



Cockermouth School NEWSLETTER



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- OLYMPIAN: LUKE GREENBANK visit
- CHICAGO: It's a wrap
- ATTENDANCE
- Y9 COUNTY CUP CHAMPIONS
- SPORTS TOUR
- Y11 NETBALL
- CAREERS WEEK
- CARLISLE MUSIC FESTIVAL
- RED NOSE DAY
- DANCE LIVE!
- FORTHCOMING EVENTS



SucSEED

Following a successful sustainability pitch, team SucSEED secure a further £1500 towards their rewilding project.



World Book Day

Reading is for everyone. On World Book Day students were challenged to decipher which members of staff were hiding behind the books.



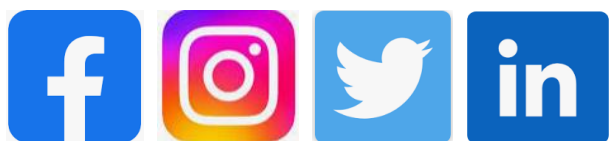
Jimmy Choo Academy

A chance trip to the Jimmy Choo Academy open day, leads to an opportunity of a lifetime for Year 13 student, Sophie Tewane.



School Rebuilding Programme

Cockermouth School will be part of the national School Rebuilding Programme and will see a major upgrade to our school.



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[@cockermouthschool.org](https://www.cockermouthschool.org)

Olympian – Luke Greenbank

On Monday 6 March we were delighted to be joined by a very special visitor - Olympian and former student Luke Greenbank. Luke, having just arrived back to the UK, took time from his busy schedule to spend the morning with us answering numerous questions about his swimming career and his experience of the Olympic Games in Tokyo. Students and staff alike were thrilled to see his Olympic medals, each commenting on how heavy they were!

Students in Year 7 received an aspirational message from Luke during their assembly where he reminded them to aim high and that great things ARE possible. Luke also presented our Year 7 'Form of the Week' (7SKI) and our 'Students of the Week' (Aaron W & Libby F) with their certificates.

A Level PE students had a Q&A session with Luke where they covered a vast range of topics including nutrition, training schedules, university life, future ambitions, tattoos and his time at Cockermonth School. Two of our Year 13 students, Ollie and Elayna, interviewed Luke on camera, posing questions on behalf of the whole student body – questions such as: How did you manage to juggle your school workload and swimming? Who was your favourite teacher at school? Did training ever get the better of you? The video will be made available to the whole school so everyone can see his responses.

Luke was then grilled by students from our Strategically Resourced Provision where the questions came thick and fast: How far do you swim in a training session? How many countries have you swam in? Can you recommend a way to prevent drowning? Do you ever swim in open water? What music do you listen to?

Our sincere thanks go to Luke for providing such a fantastic opportunity for our whole school community.



Chicago

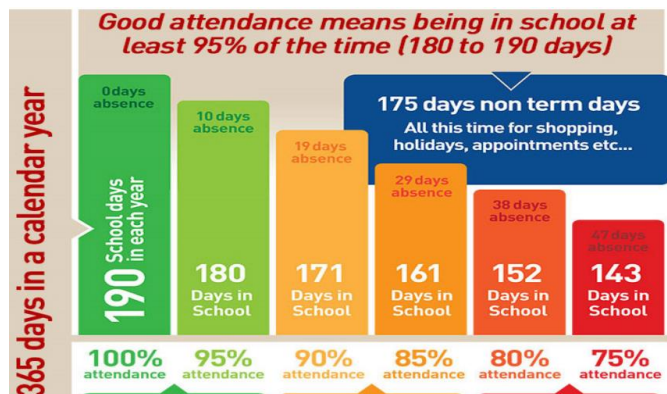
The beginning of February saw the return of our annual school production - Chicago, 1920's; the Jazz era. In roaring twenties Chicago, chorine Roxie Hart murders a faithless lover and convinces her hapless husband, Amos, to take the rap... until he finds out he's been duped and turns on Roxie. Convicted and sent to death row, Roxie and another "Merry Murderess," Velma Kelly, vie for the spotlight and the headlines, ultimately joining forces in search of the "American Dream": fame, fortune, and acquittal.

Three evenings and one matinee performance showcased some truly outstanding talent, providing families and our local community with dazzling entertainment. The cast, back stage crew, orchestra and staff all worked exceptionally hard to ensure it was a night to remember for everyone who came to watch. Their hard work and dedication received much praise from the audiences and Head of Drama, Miss Mossop commented that it had been our best school production to date.

Now to start planning for 2024!



Attendance



Regular attendance at school means that your child can make the most of their education and improve their chances in adult life.

Regular attendance at school can also help your child's social skills, such as making and developing friendships with their peers.

Year 9 Rugby Champions

On Friday 10 March our Y9 rugby team were crowned County Cup Champions after beating QEGS (Penrith) by three tries to one. The players were excellent in their approach and led a strong performance. **Congratulations** to you all.



