



So much more than a classroom...



Following a dramatic and futuristic refurbishment, students are now able to enjoy a variety of lessons in our Personalised Learning Space.

This incredible suite of rooms includes two classrooms, fully equipped for wet and dry practical work and a fantastic resource centre and library complete with brand new ICT facilities. These learning spaces link into a huge atrium space complete with funky, flexible seating, a bright yellow stage and an enormous set of 9 plasma screens! These screens can be connected to a laptop and used by teachers to deliver exiting and

innovative lessons.

The space will be primarily used to deliver project based learning and Business and Enterprise lessons though there will also be the opportunity for other subjects to utilise the area.

Miss Newton, teacher of Business and Enterprise at the academy said: "The personalised learning space will allow students to take their learning outside of their classroom. Each of the areas within the space encourages the students to use different skills. Classrooms 033 and 034 inspire creativity, the library and resource

centre will support research and enquiry and the small breakout/meeting rooms can be used to develop teamwork and communication. Students will learn to take ownership of their own learning by being given the flexibility to use the different areas to complete tasks and projects. Project Based Learning and Business and Enterprise lessons will have a large presence in the space where students will be encouraged to develop their personal, enterprise, learning and thinking skills. The innovative equipment and space allows teachers to plan engaging and

creative lessons where students can access information in different ways, through resources such as the stage and plasma TV screens."

The stage and screens are also sure to be put to good use by our Drama Youth Theatre and in assemblies, staff CPD sessions and meetings. In addition to the screens we also have a built in sound system with a microphone connection which will help Staff or Students when teaching, delivering presentations or performing.

Blast of artistic inspiration at the SSI furnace



On Thursday 12th May, Freebrough Academy art students visited the currently mothballed blast furnace at Redcar, now owned by Thai company SSI.

The initial focus of the visit was to look at industry but the students who attended gained so much more than just artistic inspiration.

We were taken on a tour of the enormous site by David Stenson, Fire Safety Officer, to enable us to collect ideas and imagery for our current project: Art, Industry and Crossing Cultures.

Following our tour SSI provided us with a

wonderful lunch and we able to meet Peerasak and Nynny Nynny from Thailand who are working for SSI. They very kindly spent time talking to us about the industry and culture of their country.

We found the whole trip a real inspiration and we developed good relationships with SSI. We are hoping to develop more links and exhibit our work in time for the opening of the furnace.

Our thanks go to SSI for their support and enthusiasm towards our artwork ideas and for their hospitality.

Principal Linda Halbert



Welcome to the second edition of the Freebrough Flyer. I hope you enjoy the news stories

from Freebrough Academy in this edition and it encourages you to visit our website at www.freebroughacademy.org to find out more about us and ask questions about any of the news stories you see here.

This is a busy term as we say goodbye to our Year 11 students as they finish their last examinations. This year group have done so much to contribute to the academy in their last year. They have supported the younger students in their vertical tutor groups, trained as Heroes with Human Utopia and used these skills to support staff and students throughout the year and have already achieved some impressive examination results when entered early for GCSE Maths and English. They will be back together on 24 June 2011 to celebrate at the Prom, which is being held at Gisborough Hall. We will miss them but wish

them lots of good luck and much success in whatever they have chosen to do. We look forward to them coming back and telling us about their achievements in the future.

We are currently working closely with our Primary Schools to welcome our New Year 7 to Freebrough on Monday 04 July 2011. Year 6 will transfer early, get to know students in other year groups through the vertical tutor groups and follow their Year 7 timetable. This is a very effective way to support the smooth transition from Primary School and is an excellent opportunity for them to have a positive experience of life Secondary School before September. We have a range of special activities planned for the New Year 7 students to help them get to know each other as a year group. We will report back on this in the next edition.

On Monday 06 June 2011 we welcome Mr Gordon Cameron to Freebrough Academy as the new Director of Learning for Science. Mr Cameron joins us from Bydales School. He has some exciting ideas to further develop Science at Freebrough and we look forward to

telling you more about that in future editions.

We will introduce you to the three new staff joining our English, Maths and Science faculties in September in the next edition.

Freebrough students have benefited from a significant amount of funding to develop spaces to support personalised learning within the academy. Work is now almost completed to provide a large learning space in the heart of the academy with a stage and huge screen to support teaching and learning activities, a Library/Learning Resource Centre and smaller breakout rooms around the outside of the main teaching space. Students can work in these areas as large and small groups, in pairs and as individuals. Students will have the opportunity to work in this area in different subject areas as well as through the Project Based Learning curriculum in Years' 7 & 8. We will feature this space in action in the next edition.

Work is also about to begin on the development of our Post 16 centre. This will be built on the present site of Freebrough and will be the base for our 50 post 16 students from September 2012. Alongside the £2.8 million for this building Freebrough Academy has also secured nearly £1 million to spend on ICT to improve

the quality of teaching and learning. Staff and students are really excited about the opportunities this funding will bring to revolutionise how teachers teach, students learn and the way in which we communicate to parents. We will keep you updated on developments through our website and Coastal View as they happen.

As we draw to the end of what has been a very busy and productive first year for Freebrough Academy I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, staff, Governors and Sponsors for all of their hard work, positive contribution and support to enable us to achieve success. My thanks also go to parents/carers, local primary and secondary schools, Cleveland Police and Fire Brigade and the local community who have worked in partnership with us this year. We all want the same goal – to ensure our young people are happy and successful. I have no doubt that through the good work we have started together this year we can continue to improve the life chances of young people in East Cleveland.

