



When the weather is good we get to take our lessons outdoors. KS3 Boys PE also made use of our excellent outdoor gym.



Fabulous outdoor fun

by Lauren Phee

AN OUTDOOR adventure was enjoyed by eight students from KS4 who went to Keppleway in the Lake District.

Activities included tree climbing, ghyll walking and archery.

In tree climbing they had to use teamwork and both staff and students took part.

They had to belay each other. What does that

mean? I will explain. The person climbing has a rope attached to their harness and in turn that rope is then attached to someone on the ground who keeps the rope tight at all times in case the person climbing should fall.

One member of staff Farook, who apparently struggled initially to put his harness on, ended up being the fastest staff member to complete the challenge.

However the quickest overall was Sophie Fear.

Everyone took part in archery when they fired arrows to burst balloons that were used as targets.

The last activity of the day was ghyll walking. Everyone was reluctant to try it because it involved walking through a river.

However, once they had their waterproofs on and they jumped in, they had a great time.

Hadley Benjamin, one of the tallest students in school, had a wonderful day jumping into the deeper pools of water.

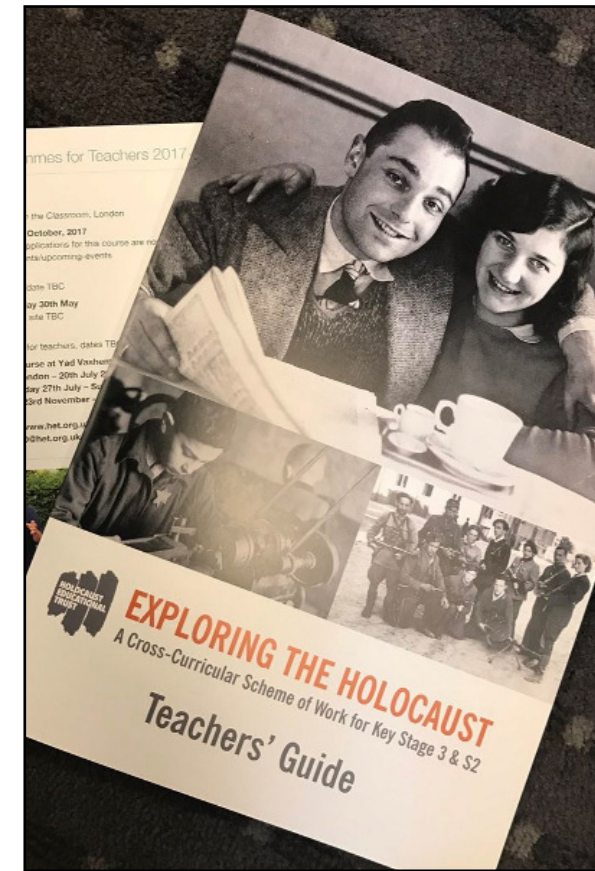
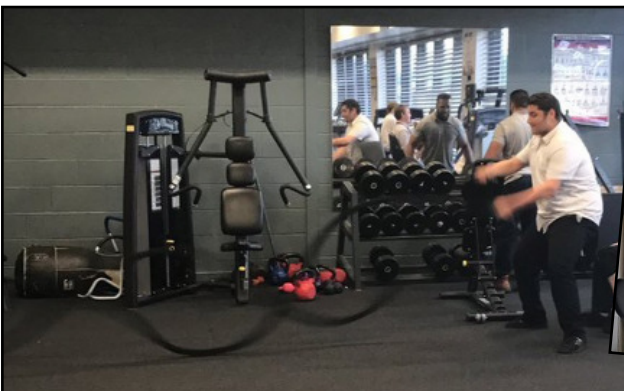
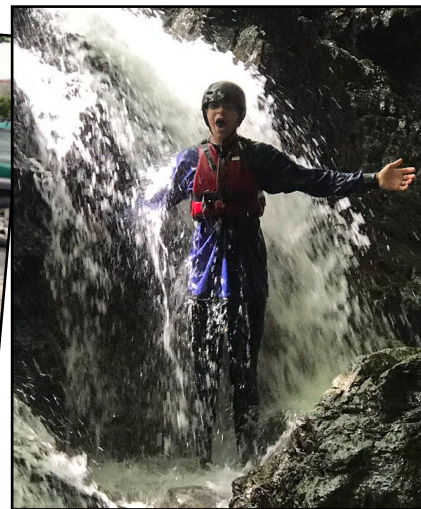


Youth Zone link up benefits all

WE ARE fortunate to have a wonderful partnership with the Blackburn Youth Zone.

This has led to our pupils being able to use the amazing facilities at the centre including the 3G all-weather pitch and fitness suite.