SucSEED

Over the last four months team SucSEED have been working hard building their sustainability campaign. The project is managed by Centre for Leadership Performance in partnership with Sellafield Ltd and we have two business mentors Jason and Quentin. The project aims to provide young people with opportunities to lead change in their local communities and make them more aware of the global UN sustainability goals.

The 14 students involved care about what is going on in our world and are passionate about issues surrounding sustainability, both globally and locally. They chose to focus their campaign around three Sustainable Development Goals: life on land, climate action and good health & wellbeing.

Their campaign encourages communities to work together to reduce their carbon footprint by 'rewilding' an area of their community, and in doing so create a perfect haven for plants and wildlife, as well a space for people to enjoy and improve their physical and mental wellbeing.

They plan to re-wild an area of school behind the Eco Centre and while doing so share their progress and knowledge online to inspire satellite projects within the community. They have some very innovative ideas for marketing their work with seed paper flyers and blog for the community.

The day finally came when they had to pitch their idea to CforLP and Sellafield Ltd. It was a great team effort and the panellists were really impressed with:

- the professional and informative presentation
- outstanding intro film
- the creativity ideas for marketing, the presentation PowerPoint and logo
- how the students have all got involved and worked as a team on the project
- the research work undertaken
- the longer-term plan for the school and local community
- the commitment, understanding and enthusiasm for rewilding areas

They were successful in gaining the further funding of £1500. After the pitch the group were elated with excitement and instantly started to plan their next steps in making their dream a reality.





Y8 Sports Tour

The 16th annual Sports Tour to Marple Hall in Stockport took place at the beginning of March with a weekend of football, rugby, hockey and netball.

Students also attended a Super League rugby match at Leigh Sports Village watching Leigh Leopards win against St Helens.

Jimmy Choo Fashion Academy

When opportunities arise, you have to grab them with both hands, which is exactly what Sophie Tewane has done.

Year 13 student Sophie is currently studying English Language, Business and Psychology in Sixth Form and had been struggling to decide on which universities to apply to. During lockdown, Sophie took a keen interest in art and although she does not study art at A Level, she has an eye for design.

Back in December, Sophie and her mum travelled to London to attend an Open Day at the Jimmy Choo Academy to learn more about the world-famous creative director and what his London Fashion Academy had to offer. Sophie was inspired and decided to submit her application after which she was delighted to be offered an interview. Along with a portfolio of her work, Sophie attended the interview at the start of January and within three days she received an email offering her a place in September.

On average the academy only offers places to between 20-25 individuals. Sophie will study a BA (Hons) degree in Fashion: Design, Branding and Entrepreneurship at the flagship London Fashion Academy which is located in the heart of Mayfair. All JCA students are encouraged to start their own brands during their studies and start selling the collections they have designed through pop-up shops and online boutiques.

We can't wait to see Sophie's ideas come to fruition and where her future career will take her.

Congratulations Sophie, what an amazing opportunity!



World Book Day



An impromptu gathering on World Book Day saw a large group of students take turns reading to each other during lunchtime.

Having all received a free copy of the same book from the book giveaway, they took it in turns to read each other pages of the book. All in good humour, respecting whoever was reading (no matter their reading ability), encouraging each other to read and creating tension and atmosphere to the story with significant and enthusiastic audience participation! Three chapters later lunch ended and all headed into their lessons in great spirits.

Mrs Carrick held a competition in the library where students had to identify, from photographs on the wall, which member of staff was hiding behind the photo. Guess who this is..



School Rebuilding Programme

We were delighted to hear the government announcement that Cockermouth School will be part of the national School Rebuilding Programme which will see a major upgrade to our school. Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Baroness Barran, has confirmed in writing that we are now part of the programme which aims to provide modern, sustainable and state of the art facilities for education in England.

Following a nomination process, letters written by students, visits from our local MP, many detailed structural surveys and support from our community, the school's future is bright with new premises being developed over the next few years. The School Rebuilding Programme is backed by £1.8 billion of government funding this financial year, helping to rebuild and refurbish primary, secondary, and specialist schools, in addition to sixth form colleges around England.

Students, staff and trustees have been longing for improved facilities that can support our ambitions to provide the most exceptional learning experience and inspire the next generation. The provision of a purpose-built, modern and sustainable learning environment will certainly further enhance the high-quality educational experience we provide at Cockermouth School.

The school will develop the upgrade plans in partnership with the national programme commencing with detailed site feasibility studies. Only three schools in Cumbria are part of this announcement. The school's major upgrade will enable new facilities for students and staff to continue to ensure excellent academic, artistic and pastoral success well into the future. We look forward to updating our school community on these developments in the months ahead.

Carlisle and District Music and Drama Festival

We had a very successful time at this year's Carlisle & District Music and Drama Festival which was held at St Cuthbert's Church and St Georges' Church in Carlisle. The event takes place annually in the second week of March and brings together performers from all over Cumbria and beyond, providing them with the opportunity to display their talents and skills in music, speech and drama to professional adjudicators and a welcoming audience.