We look forward to working with you next academic year. Have a good summer.

**Best wishes
Linda Halbert**

BROTTON CARNIVAL

JOIN US ON SATURDAY 9TH JULY FOR A FUN FILLED DAY AT ST. PETER'S C. OF E. PRIMARY SCHOOL, MARSHALL DRIVE, BROTTON. BEGINNING WITH A PARADE AT 10:30AM FROM BROTTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

OFFERS
GO-KARTS



PIRATE SHIP



FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

SPEED TEST

CLIMBING WALL

CRAFT ACTIVITES



COCONUT SHY



PUPPET SHOW



AIRBOURNE ADVENTURE

PLUS MUCH MORE

From Student to Super-Chef!



When Graham Vaughan joined Freebrough in year 7 he anticipated that he would wave a merry goodbye to us all after his exams in year 11 to follow his chosen career. Little did he know that by the time he reached school leaving age Freebrough Academy would be able to offer him yet more support in achieving his goals.

Inspired and encouraged by attending workshops with our Chef, Stewart McGreskin, Graham has chosen to pursue a career in catering. Having approached Middlesbrough College, Graham was advised that a Modern Apprenticeship (which incorporates NVQ level 1 and NVQ level 2) would be the best way forward. Graham will split his time between Middlesbrough College and Freebrough Academy for the duration of his training.

Graham is pictured here with his outstanding Btec artwork, some of which he has donated to the academy to be displayed around the building.

If you can cook as well as you paint Graham, we look forward to sampling your menus!

Freebrough News

Freebrough plays host to a right royal get together!

On Tuesday 26 April whilst Prince William was learning his lines and Kate Middleton was putting the finishing touches to her dress, Freebrough Academy was hosting a huge celebration all of its own! Over 400 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Senior Section, Guiders and Trefoil Guild from across the South Langbaugh Division joined together for a Royal Wedding celebration. .

The group put Freebrough Academy's excellent learning spaces to good use by taking part in a variety of themed activities. The Guides were set the challenge of designing and making wedding outfits for the bride, groom, bridesmaids and mother of the bride from a selection of recycled materials including scraps of material, ribbons and even dustbin bags! The younger participants from the Rainbows and Brownies enjoyed a range of wedding-themed activities from making fascinators to

wear in their hair to a "throw the bouquet" competition.

Members of staff from Freebrough Academy were on hand to serve champagne (non-alcoholic of course!), take photographs and provide patriotic music. The two hours of royal revelling was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Alison Brown, Girlguiding South Langbaugh Division Commissioner said: "We always get a fantastic welcome from the staff at Freebrough and the facilities are excellent for our large scale events. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the Royal Wedding celebration and we now eagerly await the Queen's Diamond Jubilee which will take place next year". Cucumber sandwiches at the ready...

K Forteach

Adventures at Raven Gill

During the spring term 14 lucky students had the opportunity to attend a residential trip to Raven Gill with Mrs Holmes and Mrs Chapman. The students were able to take part in a number of activities such as the hula-hoop challenge, walk into Castleton, the highest straw tower competition, newspaper outfit making and much more. The aim of the trip was to strengthen their teamwork skills.

Here's what the students had to say:

"I really enjoyed Raven Gill and I would like to go again."

Victoria, year 8

"I saw Raven Gill as an adventure." –

Olivia, year 8

"Raven Gill was really fun. We made new friends and had a laugh. Thank you Mrs Holmes, Mrs Chapman and Ben from Zenith Leisure!" – **Andrea, year 7**

"The team building skills really helped me." – **Kim, year 11**



We are delighted to be able to announce that through the hard work of our Student Ambassador group we have now secured our Eco Schools Bronze Award.

To obtain this award the Student Ambassadors worked with Mrs Forteach to conduct an environmental review, produce an action plan and communicate their findings and ideas via a designated notice board.

Student Quotes

What do you think has improved since we became an academy?

"The vivo reward system where we earn points which we can spend on stuff"
John Year 9

False fingers and gruesome gashes!



Four lucky students were recently given the opportunity to visit a professional prosthetic make up studio where they spent the day taking part in prosthetics and life-casting workshops.

The students, Emma Armstrong, Claudia Walker, Richard Walker and Adam Torka, all had the opportunity to produce casts of their fingers and hands using dental alginate (the material dentists use to make casts of your teeth), silicone and plaster of Paris.

Alongside Miss Beasley and Mr White, the students will soon be opening up an after school prosthetics club where they will teach others the skills that they have learned. They are already experts at creating realistic wounds and bruises to turn even the strongest stomach! The ultimate aim of the group is to create their own prosthetics to be used in drama productions and short films.



Insight into India!

Year 7 students at Freebrough Academy were treated to India cultural workshops on Tuesday 7th June. 150 students had the opportunity to sample cultural delights as a celebration and end to their humanities unit on India. Workshops included Rangoli art, henna hand art, Indian shadow puppets, sampling Indian Cuisine and experiencing the sights and sounds of Bollywood. For many students these were first time experiences which enabled them to sample something

new.

Students who had never tried Indian food before were amazed by the dishes on offer from our in-house chef, Mr McGreskin. Many students most enjoyed the challenges of re-telling the story of Rama and Sita through puppetry.

