carrbrook Partnership Newsletter.

It is with tremendous pride and pleasure that I introduce the 2019 Edition of our Partnership Newsletter.

As you know, six partner primary schools and one secondary school from Mossley and Carrbrook (please see the logos above for the list of all schools) collaborate to bring education to the front-and-centre of life in our wonderful town and village.

In this edition, you will see a flavour of the learning, wider curriculum and enrichment activities our students and staff undertake beyond the classroom. We believe that our schools are strong and are even stronger when we work together in the service of the local community and for the purposes of learning. The newsletter does not report on the myriad staff training, teaching collaboration, curriculum development and leadership activity undertaken across the schools to ensure that the very best of what is done is shared and improved.

I would like to thank the governors, headteachers, deputies, teachers, support staff and pupils in all our partnership schools for a wonderful year. My thanks, especially, go to our MCSP Partnerships' Manager, Mrs Desirae Webster, for her immense enthusiasm and organisational talent which make possible so much of what you are about to read.

Drew Duncan  
Executive Headteacher  
Mossley Hollins High School & Droylsden Academy  
Chair of the MCSP.

## MCSP Día Español

On Monday 24th September, Mossley Hollins hosted a group of Year 3 students from four of our primary schools from the Mossley & Carrbrook Schools Partnership.



Pupils learned to sing, give their opinions and talk about food in Spanish, and they learned about some

Hispanic festivals and traditions. Towards the end of the day, students had the opportunity to taste some Spanish tapas; the chorizo being especially popular! The MFL Faculty would like to thank the student helpers from Year 9 for their excellent leadership skills and our primary school partners for their participation in the event. The support from our partnership schools in raising the profile of Spanish is very much appreciated.



We are pleased to share the following comments from our visitors.

Sessions were lovely, well thought out and age appropriate. (St George's)

Students really enjoyed the activities they did and it was a great morning. Activities were well pitched and engaging. (Livingstone)

Children were able to carry out a range of activities. All activities were interactive and all children were able to access them. (Micklehurst)

## Inter School Quizzes

November saw the first MCSP Inter-school Quiz take place. Five Year 6 teams from our partnership primaries faced General Knowledge questions alongside a Year 7 team from Mossley Hollins. The teams answered a number of tricky questions set by



Mrs Godrich, the Librarian and Literacy Adviser. The students were very enthusiastic and knowledgeable. There was also a 'Test the Teacher' round where the staff members of each school had to answer a number of popular culture questions. This round was met with slightly less enthusiasm from the teachers but they all stepped up to the mark admirably. There was tiebreak situation between Mossley Hollins and Livingstone. After a question about the cost of a space toilet on the International Space Station, Livingstone emerged the victors. However, it wasn't all bad news for Mossley Hollins as Mr Frost was selected 'Top Teacher'.



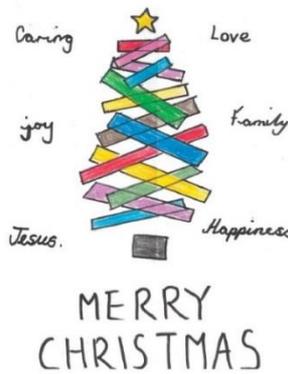
Above: Livingstone taking home the Inter-School Quiz Challenge Cup.

12<sup>th</sup> March saw the second MCSP Inter-school Quiz take place. Five Year 6 teams from our partnership primaries faced a series of difficult Harry Potter questions alongside a Year 7 team from Mossley Hollins. The teams answered a number of tricky questions set by Mrs Godrich, the Librarian and Literacy Adviser. The students were very enthusiastic and their knowledge of Harry Potter was incredible. The quiz was tightly fought with only three marks between the first and last place. There was a tiebreak situation between St. Joseph's and Livingstone, who both got 15 marks out of 16. After a question about the number times the word Voldemort appeared in all seven books, St. Josephs emerged victorious. They take back to school the Inter-School Quiz Challenge Cup. They enjoyed some refreshments before they headed off back to school. Micklehurst brought a number of Harry Potter related mascots including a Sorting Hat, a Hufflepuff cloak and a crystal ball.

Can you answer the NEWT Questions?

1. Who was the professor of History of Magic?
2. Which football team does Dean Thomas support?
3. What is Percy Weasley's middle name?
4. Hermione formed the society S.P.E.W. What does S.P.E.W stand for?
5. What is Dolores Umbridge's job before becoming a Hogwarts professor?

### Christmas Card Competition



This year all of the MCSP Primary School's held a Christmas card competition and selected two designs, which were then entered into the MCSP competition. The designs were lovely and colourful, the images varied from snowmen to modern day images of Jesus in the manger, which made selecting the winner a difficult challenge! The winning design was used by all the MCSP schools to send their Christmas wishes. Thank you to everyone who took part and congratulations to the winner Amber Earls – St George's CE Primary School.

