MAY NEWSLETTER 2024



# **MOULTON SCHOOL** & SCIENCE COLLEGE

#### Headteacher's message



This term we said goodbye to Year 11 and Year 13 students as they embark on study leave and begin their final exams. Whilst sad to see them go, we look forward to celebrating their achievements on results day. Year 10 have taken part in work experience and it has been wonderful to hear about the variety of roles they have chosen. MSSC also hosted another fantastic Careers Fair which gave students a chance to engage with a range of employers and education pathways. Let's hope we all get to recharge our batteries a little before the busy summer term.

Remember to 'save the date' for our big 70th MSSC Anniversary.

#### Careers Fair

On the 30th April 2024, students in Years 9-13 attended the annual Careers and Pathways Fair. This inspiring event, organised by Mrs Savage, allowed students the opportunity to talk to representatives from a wide range of universities, colleges, and apprenticeship/training providers, as well as delegates from a variety of career sectors. These included the Police, the RAF, the NHS, accountancy, engineering, recruitment and many more. Our visitors were very complimentary about our students' attitude and interest in their futures.

We're also delighted to announce that we have retained the national Quality in Careers Standard at platinum level! The assessment report highlights the success of our program in meeting learners' needs. Special thanks to Mrs Savage and Jenny Lal for their dedication!





### Holdenby House Visits

We were delighted to be able to take two groups of Year 7 students to Holdenby House as part of our unit of work on the English Reformation and Elizabethan England. This was a fully immersive experience involving hands-on activities and role play.

Students were able to see and experience how different people lived as Tudor characters and learn about Tudor cooking, architecture, heraldry and games. Students were involved in making medicinal herb bags, creating Tudor roses and training in how to use a pike. Their battle cries were terrifying! This was a really fun visit and a wonderful way to bring our history curriculum to life.

Endangered species As part of our project investigating the great crested newts in our balancing pond, we have had ecologists visit our school for the last 2 years. As great crested newts are

endangered, a licence is required to handle, and even touch, the newts. The ecologists set up (humane) bottle traps and left them for an evening, to see if we could catch any great crested newts and verify they are still in the pond and are healthy. We managed to catch 4 great crested newts and 7 smooth newts.

As well as confirming the health and thriving population of the newts, the ecologists also brought some equipment in such as infra-red cameras and sonar equipment used to identify bats for students to have a look at. They surveyed the site to confirm the organisms living around the pond, and on the wider school site, to help us build a bigger, more detailed web of the ecosystem here at Moulton. This information not only gives us an idea of the health of the Moulton eco-system, but also feeds into our flow cytometry project which will be presented at the Royal Society in July.

# Flow Cytometry





As part of our ongoing flow cytometry club, which is run in partnership with the University

of Cambridge and funded by the Royal Society, we have been donated new equipment to help us further analyse the pond and get much more detailed information.

The University of Cambridge has donated a new flow cytometer, called a BD LSRFortessa. This is an incredibly powerful and expensive piece of equipment, costing in the hundreds of thousands of pounds when it was brand new. Our old flow cytometer had 2 lasers, whereas this one has 4 lasers which allows us to investigate the cells being passed through the machine in much higher detail.

Dr Reiner Schulte continues to visit the school and has been here twice in the last few weeks, to help install the new equipment and then train the students on how to use it. It is an incredibly complex machine and would normally be used by students doing masters degrees (and above). It is an incredibly exciting machine to have and means that MSSC students have access to exclusive research which looks amazing on their CVs. We also believe owning two flow cytometers is a claim that no other school in the UK can make! We are incredibly thankful to Dr Reiner Schulte and the University of Cambridge for their ongoing help with the project and the donation of equipment. We would also like to give a huge thanks to the Royal Society for supporting and funding our project. Well done to Mr Golsby and his team.

## Coventry University trip





On Wednesday 22nd May all of Year 12 attended a campus visit to Coventry University as part of getting ready for life beyond school. The day provided an excellent introduction into what university life might be like, including an informative campus tour.

The students were also able to experience taster sessions for different degree courses, including interactive workshops for Law and Forensic Investigations, which they really enjoyed. It was lovely

to be able to take the whole year group out and spend an interesting and informative day together.

We also said goodbye to our year 13 students who left on study leave, many after 7 years at Moulton. The last day featured a number of special events and a fancy dress competition. We wish them all the best in their future careers





## Shrek visit

On Wednesday 24th of April we took lots of our amazing school show cast to the Derngate Theatre to see a professional production of Shrek the Musical!

It was incredible to all be together again and the students did us proud all over again with their excellent manners, appreciation and enthusiasm. Let's not forget the beautiful karaoke on the coach home!

## Art competition

Congratulations to all students who took part in the KS3 Inter House Art Competition.

We had some exceptional art work produced by some outstanding students, the judging was incredibly difficult and we greatly appreciated all the students' efforts.





#### Sports News

Our U14 Boys became County rugby champions following a comprehensive 45-0 win against Bishop Stopford at Kettering rugby club. This gives them a hat trick of county successes following U13 and U12 glory and means they end the season unbeaten.

Across the year, they have continued to play great rugby and despite the difficult weather conditions, some fast handling enabled them to exploit the wide channels and utilise the pace of the Moulton backline. The boys have worked hard at training and deserve a huge amount of praise for their efforts and dedication! Moulton School Golf team became County Champions on 29 April. The team consisting of Rowen, James and Ben held off strong opposition to gain the title for the first time in recent history (possibly ever). Consequently, they will be representing The County at the prestigious Woodhall Spa Golf Club on 10th July in the English Schools Golf Championships. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and wish the team luck.

Our girls teams were successful across a wide range of sports. The U13 Indoor cricket team took part in the regional finals in Cambridge, coming a very creditable 4th. A brilliant performance!

Our girls rugby team took part in a tag rugby session at the Saints High performance centre where they had a fantastic time taking part in a masterclass from Saints/ Loughborough Lightning Pathway manager Emma Hardy. Congratulations to our Year 7, 9 and 10 Netball teams for all winning their respective leagues and playing some brilliant games. We even took a group of students to Loughborough Lightning Netball game and met star shooter Mary Nubas.

## Save the date - 7th September

MSSC will be 70 years old this year and we would like to invite our whole school community to celebrate with us. On Saturday 7th September we invite past and present students and staff to come and help us mark this special occasion.

- Tour around the site to see how our learning environment has changed
- View old photographs and memorabilia
- See student performances from past musical productions
- Light refreshments available to purchase

Keep an eye on our website in June for further information and details of how to apply for tickets.