



Client: David Nieper
Source: Derbyshire Times
Date: 28/12/2017

Keyword: David Nieper Academy
Page: 7
Reach: 24959
Size: 419
Value: 1659.24

Memorial to honour school's rich history

By TIMES REPORTER
comment@derbyshiretimes.co.uk
@D_Times

An Alfreton school has announced plans to create a memorial in honour of a former headmaster and its founder.

The David Nieper Academy is to recognise its first and longest serving headteacher Wilfred Dawes and Alderman William Mortimer Wilson for the roles they played in helping to shape the school's history.

Mr Wilson, who was a local businessman, lawyer and chairman of the county education committee, founded the school in 1939, while Mr Dawes was awarded the OBE in 1959 for services to education. He retired in 1974.

The David Nieper Academy, formerly Alfreton Grange Arts College and Mortimer Wilson School, has been at the heart of the community

for decades.

Now its governors and a group of former pupils are spearheading plans to create tributes to the pair, which will be housed in the new school campus.

The final location and nature of the memorial is still to be confirmed but plans so far include a Wilfred Dawes memorial garden to create a living remembrance and the official naming of the new school's sports hall as the Mortimer Wilson Sport Hall.

Also under discussion is the provision of a cup or trophy awarded to pupils annually.

The school is keen to work with the local historical society to create a permanent exhibition within the school to provide information about the work and lives of Mr Dawes and Mr Wilson.

Dr Kathryn Hobbs, headteacher, said: "Both Mortimer Wilson and Wilfred Dawes are held in highest es-

.....
"They are an important part of the school's history"



teem in the world of education and it is entirely fitting that we commemorate their achievements here at the school.

"They are an important part of the school's history; we want to create a memorial that will be here for years to come to be enjoyed by Alfreton's future generations."

Stephen Beet, a former Mortimer Wilson pupil now living in Novosibirsk, Russia, said both he and his father were taught by Mr Dawes at the school.

He said: "He raised many of us from humble beginnings and enabled us to reach our goals.

"For this we shall ever remember him and be grateful.

"I am delighted that governors of the David Nieper Academy are keen to commemorate these two great men who not only made an outstanding contribution to education but personally touched the lives of generations of children."



UK Additional Regionals

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Wifred Dawes and William Mortimer Wilson, above left.