### Christmas Musical Evening



On 10<sup>th</sup> December, we held our annual Christmas Musical Evening in school featuring the musical talents of almost 200 of our young people, both from Mossley Hollins and from our partnership primary schools of Milton St Johns, Micklehurst All Saints, and Livingstone. The whole evening was wonderful, and reminded me



just what an important part of the curriculum these opportunities are, and how much they add to the student experience in school.

The concentration levels displayed by the performers on Monday, the flair and mastery which the soloists showed and the joy with which they all expressed



themselves was breath taking and we should be very proud to have such a thriving musical tradition in our school and its partnership.

Thank you also to our Primary partners for their incredible support of our music programmes.

Finally, and most importantly, thank you to our wonderful young musicians for a superb concert once again.

## MCSP Debating Society

Thursday, 29th November marked the first ever Primary School debate with the Mossley and Carrbrook Schools' Partnership and debate club members from Mossley Hollins. Five schools from across the partnership prepared teams of four students to debate



the topic 'This house believes that video games have a negative impact on young people'.

Students came very well prepared, and

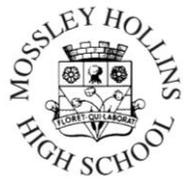
were ably supported by MHHS debate club leaders in years 9 to 11, who assisted in preparing students to argue against other teams. As this was our first event, students spent some time debating simultaneously. However, it was quickly evident that a public debate

could be held at the end! It was so impressive to see students formally yet passionately debating the topic, with excellent use of their research to support their points.

The crowning glory however was taken by St Joseph's School who prepared thoroughly and debated both for and against ferociously.



Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March brought the second Mossley Hollins and Carrbrook Schools Partnership Debate Society competition. This terms debate was on 'This house believes that all single use plastic should be banned' with three teams arguing in support and three teams arguing against. The format of the debate was significantly changed this time, with a formal public debate being staged to staff, parents and carers in the Arts Theatre at Mossley Hollins. This time, Miss Osbourne Head of KS3 English joined us to help judge the debate. As with our previous debate the judges were especially impressed with the amount of preparation and research undertaken by the primary school students. After a slightly reserved start it was fantastic to see students use their persuasive abilities, extensive research and evidence to argue their opinion. After three exciting debates, and some very close competitions the winners were announced as Livingstone, Milton St Johns and Micklehurst. Well done to all teams participating in the event, we look forward to the next debate in the summer term and seeing your oracy skills developing even further. Thank



you to all staff for preparing them and accompanying them to the event, and to Miss Osbourne for supporting with the judging.

## MCSP Maths Battles

Were held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2019



Above – Milton St Johns' Winning Team at work

## MCSP Careers' Event

The first MCSP Careers Fair took place on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> February when 150 year 6 pupils from across our partnership joined our year 8 students for a morning of aspirational workshops and careers information events. We were thrilled to welcome visitors from many professional fields including health and public services, private industry, property development, travel and tourism and law. We even met sports promoters and were delighted to have the Rugby League world cup with us for the day!



We are confident that this event will help our young people across the partnership to think about life and careers, and the world of work beyond school.

Local, national and global representatives attended from many different organisations as well as 'Live and Learn', who led sessions on aspiration, resilience and drive. Students received advice and career guidance



Representatives including: Virgin Atlantic, the Police, a Priest, a Solicitor, a Midwife, the Fire service and Hits' Radio led sessions at the Career Fair to help our students at Primary and Secondary to start to begin to think about their future education and potential careers.

from employer representatives and our students had opportunities to ask a wide range of questions.

## MCSP Science Exhibition

On Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March Mossley Hollins was proud to host the MCSP Science exhibition celebrating the winners of the "Plastics in the Environment" competition.



The competition was open to all students at our MCSP partner primary schools as well as Year 7 at Mossley Hollins. The challenge was to

design and make a product that would highlight the problem of plastic in the environment and reinforce the reduce-reuse-recycle message.



Each school awarded a first, second and third prize and these were all on display at the celebration. Students, parents, teachers and invited special guests all enjoyed looking at the exhibits and talking to the pupils about their ideas and entries. The judges were bowled over



by the quality of the products that the pupils had made and commented on the creativity, imagination and skills these young people possess.

## The Big Sing

Took place on the 14<sup>th</sup> March with over a 180 students in attendance from six MCSP schools. All participants started the afternoon with a warm up followed by each school performing. Finally, everyone sang together in a mass performance at the end of the afternoon.



The programme featured songs from shows including

The Greatest Showman and other songs from the popular music repertoire. This event is now established as part of the programme that the music department offers every year.