The Humanities Faculty aim to build up the range of wider experiences offered to students, and to ensure that they have the opportunity to build on learning through a 'big experience' each term.

A school within a school...



Freebrough Academy is organised into four smaller schools known as Aspiration, Inspiration, Motivation and Innovation. This allows us to provide a more human scale to what is a fairly large establishment and can help to give our students an improved sense of belonging.

Each small school is led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, known as the Head of School/Assistant Principal. They are supported in their role by a Student Progress Leader, a Pastoral Leader and a team of around 20 tutors and assistant tutors. We also have a strong student

leadership team in each small school made up of a head boy, head girl and 13 student councillors who meet regularly to discuss a variety of issues.

Each tutor group is organised vertically to include students from each age range. This vertical mix enhances the consistency of pastoral care over the whole period of each student's education at the academy as they will stay in the same tutor group for the duration of their time here. Vertical tutoring also helps to develop the social skills which are required to make a positive contribution

to the academy and the wider community. All age groups learn to collaborate effectively, developing team-working and interpersonal skills, as well as the ability to relate to different age groups on an equal level, instead of a hierarchy that can be established through same age groupings.

The key focus of the vertical tutoring system is on the individual, to make sure that everyone is individually supported - socially, emotionally, behaviourally and morally. The system also ensures that challenging targets are set for all, a process which every learner is involved in.

Teaching and Learning Group



Members of the Teaching and Learning Group, Mr O'Neill and Miss Walker with Literacy Co-ordinator, Miss Lawson

One of the many fantastic ways we are addressing the improvement of teaching and learning at Freebrough is through the hard work and dedication of the Teaching and Learning Group.

The group is comprised of 11 members of academy teaching staff who have repeatedly been graded as either good or outstanding in their lesson observations during the course of the academic year. The purpose of the group is to support the development of teaching and learning across the academy in a number of ways that might include mentoring colleagues, undertaking lesson observations, facilitating intervention for

specific students or organising outreach programmes at our feeder primary schools.

The group meets once every half term to identify the teaching and learning needs within the academy and monitor the impact the group is having.

Members of the teaching and learning group also play a key role in the delivery of professional development sessions which are held at Freebrough once a week. All teachers are involved in these sessions ensuring we maintain a consistent, academy-wide approach to teaching and learning which is influenced by examples of existing best practice.

Northern Grid Film Awards

On 23 June 2011 ten talented Freebrough students have been invited by St Peters Primary to attend the Northern Grid Film Awards. The students have been short listed to receive an award for an animation that they produced in year 6 on the water cycle. Good luck to the students involved: Lewis Robson, Lewis Winspear, Lewis Pennock, Jack Harvey, Chloe Philips, Karl Stone, Becky Kidd, Natty Booker, Lauren Wood and Ellie Roper.

Student Quotes

What do you think has improved since we became an academy?

**"The teaching"
Lauren Year 10**

**"The personalised Learning Space – the seating is cool!"
Beth Year 8**

Prior Pursglove College

"Prior Pursglove was the only option for me when considering which college to go to; it provided all the A levels I wanted to take and maintained a constantly high standard of education.

On my taster days the teachers were friendly and welcoming and when I came to the college in September they were just as welcoming and provided excellent help with anything I found difficult.

Prior not only focuses on the academic, but provides a happy, accepting environment for every student. Through the strong voice of the Students' Union and its executive team of officers every student's voice can be heard and listened to, this is something that I think is very important in any educational establishment."

**Alison Daniels
(Ex Freebrough Academy)
Currently studying AS level Chemistry, Biology, English Literature, Mathematics**

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T: 01287 280800
www.pursglove.ac.uk



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- Health & Social Care
- Public Services
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Pick up a copy of our Full-time Prospectus or visit our website for more information:

www.cleveland.ac.uk

View the videos on our website to see what college life is really like!

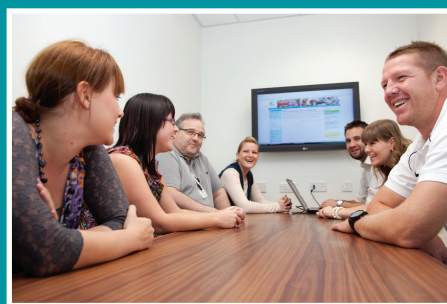
FREE travel

All our Full-time students under the age of 19 can travel FREE to and from College on buses running throughout the area. Call now for details.

Taking you higher

Study for a degree or higher level professional qualification at Redcar & Cleveland College's new Higher Education Centre.

Easily accessible with free parking for students, the centre is equipped with the latest teaching and learning resources. To find out more visit our website now or call for a copy of our Higher Education Prospectus.



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- Electrical
- Hairdressing
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- Housing*
- Instructing Exercise and Fitness (NVQ Level 2)*
- Instructing Physical Activity and Exercise – Gym (NVQ Level 3)*
- IT
- Leisure Management (NVQ Level 3)*
- Local Environmental Services*
- Maintenance Operations (Level 2)*
- Nail Services (VTCT Level 2 & 3)*
- Painting & Decorating
- Plastering
- Plumbing
- Retail*
- Spa Therapy*
- Sport, Leisure and Tourism
- Wood Occupations

Visit our website for more information about Apprenticeships.

University without A Levels

Redcar & Cleveland College recognises that the traditional academic route through A levels isn't right for everyone.

