Our students had the chance to sit inside a Royal Air Force helicopter after it touched down on our school field on Tuesday last week.

Academy students were joined by Year 5 pupils from St Mary's Primary School in Moss Side, who watched the helicopter land on the school field, before being given the chance to meet the crew and look inside the cockpit.
Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue also made an appearance, giving students the opportunity to see the inner workings of a fire engine.

Year 7 student Gabriela Rodriguez Castro said: “It was so exciting to go inside the helicopter. I’d never seen one up close before.”

Year 7 student Tanisha Singh added: “I was not expecting we’d have the chance to go inside the helicopter. It was a really brilliant experience.”

St Mary’s Primary School pupils were equally impressed.

Pupil Hannah Aina said: “Going inside the helicopter was amazing, it was something I’ll never forget.”

Fellow St Mary’s pupil Amilah Ghafoor said: “It was so interesting to see inside the helicopter and I also enjoyed looking at the fire engine and all the equipment on board.”

The helicopter visit was part of RAF Shawbury’s Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) engagement programme.
It is an annual occurrence, which, since 2010, also sees the RAF bringing Christmas cheer to Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital, with military personnel visiting children on the wards and assisting Father Christmas in distributing his presents.

Donna O’Reilly, Senior Community Fundraising Officer at Royal Manchester Children’s Hospital Charity, said: “Our annual visit from the RAF really does mean so much to our young patients, who love getting a visit and present from Father Christmas whilst in hospital. The visit is always a very special day at the hospital, so we’d like to thank everyone involved for their generous support once again and for spreading Christmas cheer throughout our children’s hospital.”

Royal Air Force Flight Lieutenant Rachael Collier said: “Our aim is to help raise morale amongst the children in hospitals over the Christmas period by delivering Christmas presents. We hope to continue to run this event, making it bigger and better each year.”

Our Year 7 students have been recording Christmas carols in our school's recording studio. It was their first time in the studio and Music Teacher Mr Burns said they did really well.
Our History students were thrilled to be the first to be presented with copies of an Emmeline Pankhurst documentary, which is set to be rolled out to schools across Greater Manchester.

The DVD was launched at an event last Monday at the Pankhurst Centre, the former home of leading Suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst and her family. We received a special invite to the launch, which was also attended by the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, who was behind the move to ensure Emmeline’s legacy continues beyond this centenary year.

Mr Burnham said: “It’s only right that Emmeline’s legacy lives on beyond this centenary year, especially in her home city region. She was a fearless working mum from Moss Side who fought for her rights, demanded she be listened to and forced change to happen. She was a true inspiration and always will be.

“Greater Manchester is no stranger to leading change and people power will always drive forward our future. We’re funding this DVD because we want our young people to understand why it’s so important to stand up, to vote and to push for change you believe in.”
The DVD was made in Manchester and produced by the BBC. It is presented by actress Sally Lindsay, and explores Emmeline Pankhurst’s life and her battle for women’s right to vote.

Gail Heath, Chief Executive of the Pankhurst Trust, said: “The story of who Emmeline Pankhurst was, what made her and drove her onwards is a story that will inspire young people to find their own voices and to stand up for what they believe in.

“I am delighted that through the support of the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, young people in schools across Greater Manchester will be able to watch her extraordinary journey unfold in the powerful documentary, Emmeline Pankhurst: The Making of a Militant.”

History students at Manchester Academy have also recently received a Historic England Heritage Schools plaque, recognising their hard work investigating local heritage. The students explored key people and historic sites linked to the Suffrage movement in Manchester, and produced some amazing displays which were exhibited at Manchester Central Library earlier this year.

Head of History Ms Dhillon said: “The event at the Pankhurst Centre was a fitting culmination to the suffragette project that Manchester Academy students were involved with, working with Historic England and Manchester Central Library to produce an exhibition which highlighted the importance of the suffrage movement in Moss Side and across the country.”
Well done to this week’s Stars of the Week.....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Reg</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marwa Rufai and Safa Rufai</td>
<td>7VCO</td>
<td>Transition</td>
<td>The girls have both worked extremely hard this half term and have made great progress in all subjects. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamza Gadiry</td>
<td>7PDH</td>
<td>Induction</td>
<td>Attends the English Club regularly and is a good team player</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmed Radhi</td>
<td>8DMG</td>
<td>Transition</td>
<td>Excellent behaviour, very helpful along with intelligent contributions to class learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdulrahman Al-kanash</td>
<td>8JSA</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>For working so hard this half term. He is a great performer and director. He takes constructive criticism well and uses it to improve his work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohammed Unaizi</td>
<td>9SFL</td>
<td>Induction</td>
<td>Improved behaviour in Induction lessons and good progress (reading)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ubah Siad</td>
<td>9KEV</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>For consistent effort and excellent behaviour in all Maths lessons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irshan Sharif</td>
<td>10PAR</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Outstanding effort every single English lesson. Always focused and willing to produce above and beyond.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin Farrelly</td>
<td>11RBL</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>For a superb answer on DRC.</td>
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If you would like this newsletter translated into another language, please email Manchester Academy at:

manacadnewsletterinfo@manchester-academy.org

Yours sincerely,

Mr Eldon, Principal.