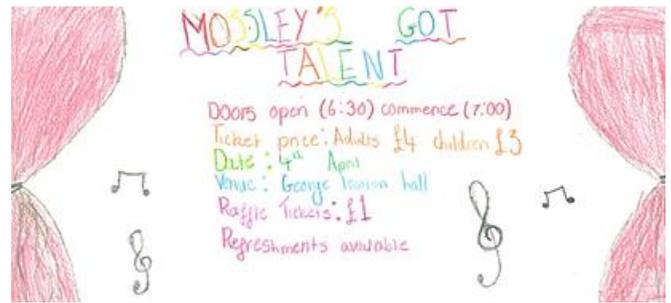


Thanks must go to Caroline Radcliffe, Luke Mather, Rachael Booth and all the staff that have worked in the primary schools with all the performers. What a great example of how true collaboration can work at its best between schools from the primary and secondary sectors.

## MCSP Talent Show 2019

The MCSP Student Council ran a ticket design competition, amongst our partner primary schools, for the MCSP Talent Show on 4<sup>th</sup> April. Many strong, colourful entries made the choice a difficult one. These are the winning designs. Congratulations to:

**Winner Freya Atkinson – Livingstone**



**Runner Up Tymeck Hartung - Livingstone**



**Runner Up Amber Earls – St Georges**



On Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> April at the George Lawton Hall, Mossley, a capacity audience were treated to an evening of entertainment from local young performers. Pupils from St. George's, Livingstone, Buckton Vale, Micklehurst All Saints, Milton St. Johns, St Joseph's Primary schools and Mossley Hollins High school all performed.





The audience were treated to vocal performances, choirs, dancing groups, dancers, instrumental performances and comedy acts in a programme of great variety. All the finalists representing each school had battled their way through preliminary auditions held at their own primary schools.

Last Year's winner Ellie provided an impressive vocal performance before the programme started, and four judges gave feedback immediately after each act before retiring after the last act to consider the final result.

Deciding on the final result was really difficult, but eventually the results were announced. Buckton Vale's dance group 'Just Dance' comprising of Maisie, Alice, Erin and Ruby, were awarded third place tied with Ryan from Mossley Hollins who danced to 'Tomorrow We Fight' by Tommee Profitt.

Tied in second place was Taylah from Micklehurst All Saints who sang 'Shallow' from A Star is Born alongside Tilly from Mossley Hollins who sang 'Before He Cheats' by Carrie Underwood from the musical Pitch Perfect.



This year's winner was Brodie (Year 8), from MHHS, who gave a fabulous tap dance performance to 'King of New York' from the musical Newsies.

Once again the evening was a testament to the amount of talented youngsters that we have in our local schools and also to the great performing arts work that is a regular feature in our schools.

We are already looking forward to the 2020 show!

### Higher Order Thinking Mathematics

Throughout the school year groups of up to five pupils have attended the HOT Mathematics weekly lesson from our MCS partners in order to attain a greater depth of understanding and skill in maths.

The course has allowed the pupils to sample various areas of maths all the way up to GCSE standard. We have taken all the greater depth objectives for Year 6 and linked them to KS3/4 questions and problems.

They have been shown UKMT problems - part of a challenge given to the most able Year 7 and 8 pupils, and competed in groups in the UKMT Primary Maths Challenge. We also invited members of the group in for the first MCSP Maths Battle to showcase their skills. All of the pupils involved have shown a high level of enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. It has been a great pleasure to see active minds grasp new areas of maths and then use new skills to solve mathematical problems.

### Maths Times Table Challenge

The annual MCSP Times table challenge was recently held at Mossley Hollins High School. As well as being one of our best attended event, with 175 pupils representing the 6 schools, it was also the first time our year 4 pupils had competed in the head to head style competition. St Joseph's were victorious this year, taking both first and second prize. Well done to all those who took part, it was a very successful and enjoyable event.

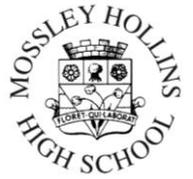
### JASS Award



As part of our Mossley Carrbrook Partnership, Milton St Johns, Buckton Vale, Livingstone and St Joseph's Primary Schools are

now running The Junior Award Scheme for Schools, (JASS) Bronze Award. It is an accredited award for young people and recognises wider achievements. Mossley Hollins High School now run the Silver and Gold Awards, which can then lead into the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The great thing is the JASS award can be personalised to individual strengths as well as offering opportunities to enhance experiences.