Students completing a BTEC National Diploma Level 3 course (equivalent to three A Levels) can move on to a relevant degree level course. This could be studied part-time at the College's newly opened Higher Education Centre or, alternatively, the BTEC National Diploma Level 3 is a recognised entry qualification for most universities in the country.

Matthew Spencer is just one of the many Redcar & Cleveland College students who have gone on to study at university, gaining a place on the highly sought after BA (Hons) Computer Character Animation course at Teesside University.

"The course at Redcar & Cleveland College was instrumental in preparing me for my degree as I was given first class technical guidance throughout. In addition to this the facilities are excellent."

Matthew Spencer

IT Practitioners BTEC National Diploma Level 3



New Part-time courses starting in September

Contact us for more details.

Badger Hill

Key Step Gymnastics~ Tees Valley Final

In March, our Y2 team won the Redcar & Cleveland team competition, and three of our KS2 children came 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Y5/6 individual competition. As a result they were invited to represent Redcar and Cleveland at the Tees Valley Final.

Here is the report from **Macey, Jasmine and Jacob**~ On Wednesday 25th May, some KS2 children and five Y2 children went to the Key Steps Gymnastics final at Eston. There were lots of other teams there from other parts of the Tees Valley. The Key Steps 1 team competition was first and we had to do our gymnastics on the floor first and then on the bench. Our team was Jasmine, Jacob, Katelyn, Amy and Tegan. We felt we had done really well. Then it was the key steps 3 floor and vault. Macey and Katie had to compete as individuals. Ellie who won the first competition was on holiday so she couldn't go. Everyone did extremely well at their routines. At the end of the competition the results were announced and Badger Hill Key Steps 1 team came second. Thank you to Liz, our coach. We all really enjoyed it!

Kite Festival

On Friday 6th May 2011 6 people from Year 5 went to Redcar beach for a kite festival. We met the British Champion for kite surfing. He was called Ned. He showed us his gear and let us pump up his kite and

Tees Valley Hockey Champions

The Hockey team from Whitecliffe Primary School recently became Tees Valley Hockey Champions after beating teams from Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton, Hartlepool, Darlington and Middlesbrough.

During the three rounds of the competition the team played 19 games and was unbeaten scoring a massive 45 goals and conceding only 6. During the final round, not one goal was conceded.

Our team was praised by organisers and umpires for their high level of skill and for showing good manners and sportsmanship. One coach from another school who is an ex England hockey player said that several

of our players are good enough to play for England in the future. The team, coached by Mr Cole, Mr McMillan and Mrs Bell are dedicated and show the highest level of commitment their success is very well deserved.

By Sophie Bowers and Kian Wildmore Y5

Bird Boxes

On Friday 6th May Steve Ashton from the Tees Wildlife Trust came into Year 4 with his two helpers, Helen and Rachel. We got into groups of 4 whilst Helen and Rachel handed out pieces of wood that were already cut up, so all we had to do was hammer them together into bird boxes. Steve was amazed how fast we did it. When we finished we walked in twos down to the Taylor Wimpey housing estate. We took the boxes into the garden of one of the show homes and Scott, the joiner, came and drilled the bird boxes onto the walls. After that a photographer came and took some pictures of us standing with our bird boxes.

Anna Tyler Y4



Primary News

Skelton gets Royal Fever!

Skelton Primary School joined the thousands of people celebrating the Royal Wedding by holding a street party. Friends of the school and family members joined over 500 pupils to enjoy sandwiches, snacks and drinks in a picnic setting, surrounded by hand decorated bunting, paper plates, table cloths and crowns! Later that afternoon, pupils enjoyed various bouncy castles and obstacle courses on the school field. Earlier in the day, the school hosted it's very own wedding service. Pupils sang the national anthem and watched as 'Kate and Wills' tied the knot. The bride wore a beautiful wedding dress made by the winners of a dress designing competition, in which the school received over 100 entries. As you can see the dress looked stunning. It was made with felt, hand sewn flowers and hundreds of hand sewn beads. The design winner was Ruby Palin and a team of 13 pupils spent two weeks bringing Ruby's



design to life. We even received a letter from the Design Director of Jaeger who had heard about our competition. The dress was sewn and stitched to perfection and will be on display in our foyer over the coming weeks.

Hummersea Primary School

Well, we have had a very busy term so far. Some of our highlights include a residential visit to Carlton Outdoor Education Centre by our year 3, 4, and 5 children, the work carried out towards the Saxon Princess exhibit in Loftus and also the Royal Wedding. Carlton is our annual residential visit for our younger Key Stage two children. Our staff accompanied thirty children on a very busy, very tiring and muddy weekend in May. While there the children participated in a number of challenging and new activities. Completing a 'leap of faith' from a 10 metre high pole was a particular favourite, as was rock climbing. However the activity which was enjoyed most of all was getting muddy and wet while in the forest. The weekend was thoroughly enjoyed by all staff and children.

Within Loftus we took part in the Royal

Wedding celebrations. Our children made bunting, flags and painted pictures of the happy couple to display in shop around Loftus. Thank you to the residents of Loftus and their kind words of support. The celebrations culminated in a Royal lunch at school. Our families were invited to share a lunch fit for a King. My personal favourite were the deserts which Mandy the cook made.

