

Aspiration Excellence Achieve



Meden News

December 2020

Message from the Headteacher

As we near the end of a busy and unconventional first term, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for your continued support of the school. The COVID19 pandemic has effected many areas of society including the way school operates day to day. Meden staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that students are safe and are able to access our full curriculum. School life has of course continued and we have seen many successes and highlights throughout these 15 weeks. Whilst it is not easy to capture everything our staff and students have achieved, I hope to give you a flavour.

Y11 have been working tirelessly this term, accessing intervention, supporting them to achieve their true and full potential. With less than 100 days left until the summer exams, students will continue to work hard with their teachers and tutors, ensuring they feel fully prepared. All Y11 and Y10 students now have access to an online platform, GCSE pod, allowing them to independently learn and revise a large number of subjects. Historically, students who access GCSE pod, significantly improve their GCSE results. Meden teachers are using this to support learning during their lessons. In the New Year, students in Years 11 and 13, will be working hard towards their GCSE and A level exams. With the support of our staff, students will be encouraged to achieve all of their ambitions, feeling motivated to succeed.

Another highlight for me was the school's contribution to Remembrance Day. 122 Poppies, created in Design & Technology by our students, represented each of the Warsop residents who sadly lost their lives in service. Complementing this, a group of year 9 students produced a stunning mural as a backdrop to the poppies and produced some excellent remembrance pebbles. This served as a fitting reminder to our students of the debt we owe to those who serve us, not only in the First and Second World Wars but also other conflicts around the globe.

In November, Y8 Students celebrated National Engineering week, exploring the contribution made by engineers towards the development of space travel. Students took part in a number of exciting activities, including the manufacture of a model of the Ariana 4 space rocket and researching amazing facts about space. It was great to see how engaged students were throughout the week, highlighting the huge potential our students have at Meden!

This year has seen the exciting return of Music back onto our curriculum. Mrs Archdale, our new music teacher, has been so impressed with the students and their musical ability. The music department has been fully renovated over the summer months, allowing students to take advantage of all the new equipment, ranging from drum kits to keyboards and a whole army of ukuleles! Students have embraced the chance to show us their musical talents and it is great to see them flourish in music lessons.

In PE, staff have worked closely with students to help develop their leadership skills, such an important area in the development of our students, beyond their academic studies. Y10 Students have been supported by the "Mansfield School Sports Partnership" to achieve a national sport leadership award. Students have been working tenaciously to become the best leaders they can be, encouraged by our PE staff, becoming more confident, outgoing individuals.

Finally thank you to all parents and carers who continue to work in partnership with the school; I am looking forward to developing these relationships throughout next term.

All of us at Meden wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Mr Jim Smith



01623 843517



office@medenschool.co.uk



www.medenschool.co.uk



@MedenSchool

Focus on Year 11

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS



gcsepod
education on demand

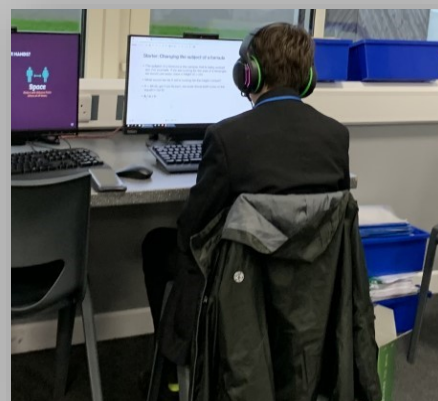
Meden School has invested in the award winning resource, GCSEPod for all our Year 10 & 11 students. Join the thousands of parents encouraging their child to use GCSEPod to support their learning, homework & revision. Help them to reach their goals!