Groups of students from Coal Clough enjoyed a cardio vascular workout in the gym and several friendly football games on the pitch.



Visit to Auschwitz is moving and emotional

by Courtney Jones

STAFF members Katie, Shaun and Jane went to see whether visiting Auschwitz would be a suitable trip for the students at Coal Clough Academy to make.

They went to Krakow in Poland and then on to Auschwitz where they visited the Nazi death camp where so many Jews lost their lives.

They also spoke to Rudi Oppenheimer, who is a Holocaust survivor.

Katie said: "It felt surreal listening to someone who had survived the Holocaust and we listened to an incredible story from an incredible man."

He then gave them a tour of the

camp and they went in the gas chambers and were scarily locked in.

They went to a room where there were piles of shoes, glasses, children's toys and pictures that had been left behind. Katie, Shaun and Jane were very shocked to see the thousands of pairs of shoes as well as the amount of children's toys and said the whole experience was very moving.

They said there was also an atmosphere of sadness about Auschwitz, but it was peaceful.

Describing the visit as 'unmissable' and a 'very emotional experience' they decided it was not suitable for the students at Coal Clough.

However they will be using the information they learnt to enhance history teaching at our school.

Honours for staff and student



OUR own teacher Katie Smith was highly commended in the East Lancashire Newspapers Inspirational Teaching Award category.



ALBERT received his ruby reward for his epraise which means that he has earned 800 points.

He is in the lead to win the school's top award and a £100 voucher for JD Sports to spend on whatever he wants.

Hot on his heels for the award is Tyler Simpson.

It will be an exciting battle to the finish for the two well-behaved star students from KS4. Well done boys and good luck.





Students face reality of having a baby

by Brenden Wyer

WE HAVE some new arrivals at our school and they are babies, well 'virtual ones'.

They are just like the real thing so they need naps, their nappy needs changing and they cry. They are also as heavy as a real baby.

It is almost as if they were real and they will

be a good addition to the Coal Clough family.

They will give our students experience about having a baby early so they might then decide to wait until they are older before having their own.

It will make them realise the reality of what a baby comes with, but luckily these babies will not have to be looked after for 18 years.



Year 10 students had a fun time at Watergrove Reservoir when they got on their mountain bikes.



Relationships unravel in drama

THIS half term students and staff were treated to a wonderful and original performance by the MAD Theatre Company, which is based in Manchester.

They came into school to deliver Black Eyes and Cottage Pie, a performance that

highlighted how relationships can go wrong.

The actors used video in their moving story to highlight the problems faced by people in unhealthy and controlling relationships.

It was enthusiastically received by all.

My school story

by Brenden Wyer

I am happier now that I am at Coal Clough. I feel I have a better chance for an education and I prefer it here.

At Coal Clough there are more activities and I have less chance of 'flipping out' with people.

It is easy for me to get angry, but now I have found a place that will help me calm down.

Now it is getting easier and to want to come into school.

The best activity I have

had so far since joining Coal Clough was canoeing because we went to the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and we lost a race with the other people.

At the end we were all meant to jump into the canal, but I was the only one who did and I almost walked all the way across, however I got stuck in mud near the other side.

Since I have been here I have felt better and I like being in school more than I used to. I feel that I wont go back to being bad.

Boys in the PE intervention lesson enjoyed a badminton tournament.



British champion among our students

by Lauren Phee

LAST year I won the title of Muay Thai Boxing British Champion in the 13-14 age category.

When I was eight I started Thai boxing. Muay Thai is a combat martial arts sport, which originally came from Thailand, it includes the use of fists, shins, knees and elbows.

I went to one of the best Thai boxing shows were I met some famous fighters and I ended up getting a pair of my gloves signed by Jordan Watson from Leeds, Keith McLachlan from Scotland, Liam Harrison from Leeds and more people.

I got involved with Thai boxing because a lot of

relatives on my mum's side of the family are boxers; my uncle Kevin Taylor was in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics for boxing he was a 3rd round finalist.

Thai boxing is enjoyable because when I'm angry it helps for me to take it out in the gym. I have also gained

confidence and more friends from going to shows because everybody from the other gyms is respectful.

I am now friends with most of them and that makes me feel more confident when I am fighting. Here at Coal Clough I am pleased that we also have boxing lessons.



Computer secrets unlocked

by Brenden Wyer

GCSE computer science students found out what is inside a computer when they pulled one to pieces.

They had an interesting time seeking out the motherboard, the central processing unit and lots more.

I have done this before and it is good fun. I have even built my own computer.

Students got to visit Training 2000 to find out about possible future careers.



Students learnt all about being a member of the cabin crew on a plane.

The KS3 nurture group reached new heights when they scaled the climbing wall.