Hummersea Primary visited the Saxon Princess exhibition in the town hall. Children were amazed at the jewels and the fact that they had been found so close to where they live. During the week the children worked in school learning about the Anglo Saxons and the jewels. This was a fantastic opportunity for our school and Loftus.

Thanks
Peter Tyreman, Headteacher

LIONS OF ZULULAND COME TO KILTON THORPE!



On Thursday 28th April 2011, we were privileged to be host to a group of young people from Kwazulu Natal, South Africa. They flew from Durban to Newcastle, to tour this country, offering their unique dance, vocal harmonies and workshops to schools and organisations. Their flyer reads; "Eleven extremely fit, professional, creative and artistic dancers and musicians will share with young people the energy and beauty of their movements and the wondrous harmonies produced by their powerful voices." They came into the school Hall in full Zulu costume, dancing, singing and putting on a great show for our children. Our Early Years and Foundation classes were mesmerised; the Primary children were excited and thrilled and the Secondary and 6th Form students were delighted and amazed by the spectacle of their show. After their hour long performance, they changed into tracksuits and delivered a range of workshops with pupils of all ages, and offered practical experience in Music, Dance, Art and Culture. Everyone talked about how brilliant the day was, and staff commented on it being the best group we have had in school in a long time.

Email: - lionsofzululandbooking@yahoo.co.uk



University News

Teesside University is the lead sponsor of Freebrough Academy, working closely with the Academy and its community of pupils, parents, family and friends to offer a wide range of innovative activities. Also working alongside the University and the Academy are co-sponsors Prior Pursglove College and Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council, as well as education partner Redcar & Cleveland College.

This year many Academy students have been working successfully with our Aimhigher Associate University students who inspire confidence and help pupils learn and achieve more.

And from September 2011 we begin working with primary school pupils and Academy staff to deliver the Academy's Raising Aspiration Plan to these potential and current pupils.

Freebrough Heroes took part in an exciting conference as part of Universities Week. Held at the University on 15 June 2011, the conference promoted student leadership. The Freebrough Heroes were key participants in leading the activities, showcasing the Academy's groundbreaking work with Humanutopia. The Heroes and Humanutopia worked with primary pupils, Tees Valley Year 9 pupils, college and University students to present their work to University staff and other invited guests.

Our Meteor Olympic Summer School has received the official London Olympics 2012 Inspire Mark. It signals the programme's very real contribution to raising awareness and interest in sport in general and in the 2012 Olympics in particular. Pupils due to start their studies at Freebrough in September attend this Olympic Summer School at the University on 7 and 8 July as one of their transition activities.

As a sponsor of the Academy, the University has a nominated number of staff to sit on the Freebrough Board of Governors.

- Professor Cliff Hardcastle, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Enterprise)
 - Lynn Parker, Director of Educational Partnerships (Chair of the Board of Governors)
 - Heather Ashton, Director of Finance (Chair of Resources, Employment & Finance Committee)
 - Jim Innerd, Principal Lecturer in Business, Teesside University Business School
 - Pat White, Deputy Director, Marketing & Student Recruitment
- The University Governors attend a range of Academy events and hope to meet many parents in the course of their tenure.



University news and events

Forthcoming events on the University campus in Middlesbrough.

Higher Education Parents' Evening 13 July, 14 and 28 September 2011

An opportunity for parents to attend an evening session which explains higher education and outlines the new student funding regulations which start in September 2012.

University Open Days 19 and 29 October 2011

Come and take a peek at the University campus; talk to subject specialists and current students about study options for courses starting in September 2012. You can book a place online at www.tees.ac.uk/opendays

Summer University

A Teesside Summer University course will boost your confidence and can be the first step towards a degree. Courses take place during June and July at our Middlesbrough

and Darlington campuses. It could be for you if you want to:

- return to study after taking a break from education
- gain a promotion that needs a qualification
- change your career direction
- or just enjoy the personal satisfaction of learning.

There are no formal entry requirements. Fees start from £25 for a five credit module. For more information www.tees.ac.uk/summeruniversity

Teesside University supported Universities Week 13- 19 June 2011

Universities Week highlights the essential role of universities in the UK and their impact on the economy, culture, society, the environment and much more.

www.tees.ac.uk/uukw

Thelma Barlow praises Teesside's creativity

Distinguished actress Thelma Barlow was full of praise for Teesside's creativity as she officially opened the University's annual Creative Arts Week event.

Dr Barlow was born in Middlesbrough and awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree by the University in 2008. She is famous throughout the UK as *Coronation Street's* Mavis Riley, whom she played for nearly 2,000 episodes over 26 years.

'It's lovely to be back in Middlesbrough, I don't visit the area very often and the changes in the town have been incredible. I was thrilled to be given the Doctorate and am particularly happy to be back here at this very vibrant University.

'There's a great feeling of care and bonding towards the students from their lecturers. I've been to other universities and nowhere are these feelings as strong as they are here.

'The teaching is absolutely geared to helping students progress into professions. They are immensely lucky.'

Exploring the urban-rural digital divide

Poor internet access is leaving residents of some rural East Cleveland villages feeling disadvantaged compared to their urban neighbours, according to new research.

The Digital Villages research project, led by Teesside University researchers and the East Cleveland Community Development Group in Saltburn, has focused on the use of ICT (information and communication technology) such as computers, the internet and social networking in rural and urban communities.

A network of 17 community researchers from the six East Cleveland communities involved in the project helped to lead surveys, focus groups and carry out interviews.