- ✓ Proven to increase results
- ✓ Available online and offline
- ✓ Use on the go, anytime, anywhere
- ✓ 28+ exam mapped subjects
- ✓ Audio visual content
- ✓ Builds confidence

For more information please contact Miss Hickinbotham

My Tutor

Meden is working with a company called, 'MyTutor' with Year 11 students. MyTutor matches students with a kind and friendly tutor who is studying at a top university somewhere in the UK. The tutors are talented, bright, and have recently sat their GCSEs and A Levels, so they understand how stressful exams can be. Lessons take place online in an, 'interactive lesson space', where our students are able to see, hear and chat with the tutors. These tutors are helping our students develop their skills and knowledge in maths, English and science. Evidence shows that, with regular attendance, MyTutor lessons can help students gain confidence in their subject and improve by 1 whole grade, after just 10 weeks. The students who have taken part so far have really enjoyed the experience and feel that the one to one support is really helping them to deepen their knowledge or understand things that they were not confident with before. The willingness of our students to engage with this has been exemplary. They have shown courage and determination and are committed to being the very best they can be.



Here are some of the fantastic comments that the tutors have made about Meden students:

'...she became more confident with expressing her thoughts that she may have felt were incorrect as the lesson went on...'

'The student did very well! She tried very hard, and was able to draw dot cross diagrams for ionic and covalent bonding (including double bonds for oxygen).'

'The student did amazing today. She kept up with the fast pace of the session and was engaged as always.'

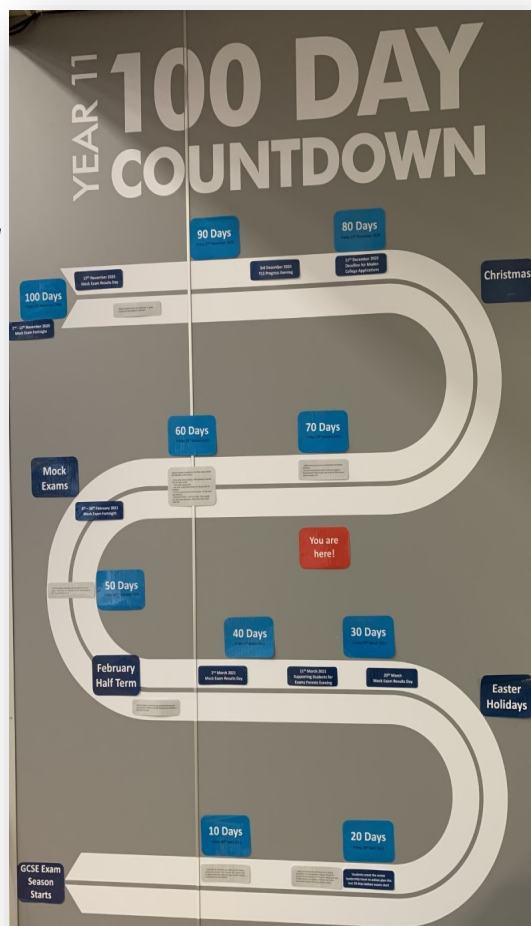
'The student was excellent at focusing throughout. He was great at spotting his own mistakes to arrive at correct answers. He was also great at his mental arithmetic and simplifying his answers.'

'The student was excellent today. She was able to identify some really nuanced points in the poem which was impressive.'

'Engaged throughout, good understanding of literary devices. Able to successfully articulate how ,why and effect in his answers. Really good discussion around characters.'

Coming up during the next 100 school days...

- Individual careers interviews
- Intervention Mentoring by the tutors
- Parents Evening – 3rd December
- Meden College Open Evening
- Christmas break – 11th December
- February exams: engineering / IT / H&SC
- Deadline for applying to Meden College
- 25th January – Preparing for your mock exams assembly
- 10th March – Mock results day
- Fortnight beginning 15th March – individual interviews with SLT
- 26th March – Easter holidays
- 12th April – final preparations



Please ensure you have provided us with your up-to-date mobile numbers and email addresses



Remembrance Day

To mark this year's Remembrance Day, students from Y9 painted pebbles with poppies to add to our Remembrance mural placed at the front of school. Staff & students joined in a 2 minute silence to pay their respects to all the people & animals who sadly lost their lives.



