



July Newsletter

Attendance Matters!

Good news - attendance currently is 95.2% which is above the National Average and a slight increase on last year. In particular, the number of Persistent Absentees (pupils with less than 90% attendance) has dramatically fallen to 3%. This is very pleasing, thank you for your support with this. The Seaton Valley Partnership attendance policy and guidance is currently being updated and will be shared in September.

Congratulations to 6W who have the best attendance in the whole school this year.

Well done to 13 Y6 and Y7 boys who have reached the North East

Rugby League Cup final. Playing for Whitley Bay Barbarians U12s, the final will take place on 15th July. Well done lads!!



Virgin Money Enterprise

Last year, a group of year 5 and year 6 children took part in the Virgin Money Enterprise Scheme. The bank sent representatives to talk to the children about starting their own business. Children had to come up with some ideas of how to make £5.00 grow, and convince the bank that they were reliable and capable of repaying the loan. The bank were so impressed with their ideas and sales pitch that a loan was agreed, and each child received £5.00 to start their own business. Working in small groups, they planned their ideas out on paper, resourced and priced up supplies, decided on a product price to ensure a profit was made, delegated jobs to individuals in their groups and designed advertising posters. They also took part in assemblies to advertise their products and set their own sales pitch.

At the end of the first year the children had made a net profit of £317.62 and had repaid the loan in full to Virgin Money. This year the children had the confidence to 'go it alone' as they had a healthy bank balance to work from. They set about repeating the process of the previous year making alterations where they learned from last year's mistakes. Everything was ready and Sports Day was chosen as the date and venue for their enterprise, then the British weather intervened and cancelled Sports Day. Not to be disheartened, they went ahead setting up stalls in the hall. It was a brilliantly successful day. When Sports Day is rescheduled the enterprise will continue and add to the already successful project. We can't wait to see what our net profit looks like this year! Well done Luke H, Mackensie H, Ben C, Andrew J, Jacob E, Jamie H, Brooke I, Zoe B, Lily B, Ruby C, Isla W-H, Molly T, Macy J, Aicha T, Ellie H, Martha S, Molly W, Jack B, Owen A, Dean P, Rowan C and Charlie E. Not forgetting the help and support from parents, carers and staff.

Give Give Give

Over the last half term there have been several fundraising events. Year 8 Charities afternoon is a highlight of the year for many people and after months of careful planning, the Year 8s didn't disappoint!



There were 20 stalls offering a variety of experiences, eating, drinking, physical challenges, beauty and games.

Over £930 was raised - an amazing amount. Many thanks to everyone involved.

2017 Nominated charities

Tiny Lives, Alzheimer's Research UK
Make a Wish, Cancer Research UK,
RSPCA, Stroke Association, RNLI, MIND



Uniform

- Uniform is very important to us at SSMS.
- The vast majority of our pupils are incredibly smart and they wear the correct uniform. We often receive compliments about how our students present themselves and we feel very proud of this.
- When buying school uniform this Summer, please be aware of the following:
- Trousers should be full length and not skinny-fit. Leggings are not allowed. Be careful : not all trousers in a store's School Uniform department are suitable!!
 - Jeans and jean style trousers are not allowed e.g. if they are black cotton, have patch pockets and rivets they are masquerading as jeans and therefore are unsuitable for school.
 - School shoes must be plain, all black leather or leather look shoes. Canvas shoes are not allowed, neither are trainers. Plain black ankle boots are allowed.

Hairstyles, Jewellery and Make Up

- Extreme haircuts are not permitted - this includes 'Number 1' cuts, shaved heads and tramlines. Unnatural hair dye and extravagant hair accessories are also not allowed.
 - Pupils can wear a watch and one pair of ear studs. All other piercings are not allowed. Pupils have to remove earrings for PE lessons so the start of the school holidays is the perfect time to get ears pierced.
 - Make up should not be visible (eyebrows should look natural!!) and nail varnish is not permitted.
- If a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform, then they will be kept in at lunchtimes until appropriate changes are made or the hair grows. We understand that shoes may wear out or break, it is expected that a suitable replacement is found by the following weekend.
- Full information on uniform can be found in the Parents and Carers' Guide on our school website.

End of Term events

4th July Summer Concert 2.00 - 2.45pm

10th - 14th July Y4 / Y8 Transfer Week

13th July New starters Intake Evening 7pm

17th July Reward Trip

18th July Y5 Y6 Y7 Awards afternoon

19th July Y8 Leavers' Party 6.30— 9.00pm

20th July Y8 Graduation Awards Evening 7pm

♪♪♪♪♪ There was a glorious afternoon of music this week when pupils took part in the Summer Concert. There were performances from 5 East, the Choir, band,,guitar group as well as solos and duets from Isla W-H, Erin G, Sophie N, Jonathan L, Calvin M, Chad H, Owen T, Krystof K and Gabriel A. ♪♪♪♪♪

Staffing news

We are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Clark and wish her good luck in her new job at Churchill Community College. At the same time we are delighted to welcome Mrs Allison, who joins us from Heaton Manor School in Newcastle where she is Head of Technology. Mrs Crossman and Miss Gray are also leaving us, we pass on our heartfelt thanks and good luck for the future.

School finishes for the Summer on Friday 21st July at 1.30pm. We hope everyone has a lovely holiday and we look forward to seeing the pupils again on Tuesday 5th September at 8.50am. To Y8, we will miss you and we wish you continued success at Astley Community High School.