Paul Davies, of the East Cleveland Community Development Group, has led the project in partnership with Teesside University's research team Professor Eileen Green, Carrie Singleton and Steve Thompson, of the Institute for Digital Innovation.

Professor Eileen Green said, 'This has been an exciting opportunity to work in partnership with local communities in producing research findings in an area which is top of international policy agendas and close to people's hearts.'



tees.ac.uk

2009/10
THE AWARDS
Times Higher Education
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Teesside University

Inspiring success

Superstar Students

Science

William Twaddle and Michael Anderson

Both William and Michael have worked tirelessly throughout the year, both in lessons and independently to achieve BTEC level 2 extended certificates above their targets (Distinction and Distinction Star respectively).

Humanities

Nina Bell



Nina works very hard in lessons. She is conscientious and is very focused on making progress. She has also produced an exceptional home work project - A guide to Redcar and Cleveland.

The project demonstrates that she has used a wide range of sources of information, and carried out extensive research. She has organised this work in a logical order, and supported it with her own ideas, images and maps. The quality of her presentation is of the highest standard. She has demonstrated how students can overcome the obstacles presented to them through determination, motivation and drive. Well done Nina, you are a shining star to other students!

Music

Ben Wood and Nathan Pinkster



Ben and Nathan have both shown outstanding behaviour and attitude in their Music lessons this term. Both students have met their targets for the year and have produced outstanding work. They have both shown natural talent this year so become Freebrough's Music Superstar Students in year 9.



Business and Enterprise

Hannah Clayton



Hannah is a member of the enterprise club and is always willing to go the extra mile! Hannah was also in the winning team for the enterprise mascot Zenny Zeebrough which is now the face of Business and Enterprise across the Academy. Hannah shows excellent leadership and team work at all times and is an inspiration to the younger students.

Art

The Whole of 9F

Teaching group 9F have worked consistently well in art since they first transferred to Freebrough in year 7. They show amazing creativity and produce some jaw dropping work. Well done 9F!



Drama

Jake Ord

Jake used to be a very shy student who was very nervous about coming to secondary school. His confidence now is amazing to see. He is a perfect role model for other students who are interested in the performing arts as he is a fantastic performer, with a very disciplined attitude. Jake performed in Drama Youth Theatre's first ever performance and everyone thought he was fantastic. He recently performed in Drama Youth Theatre's performance of "Keep The Change" where he took on the role of an old man which he played exceedingly well.

Jake is a very modest performer and that's what we love about him, he is a little star in the making!



Technology

David Swinbourne and Sam Taylor



David has shown fantastic commitment in technology this term, producing work to a very high standard.

Sam is absolutely fantastic in ICT – he was a real help to Mr Donnison when he first came to Freebrough.



Freebrough Business and Enterprise Club



Over the coming months this column will be brought to you by the students who are involved in the Freebrough Business and Enterprise Club.

Enterprise club takes place each Wednesday during break and lunch times and after school. The aim of the club is to help students develop their enterprise skills and prepare them for the world of work. In this year we have taken part in some local and national challenges and are about to embark on our first student business; Zenny Zeebrough's Smoothie Cafe.

We will be bringing you regular updates on what's happening in Freebrough and what we have been up to in our club. By Kelly Rich

Introductions:

Andrea, year 7

I go to the enterprise club each Wednesday after school. I really enjoy the activities we take part in as we are given tasks to work on in one big team.

At the moment we are working on a project to set up our own business. We have had so much fun and will soon be selling our own smoothies!

Greta, year 9

My name is Greta and I am in year 9, and it is my name day on the 10 June 2011. I joined the Enterprise club because I thought it would be fun, and so far it has been more than fun! I like going to the Enterprise club because we get to help the local area while we are still enjoying ourselves.

PS I get to talk loads!

Sam, year 9

Hi, I am 14 years old, I am a skateboarder and I also play the guitar and drums. I joined the Enterprise club because I wanted to be more confident and to develop my entrepreneurial skills.

Rebecca, year 10

My name is Rebecca and I am 15. I joined Enterprise club to help me to gain confidence. I really enjoy working in teams and with other people.

Siobhan, year 10

The reason I attend the Enterprise club is to boost my confidence and because I love working as a team.

Hannah, year 9

Hello my name is Hannah and I am 14 years old, I decided it is a great opportunity as you get to be part of a range of fun and exciting projects

10 Quick Questions for Mr Donnison



What is your role in Freebrough Academy?

I am the Director of Learning for Technology and ICT, though I would say my first priority is as a classroom teacher. I also look after newly qualified teachers in the academy.

Why did you choose a career in teaching?

I hadn't thought about becoming a teacher until a lecturer at university suggested that I might be good at it. I then took part in the student associate scheme which allowed me to work in a school for 12 weeks to gain a flavour for the profession. From this I decided that it was the job for me. Teaching gives you a genuine opportunity to help improve the lives of young people.

What made you decide to take on this particular role?

I was looking for an opportunity to play a key role in the development of a school. When I saw the post advertised I came into the academy to talk to the staff and students and could see that this was the place for me. It offered me both a challenge and an opportunity to play my part in helping our academy become outstanding.

What were your first impressions of Freebrough Academy?

My first impression was that Freebrough was really proud to have academy status and of its students. After my first few days I could see that it was a very dynamic school; everyone has the same goal and shares the same vision.

