

# Community News

TCMS

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## Gardening Galore

Our veranda area has undergone some amazing changes recently to provide our pupils with a safe, quiet area in which to spend their break times. Our community gardening group have been busy enhancing this area by planting some beautiful flowers, with the help of local gardening expert Neil Skelly. Most of the community group are currently in year 8 and will therefore be moving on to a new school in September. Thankfully we have recruited two new members (pictured below) who are going to continue this great work and keep our Spittal flowerbed and the school grounds looking FAB-U-LOUS!



## Asthma

### Your child's safety is our top priority!

If your child suffers from asthma, please ensure that they have their inhaler in school every day. We do strive to make our learning environment exciting and engaging and some lessons may become more active than you would expect. An inhaler is a simple yet life-saving piece of equipment.

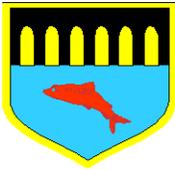


## Farm Visit

In preparation for their visit to Beal Farm and Hunting Hall Farm next term, year 6 pupils were visited by local farmer, David Thomson, who demonstrated how to make flour and talked about all of the crops that were grown on his farm. The pupils will be making apple crumble whilst at Hunting Hall. Unfortunately, the teachers will be required to taste each crumble as part of quality control.

## A look ahead - June

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6 School opens	7 Yr 6 Farm Visit	8 Yr 6 Farm Visit	9	10 Sign-up for activities day
13 Yr 6 bikeability week	14 Yr 5 Holy Island Trip	15	16	17
20 Yr 5 bikeability week	21	22	23	24 Year 6 to Dalguise
27 Yr 6 back from Dalguise	28 Non-competitive sportsday	29	30 London Trip	



## Canine Club

TCMS has begun a new, pioneering after-school club this term. Some of our year 6 pupils have had the opportunity to work as dog care assistants with a group of four bulldogs, with the aim to train these furry friends to be therapy dogs in school.

Week one was a write-off as both pupils and dogs were all far too excited to even contemplate listening to instructions. However, as the dogs have settled, the pupils have been able to walk, brush and play hide and seek with them. The children also built dens in the classroom and played bulldog bingo to see how many of the dogs they could get into their den. Over the next few weeks we plan to teach the dogs to sit and listen while being read to, teach agility exercises and get the boys to give a paw. This will hopefully prepare the dogs to work with some pupils in the future to build confidence, reduce stress, experience the love and loyalty these bulldogs have to give and to improve reading skills.



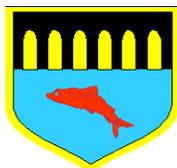
Dog therapy in school has been around for a while in the USA however it is still a pretty new concept in Britain. Dogs in the classroom can be used as a therapeutic aid for teaching children about kindness and empathy, but also for building confidence – especially in reading. With figures suggesting that one in six pupils in Britain struggle to read fluently by the age of 11, we would like to encourage pupils to read aloud to a friend who will be comforting and non-judgmental.

There is evidence to suggest that a child's blood pressure and stress levels are considerably lower when they are asked to read aloud to a dog. We hope that our dogs will teach children about responsibility and respect, while motivating those who struggle to concentrate in lessons.



## A look ahead - July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 Citizenship day	5	6	7	8
11 Competitive sports day	12 Mini bus sponsored walk	13 Prize giving- pm Yr 8 Prom- evening	14	15
18 Activities Day	19 School Closes for summer			



## Girl Guides Taster Session

The local Girl Guiding group ran an after school taster session for our pupils on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the activities that were on offer and some of them are sure to sign up. The groups run at the Jubilee on Mondays and St Paul's Church Hall, Spittal on Wednesdays. Times, cost and registration details can all be found at <http://www.girlguiding.org.uk> or email: [teri.guiding@gmail.com](mailto:teri.guiding@gmail.com)

The girls had to make knots with strawberry laces and the sweet theme continued when the girls melted marshmallows to make a digestive biscuit and marshmallow sandwich (below).



## Here come the girls

Year 5 pupil Nicole Gillon recently won a gold medal at the regional kickboxing competition whilst Abbi Rae held on to her British Jiu Jitsu championship title earlier this month. Well done to both girls. You are truly inspirational. Abbi's previous coach, Thiago, will be coming in to school next term to do some Jiu Jitsu training as part of our P.E curriculum.

