



December Newsletter

School Council 2017-18

The School Council meet every month to discuss matters in school and put forward proposals to make things even better.

This year the councillors are Aaron M, Abby G, Amie B, Amy B, Asfand A, Ben T, Ciaran J, Emma B, Ethan P, Evan B, Fraser C, Harry E, Katie F, Liam B, Mackensie H, Mae W, Martha S, Millie J, Millie W, Nathan K, Peter F, Rihanna P, Samantha C, Sam T, Scott T, Sophie N, Will A and Xanthe M-E.

Attendance Matters!!

Despite a nasty bout of sickness doing the rounds just before half term, attendance is presently 95.8%, above our school target of 95%.

Holidays taken in term time will be unauthorised unless there are exceptional circumstances and penalty notices may be issued. We would like to continue to work alongside parents and carers in this area, alongside Mrs Clapperton our Education Welfare Officer. If you have any queries in this area, please just contact Mrs Ord or Mrs Lindley at school.

As you know, the Seaton Valley Federation are introducing SchoolComms as our main communication method.

There will be events to give parents and carers more information about it in the next few weeks at both sites.

In the meantime please ensure you have returned data collection sheets. Correct mobile phone details and email addresses are paramount for the system to run smoothly.

Thank you.

LEST WE FORGET

Y8 presented a very moving assembly to remember those who have lost their lives serving their country.

There was a recital of 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae and some pupils read poems they have written about the effects of conflicts.

All of Y8 should be congratulated on a superb commemoration. Ceramic poppies are still on sale, available from the Art Room at playtimes. All proceeds go to the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

INVASION ALERT!!

Year 7 re-enacted the Battle of Hastings as part of learning about the Norman Invasion of England. Pupils were split into the Normans (led by William, Duke of Normandy) and the Saxons (led by King Harold Godwinson)



The pupils learned the stages of the battle and improvised with shield walls being made from rugby pads!!

Coming up

Mon 11th and Tues 12th Dec - Y5 Christingle Church visits

Wed 13th Dec—Christmas Lunch

Thurs 14th Dec - Christmas Theatre Treat Visit

Fri 15th Dec - Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day 50p suggested donation

Tues 19th Dec - Y5 Nativity 7pm

Wed 20th Dec - Christmas Disco 6pm - 8pm

Fri 22nd Dec - School finishes 1.30pm



FUN RUN 2017

As usual, the 2017 SSMS Fun Run provided lots of laughs and camaraderie as well as raising money for school. The weather was kind once again as over 350 people ran and walked the 7km route.

First past the post was Y8 pupil Ben, followed by Mr Elliott, who will be seeking revenge on the pupils next year. Many thanks to everyone involved, in particular the parents and carers who supported the pupils along the way and everyone who has sponsored the pupils. We have raised almost £1600 so far and will let you know what we are spending the money on in due course.



Food for Thought

SSMS food bank is now established. Rev. Yvonne Tracy visited school and shared her experiences of being involved in Blyth Food Bank. We now are receiving donations and Mrs Cook is co-ordinating collections and deliveries. It isn't just food that can be donated, items such as toiletries are also very much welcomed.

May we take this opportunity to respectfully remind you of a couple of things.....

Please do not drive into Alston Grove when dropping off or collecting pupils. The children are able to walk to meet you, please consider using the Astley Arms car park or one of the streets further into the estate. There must always be space for staff to ensure the pupils can cross St Ronan's Drive at the end of the day, please do not park near the junction with Alston Grove where the pupils cross as you will be asked to move.

Also as Winter kicks in, please send your child into school wearing appropriate clothing to keep them warm and dry.

We would appreciate your support in this area. Many thanks.

Anti-Bullying Week 13th - 17th November : All Different, All Equal

Children and staff at SSMS have been busy during Anti-Bullying week working on a theme of "All Different All Equal". A group of brave Year 7 children introduced the week by leading an excellent assembly, with the focus of all the children at our school being like the ingredients in a cake; all are different but all are equal, as when they work together they make something great.

The children have carried out many activities during the week, in their lessons and during ERIC. We have a competition running for the best piece of work from each year group (winners to be announced soon).

The winning pieces of work will be on display in the reception area.

Pastures new

Mrs Davies will be leaving us in December as she takes up a new role for Northumberland County Council as a SEND School Improvement Leader. Over her 9 years with us, she has had a lasting impact on the young people in SVF, as a French teacher, a SENDCo and an Assistant Headteacher and we wish her every success in her new job. Mr Elliott will be taking over SEND in the interim period, working closely with Mrs Hart and the SEND support team.



We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2018. We look forward to seeing the pupils on 9th January.