What do you enjoy about working in Freebrough Academy?

There is a real feeling of community, everyone is friendly and supportive.

What are your hopes for the Academy and its students?

I hope that Freebrough Academy will gain an 'outstanding' Ofsted rating and that students will enjoy coming to school and will achieve to their full potential.

What were your favourite subjects at secondary school?

Design Technology, PE and Science

What do you get up to in your spare time?

I spend time with my family and I also like to keep fit, I have just taken up running.

What is your biggest accomplishment in life?

Completing my degree when I was a student, even though many of my friends were working and making money. I stuck it out and now do a job that I love.

What would be the most important piece of advice you could give to the students at Freebrough Academy?

Whether you think you can, or you think you can't, you're right!

Interview conducted by Georgia Bint and Hannah Clayton, year 9.

Business and Enterprise

News from our specialism

Zenny Zeebrough takes over Freebrough!



Students from across all year groups were set the challenge to come up with the 'face' of Business and enterprise in the Academy.

The competition involved students working together in tutor groups to come up with a mascot and strap line which could be used in the teaching and learning of the new

specialism.

Zenny Zeebrough was chosen from the hundreds of entries for its stand-out strap line "Zenny Zeebrough inspires Freebrough" and the thought and creativity that was put into designing the logo. The winning group of students and their tutor enjoyed a limousine ride around the

local area as their prize for winning the competition.

Zenny has now been brought to life in an electronic form and will be appearing in many different places across the academy, starting with the academy's first student run business.

Zenny Zeebrough's Smoothie Café, which

opens its doors to students and staff from Monday 6th June. The café will offer a selection of fruit smoothies and milkshakes during break and lunchtimes.

The business will be run and managed by the student enterprise club and all profits made will be used to fund future businesses.

Enterprising Future Leaders!



A group of students from the Freebrough Academy Enterprise Club have taken part in the Future leaders programme with Coast and Country. The programme required the students to design, plan and develop a community project with an allocated budget of £1500.

The enterprising students came up with the idea of using the money to help their neighbouring school, Kilton Thorpe. Kilton Thorpe School caters for students with a range of special needs and it was felt that an outside shaded area, in which the students could relax or which could be used

for outdoor teaching would be extremely beneficial.

The Enterprise Club came up with the idea of a large gazebo with adaptable seating and set about planning the details with their Coast and Country mentors.

Over the Easter break the area was dug out and prepared by the enterprise students and a group of keen volunteers and the gazebo erected. The area is set to be completed shortly when it will be finished off with artwork produced by Freebrough students and furniture specially made by Upsall Hall residents.

The Freebrough Olympics

If you think that the London 2012 staff and Olympic committee have been working hard this year you would be right, but Year 7 and 8 students at Freebrough might just have been working that little bit harder.

The theme last half term in Project Based Learning was the Freebrough Olympics. The students had 5 weeks to investigate the Olympics and countries which are represented. Their task was to represent a competing Olympic country and contribute to the planning and running of their very own Olympic games here at the Academy. On the 25th May the two year groups held their Olympic games complete with opening ceremony and athletic competitions. Each student had a role at the Olympic Games such as athlete, photographer, journalist, judge or even nutritionist. After investigating their country and their chosen role each class demonstrated their work during the opening ceremony, flying the flag and displaying the culture and history of their chosen nation. The students were given a bit of extra help from one of our Sponsors Teesside University, with volunteers provided from



the Sport and Well Being Department lending a hand on the day. Some of our students also benefited from the facilities Teesside University has to offer after being invited to take part in two multi sports days at the campus trying sports such as rock climbing and squash for the first time. We were also proud to welcome year 6 students from St Peters CE Primary, Brotton to the year 8 event. The students cheered the countries along and took part in the first session of a 5 week enterprise programme delivered by the Business and Enterprise team. These students had the opportunity to see how they could be involved with Business, Enterprise and Project Based Learning if attending the academy next year.

Celebrating Success

Keep the change!

Freebrough Youth Theatre have shown, once again, that they know how to wow an audience. Their performance of 'Keep the Change', written by our Leader of Drama, Miss Beasley, obtained rave reviews from parents, staff and members of the public

Miss Beasley said: "The show went really well! The students were amazing and have worked so hard on the performance and so well as a team. It was a comedy piece, set in a restaurant, and got lots of laughs from the audience".

However, there has been little time for them to bask in the glory of their success as they are now hard at work rehearsing a production of 'The Tempest, Shakespeare' which will be performed in October at the Middlesbrough Little Theatre.



Dance Marathon

On Friday 13th May students from Freebrough Academy took part in the Dance Marathon in Middlesbrough town centre in association with Tees Valley Dance. In the lead up to the event students took part in a practical workshop in which they were able to learn a performance piece to the Black Eyed Peas 'I Gotta Feeling'. On the actual day of the event

students performed the dance in flashmob style a number of times around the town centre. Mrs Parker, Director of Performing and Creative Arts, said "The whole day was fantastic and students showed 100% commitment and dedication, even when the heavens opened and it poured down with rain!"

Prior Pursglove 450th Anniversary celebrations

Students from Freebrough were thrilled to take part in a series of performances to celebrate 450 years of Prior Pursglove College. Performances included; Kelsey Sutcliffe (winner of Freebrough's Got Talent) singing, Richard Walker, Adam Torka and Claudia Walker with their 'Bus Stop?' sketch and 'Flex' performed by Voltage Dance Crew (Corey Robinson, Aidan Shaw, Ryan Shaw, Kieren Hadley, Adam Stelling, Michael Lane and

Joe Stiff).