	My Interests	Get Active, Stay Active	Me and My World	Adventure
<b>Bronze</b>	8 hours over a school term	8 hours over a school term	8 hours over a school term	4 hours
<b>Silver</b>	12 hours over a school term	12 hours over a school term	12 hours over a school term	5 hours
<b>Gold</b>	18 hours over two school terms	18 hours over two school terms	18 hours over two school terms	8 hours

Finally our school band performed demonstrating the commitment and resilience that our musicians continue to play with, up until they leave in year 11. It was also great to have some of our year 11 players back in school performing on the evening. We also heard from an advanced brass quartet, as a small ensemble, who played at an advanced level. As ever this was a great event with high quality performances.



### Summer Brass Band Event



This event took place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July. It was a lovely opportunity for the audience to see how our students make remarkable progress using our brass tuition programme here at Mossley Hollins. The first step on this journey is the tuition that the young people in our primary schools receive. This work marked by an exciting collaboration, which saw 70 brass musicians from our local primary schools playing together at the event as a massed band. The next group to perform was a more advanced primary aged group that have been learning for more than one year. We then moved on to the Mossley Hollins Year 7 band. As the group performed together, it was apparent just how much they have achieved in their first year with us.

### Micro:bit Primary School Visits



During June and July, Mr Chalmers has visited the 6 schools in the MCSP Partnership to

introduce the BCC Micro:bit (a tiny digital device designed to inspire the next generation of programmers). Students were introduced to the wonderful world of the Micro:bit and were able to write their own code to be used on the Micro:bit.

Mr Chalmers also shared teaching and learning resources so that students can continue to develop their programming skills. We look forward to see what the students create.





## Spelling Bee

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July, we welcomed participants from our MCSP primary schools to take part in the annual Spelling Bee. Each school brought eight students, two from each year group in Years 3-6 to battle it out for the accolade of being the best speller in their year group. The Year 3 students competed first and set a very high standard; they were followed by students from Year 4 who showed off their skills; Year 5 were not to be out-shone and showed excellent knowledge of such challenging vocabulary and our Spelling Bee finished on a high with the Year 6 students battling it out round after round. The competition was intense! The students had worked hard with their teachers practising their key spellings. The champions demonstrated an exceptionally high standard, spelling words above their key stage. I would like to thank our primary colleagues for their hard work in preparing the students.

I was ably assisted on the morning by our MCSP prefects, Sam and Sophie, and year 7 helpers: Sam, Chloe, Brodie, Jasmine, Joseph and Max. Thank you for your help and for being such fantastic ambassadors for our school.

It was also lovely to receive the following feedback from Buckton Vale:

*Thank you for organising and running the Spelling Bee this morning. Even with a few nerves at the start, our children had a wonderful time. We were so proud of them and all of the other children from the other schools for their excellent behaviour, team encouragement and amazing spelling skills. The standard was very high! It was also lovely to have Mossley Hollins students join us and help with the organisation of the event.*

## Primary Olympics



On Wednesday afternoon – 10<sup>th</sup> July, the MHHS PE department hosted the annual MCSP Primary School Olympics. This is an event where our partner primary schools in the MCSP partnership come together to compete in the biggest sporting event in the calendar. The pupils compete in a number of events including the turbo javelin, relay races, long jump and races including the 50m sprint, egg and spoon, sack race and skipping race.

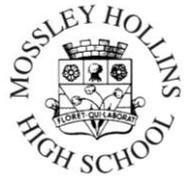


Students from all six schools; Livingstone, St Georges, St Josephs, Micklehurst, Buckton Vale and Milton St Johns were represented in the different events.

There were competitions for the boys and girls in year 3, 4, 5 and 6. All the students performed to the highest of standards and the level of athletic ability on show is something that all competitors and schools should be very proud of. We must congratulate Milton Primary School for finishing as the overall winner; they will hold the title 'MCSP Primary Olympic Champions' for the year 2019.



There were a number of parents and family members present to support the students and this is something that always makes this event extra special. Thank you to everyone who attended.



Thank you to Mrs Dodd and the PE staff for organising and leading the event, as always, this was a huge success.



## Technology, Art and Computer Science Day

During the course of the morning of Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July, 3 of our MCSP partner primary schools, Buckton Vale, St George's and St Joseph's came to spend time in our Technology Faculty. Over 100 students took part in a range of workshops including Food and Nutrition where they made a healthy dip with dippers, Computer Science where they wrote codes for BBC micro:bits, Design Technology where they designed and made pneumatics toys and finally Art where they designed and made clay pendants. Mossley Hollins Year 9 students supported each workshop and all students have had a wonderful experience, we look forward to working together in September.

It was also lovely to receive the following feedback from St Joseph's:

*Please pass on a big thank you to the staff who were part of the technology day today. Our Y6 children had the best time and are now tucking into their healthy snacks.*

