

Celebrations for top school

Maharishi staff and pupils join in 21st birthday joy



Headteacher at Maharishi School, Derek Cassells
Report by Henry James

The town's Maharishi School marked its 21st birthday on Friday, January 12th. Teachers at the school say that in their 21st year they have had a lot to celebrate including: academic achievement; prize winning pupils; and fundraising to support children in the developing world. In last year's GCSE results, the Maharishi School picked up 100% of passes at

grades A*- C and almost 60% of the passes being A* or A grades. The school's headteacher, Derek Cassells, said it was a remarkable result for a school which is not academically selective. The birthday celebration also acknowledged the recent success of H el ene Lambert who was invited to London as one of the prize winners of the Children's Poetry Bookshelf "Write-A-Poem" competition. H el ene's winning poem is included in the winners' anthology and also on the Children's Poetry website (www.childrenspetrybookshelf.co.uk). Recently pupils raised £250 for the charity "Hands across the World" (whose aim is to give a helping hand not a handout) to help orphans in Benin. This money is in addition to £110 already given to "Hands across the World", £450 to Water Aid and £100 for the Indonesian Tsunami relief effort. As part of its 21st birthday celebrations the Maharishi School is inviting families and their friends, as well as the wider West Lancashire community, to come and see the school. The school will be open for visitors during the morning on Saturday and Sunday, February 3, 4 from 10.30am and in the evening on Monday, February 5 from 7.30pm.