The weekend-long celebrations also included: a huge parade which took over the whole of Guisborough high street, an insight into Tudor life (with talks and interactive sessions), a display of Prior Pursglove's history, picnic in Guisborough Priory and much more. The events were attended by many Freebrough staff and students and were enjoyed by all!

Students exhibit at the Bowes Museum



The visit to the Bowes Museum by Freebrough Academy art students was an inspirational and interesting day. The staff at the museum were extremely helpful and we were shown the range of arts, crafts and architecture that this magnificent building has to offer.

Following our visit we started a project named 'Every object has a story to tell' which was inspired by the unusual objects, elaborate frames and intricate architecture we encountered whilst at the museum. We have created large scale drawings, prints and paintings; all of which are now being exhibited at the Bowes museum. Visitors to the museum have expressed their delight at being able to view "such talent and hard work."

Student Quotes

What do you think has improved since we became an academy?

"The stage and screen in the Personalised Learning Space"
Glyn Year 8

"The school meals have improved as we now have a chef"
Jake year 8

"The sports and extra curricular activities"
Lacey Year 8

"The quality of the building and facilities"
Niomi Year 7

Gold Medal Gavin

Year 11 student Gavin Haggerwood looks set to go on to big things in the world of swimming following yet more competition success.

Gavin started to attend swimming lessons when he was 8 years old. By the time he turned 12 he was regularly competing against other youngsters in swimming galas. Gavin currently trains with the Middlesbrough Amateur Swimming club and attends monthly competitions.

Recently, Gavin stormed to success at the Middlesbrough Open, scooping five golds, four silvers and the Top Boy Award for having the most overall points.

Of course, as every athlete will tell you, it takes hard work and dedication to win competitions. During the recent school

holidays Gavin travelled to Spain to take part in a week of intensive training and friendly competitions against a number of French swimming teams.

Gavin is now working hard to prepare for his GCSE examinations and the National Championships, to be held in August, where he will compete against other highly successful 16 and 17 year olds from around the UK.

We wish Gavin every success when he leaves Freebrough Academy this summer to go on to Prior Pursglove College where he will begin to study for his Sports Degree.

We sincerely hope that he reaches his goal of competing in the 2016 Olympics – go for gold Gavin!



Netball league results

Our three netball teams have put in yet more strong performances to finish high in the rankings of the Redcar and Cleveland Netball League. The girls competed against all of the secondary schools in the area and their final positions on the score boards were: the year 7 team in fourth place, the year 8 and 9 team in 3rd place and the year 10 and 11 team in

a fantastic 2nd place! Miss Deakin, who trains the teams said: "Our year 10 and 11 team could have won but the Laurence Jackson squad is an amazing, national level team. All of the Freebrough girls gave their very best, with fantastic support from their team captains Chloe Phillips (year 7), Amy Ashwell (year 9) and Alex Hall (year 11)."



Athletics Aces

On 16 May our athletics team took part in the English Schools Athletics Competition, held at Clairville Stadium.

Each team were successful in finishing a place above the teams from last year, quite an achievement as the competition was of a very high standard!

Many of our students beat their own personal bests, with some smashing the existing Freebrough records! Ebony Housam won two of her events; the 800m and high jump. Molly Broughton was also top in her high jump event and the 100m. Michael Horton and Dom Cowell also put in excellent performances.

We will also be continuing to train hard in preparation for the Redcar and Cleveland Athletics competition which will take place on Wednesday 6 July in Gateshead.

In addition to the successes listed above,

some of our students have been selected to represent Redcar and Cleveland at the County Trials on Sat 11th June, held at Clairville. Those students who are successful at the County Trials will then take part in the Inter-County competition (Saturday 18th June) and finally the National Finals (usually shown on TV) on Friday 1st and Sat 2nd July.

Flying the flag for Freebrough will be:
Ebony Housam (800m)
Jamie Everington (shot putt)
Molly Broughton (high jump- Molly jumped 143cm at the trials which beat her own personal best by 13 cm- AMAZING!!!)
William Twaddle (shot putt)
Ben Sandie (800/1500m)
Megan Earl (shot putt)

Well done to all of our sporting stars!

Teesside Junior Football Alliance

Teesside Junior Football Alliance has gone from strength to strength this season with a little help from a few Freebrough Academy students.

The New Marske FC under 14 team won promotion to division 2 with help from Lewis Henderson, Alex Johnson, Josh Alderson and Billy Keane (who was named Top Goal Scorer).

Lingdale Athletic under 13's moved up to division 4, with Tyren Lettin named as Second Top Goal Scorer.

Finally, Loftus FC under 15's gained promotion to division 3. Tom Rispin, Mitchell Johns, Leon Sayers and Luke Weed (Top Goal Scorer) all play for the Loftus team.

Well done boys!

Sports Awards

Students in years 7 and 8 have been keenly observed by their PE teachers during the spring term and into the summer term as they try to decide who deserves to win the Freebrough Sports Award titles.

Three awards will be handed out in each PE group: Sports Performer, Sports Personality and Most Improved. The winners can look forward to a special 'rewards sports day' which will be held at Teesside University on 27 June 2011.