Tomorrows Engineers Week

The week from 2nd-6th of November was "Tomorrows Engineers Week". This week is intended to celebrate the work of engineers in the past and encourage students to consider engineering as an area for them to work in in the future. Within D&T lessons it was celebrated with a number of activities relating to the work of engineers in making space travel a reality. Students investigated the ways in which engineers have contributed to enabling space travel and the ways in which this space travel impacts each of our day to day lives. They discussed ideas about how they thought space travel might change our lives in the future and modelled the Ariana 4 space rocket. For homework students had to find an 'amazing space fact'. The favourite amazing space fact that was found was that:

"Our galaxy is called the Milky Way and it would take 200000 years to cross it travelling at the speed of light (186282 miles per second!). There are about 100 thousand million stars in just this one galaxy, (the Milky Way) and yet scientists believe there are more galaxy's in the known universe than there are stars in the Milky Way!!"



Pictured to the left are winners from Y8 Coby H, Harley B, Dominic W, Taylor M & Liliana S.

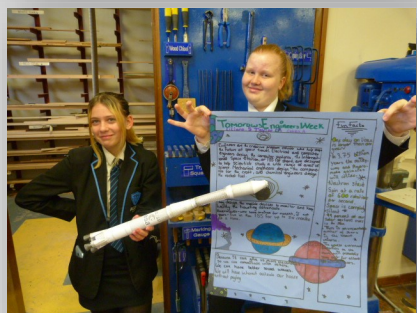
Mansfield & Ashfield Picasso Painting Competition

Several of our talented art students were entered in to the Mansfield & Ashfield Picasso Painting competition. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions the exhibition was cancelled but a number of students received a certificate of participation; Abigail C, Jenson T, Elizabeth E, Mia L, Trinity G, Chloe G & Phoebe B.

In addition to this, some students were awarded a set of watercolours in recognition of their work; Phoebe G, Kacey B, Tary-Jane D, Nathan R, Molly W & Emma B.

We are pleased to announce that Kaiden T won first runner up award and was awarded with a massive set of art materials, which I am sure he will put to good use.

Well done to all of you!





Meden Christmas Card Competition

At the start of November we launched our annual 'Design a Christmas Card' competition to decide which design would take pride of place on our school Christmas card. With over 80 entries, the competition was fierce and it was difficult to choose a winner.



The winner was Phoebe Gale Y7 with this design. Well done Phoebe!

Some of the runner up entries. 3rd Place was won by Katie Evans, Y9. 2nd place was won by Sian Perry Y9. Well done everyone!

Music is Back!!



This school year has seen the reintroduction of music to Meden School. Music is an essential part of the National Curriculum and It provides benefit to those who study it, not only academically but also emotionally. We can all think of a piece of music that when played makes us remember a special occasion or a certain place.



Lucky enough to be situated in one of our fabulous new classrooms, pupils have been thoroughly enjoying their music lessons and have been making really good progress .

SPORTS LEADERSHIP

The aim of CORE PE within KS4 is for students to develop a lifelong interest in one element of sport and physical activity. In year 10, students get to choose an option block of activities ranging from competitive games, creative, health related fitness and leadership. This year we have been extremely fortunate to link up with the Mansfield School Sports Partnership for the leadership option, whereby students that have opted for the leadership block, are completing a leadership award. So far, students have completed a theory lesson on the skills and qualities needed to be a good leader and an introductory session where they took it in turns to lead each other through a range of physical challenges. Over the next six weeks, students will be developing different physical challenges for primary school children to encourage participation in different physical activities and sports. These challenges will be collated into a video and shared with all primary schools in the area for students to complete the 'Mega Meden Challenge' in January. Following the release of the challenge, we hope that students will then be able to go into the local primary schools and deliver their PE lessons and after school clubs using the leadership skills they have developed.