## 'Oh Boyd, do they know their football!'

The Boyd family rule TCMS when it comes to football. Superstar footballer Matt has recently been signed for Scottish Cup Winners, Hibernian FC. This comes less than a year after he was initially scouted by them. Meanwhile Matt's father came second in our school fantasy football league, beaten only by Matt's cousin Jack Forster with 1106 points. Matt himself, finished the league in 5<sup>th</sup> place, being narrowly beaten by Miss Taylor and Connal Ham. As if they didn't dominate this competition enough, Matt's big sister Holly was the highest scoring girl and came seventh in the competition with a total score of 985. Well done family Boyd!

## Area Volleyball Champions

With great teamwork, our boys' volleyball team won their first game in the area competition. As they succeeded in winning their next two games, the boys were confident going into the final match against Seahouses (who had also won all of their games). The score remained close for the whole game and on the final whistle – a draw was decided. The result would be decided on points scored...

Meanwhile, in the girls' competition we suffered a disappointing start with both teams losing their first game. However, our year 7 team regrouped showing great resilience and won their next match. They also won game 3 and with some great serving and volleying, accompanied by solid teamwork, the girls managed to win their final 2 matches. This resulted in the girls winning the competition, beating close rivals Glendale by one point. Our boys finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the competition just two points behind Seahouses.

## Hoping for another area win

The year 5 and 6 girls rounders teams started their summer practices in a bid to go one better than last year and win at the Area Competition. Everyone one is welcome and if the weather is fine training will take place every Tuesday after school until 4.30. See Miss Taylor for details.

## Sponsorship

We are currently looking for local businesses to sponsor our newsletter which is being sent out to over 300 homes each half-term. If you would like your business to appear in the next issue of our next newsletter, please contact Miss H Garland at [Admin@tweedmouth.northumberland.sch.uk](mailto:Admin@tweedmouth.northumberland.sch.uk)



## Important – medical information

The School follows the County Council's Administration of Medication Policy, a copy of which is on our website, and as part of our guidelines we must insist that pupils do NOT bring medication to school under any circumstances. I would therefore ask you to adhere to the following rules in respect of medication:

1. If medication cannot be given outside of school hours, parents should fill in a request form for staff to administer medication, giving the dose to be taken, the method of administration, the time and frequency of administration, other treatment, any special precautions and signed consent.
2. The parent should bring all medication to school, as we cannot accept medication from a pupil. It should be delivered personally to our Medication Co-ordinator (Mrs Y Crawford). All medication brought into school by parents must be in a clearly labelled pharmacy bottle or packet, preferably with a child safety top – and in original packaging - which must give the owner's name, the contents and the dosage to be administered (a prescription label).
3. Only the smallest practicable amount should be kept in school.
4. Non-prescribed medication (over the counter) such as cough medicine, should not be administered. The only notable exception to this rule is paracetamol. At the discretion of the Head, paracetamol can be issued, provided the practice is strictly controlled by adopting the same standards as for prescribed medication. Once again, parents would have to sign the formal agreement to allow staff to administer the medication.
5. As part of this policy all children with asthma should have an asthma care plan. If your child has asthma and you have not completed a care plan, please contact school as soon as possible.

Could we also ask that if you plan to take your child to a medical appointment, such as your GP or dentist, that you provide a copy of the medical appointment card and hand in to the office. Naturally we can photocopy it in school.

If you have any queries regarding this advice please do not hesitate to contact school.

Thank you very much for your cooperation,

Mr. B. Hulbert  
Headteacher

## Citizenship Day

This term, citizenship day was all about Global Links. Year 5 created an emergency aid pack to send to victims of a flooding disaster. They were only allowed to spend £70 (excluding food and first aid) to create their pack and had to think of what essentials the victims of the flooding would need the most. They used their mathematical skills to calculate the total of each virtual pack.

Year 8 pupils found themselves in a state of inequality while living the lives of child workers around the world. Some pupils found themselves sacked and on the street very quickly whereas others found that if their work was not good enough, they would lose their privileges and have to work on the floor.