Title	Competitor(s)	Place
Harp solo - Open	Sophie D Y8	1 st
Instrumental Composition 19U	Hannah E Y12 Amber S Y12	1 st 2 nd
Vocal Duets 11-18	Freya B Y9 & Matilda B Y10 Freya B Y9 & Amy C Y9	1 st 2 nd
Choirs - Open	Girls' Choir	2 nd
Vocal ensembles	Boys' Choir Staff Choir Sixth Form Choir	1 st =2 nd =2 nd
Girls' vocal solo 15U	Freya B Y9 Matilda B Y10	1 st 2 nd
Song in a foreign language 13-18	Jack M Y11 Matilda B Y10	1 st 2 nd
Boys' vocal solo 12+	Jack M Y11	=2 nd
Junior folk song 11-18	Jack M Y11 Matilda B Y10 Merryn W Y8	1 st =2 nd =2 nd
Songs from the shows 14-18	Jack M Y11	2 nd
Senior instrumental ensemble	Woodwind group Brass group String group	1 st =2 nd =2 nd
Orchestra - Senior Schools	Orchestra	1 st
Orchestra - Open	Orchestra	1 st



Our students came away with a haul of eight trophies, a bursary, 10 x 1st place certificates and 13 x 2nd place certificates, whilst our very own music teachers Mr Ulyatt and Mr Deakin also had a successful weekend of competition. Between them they amassed 4 trophies, 4 x 1st place certificates, 4 x 2nd place certificates. Mr Deakin was awarded the Cumberland News Cup for the highest adult vocal mark with a score of 89. Congratulations to all participants.

Red Nose Day

Red noses, red clothing, red pens, red art – Friday 17 March was all about Red Nose Day.

Year 7 had a blast playing fairground games whilst raising funds, we had tombola's and our Sixth Formers (and staff) kept the pedals turning all day in a Year 12 v Year 13 bike race to see who could pedal the furthest. Year 13 were victorious as they managed to cycle 112.93 km with Year 12 coming in at 107.03km. Mrs Regan and Mrs Milledge both played their part in a head-to-head spin off, contributing to the overall totals.

Thank you to all who took part and donated. We raised £875 on the day.



Year 11 Netball

Our Year 11 Netball team have had a fantastic year! They have participated in The National Schools Netball Competition in England, which allows around 1500 teams over three ages groups (U14, U16, U19) to enter at County level with the hopes of progressing through to the Regional and National rounds of the competition in attempt to be crowned National Schools Champions.

The Cockermouth School U16 Netball team were successful in winning all their matches in the district rounds, to come first place in the district tournament. From here, they then went and represented Allerdale and Copeland in the County round of the tournament and came runner up to Sedbergh School after displaying some excellent Netball and team spirit!

From here, they went to represent Cumbria in the Regional round at The Kings School, Macclesfield where they did not progress further, but developed new skills and tactics that we look forward to putting into practice next year! This was a huge achievement for the team, one that they thoroughly enjoyed playing and where memories were made!



National Careers Week



In the week beginning 6 March, we celebrated National Careers Week. We welcomed visiting speakers into school to speak to students across all year groups. Sixth Form students had a busy programme of assemblies and Q & A sessions from visitors representing a range of sectors.

For our Year 11 students there was a dual focus on supporting those who are looking to join our Sixth Form, whilst providing further information about some of the other opportunities that exist locally, through apprenticeships and alternative providers. Students in Years 7-10 received some important Labour Market Information during a registration period and had a focus in their lessons on the links between academic subjects and specific job roles.



Dance Live!

Monday 13 March saw students from our Friday after-school Dance Club travel to Sheffield to take part in the northern heat of Dance Live! at Sheffield City Hall. A seven-minute piece based on 'Stranger Things' saw them achieve second place and the winners of the Fellowship award.

Embracing an ever-evolving digital world and how this is changing the face of modern performance, Dance Live! sees students compete with choreographed routines to the backdrop of a giant digital screen, showcasing a range of skills from dance, performance and creative design to off-stage technical skills.

Special mention must go to Katie Ingram Y8 for her outstanding performance as the main character - Eleven and also to Cecilia Kenyon Y11 for stepping in at the last minute and doing an amazing job.

Forthcoming Events:

- 26 April: Year 7 Parents' Evening
- 9 May: Year 13 Celebration Evening
- 11 May: Year 11 Celebration Evening
- 15 May – 28 June: A Level & GCSE Examinations
- 29 May – 2 June: Half Term
- 15 June: Year 12 Employability Day
- 19 June: Year 8 Celebration Evening
- 22 June: Year 10 Celebration Evening
- 26 & 27 June: Sixth Form Induction Day
- 4 & 5 July: Intake Days
- 5 July: Intake Parents' Meeting
- 6 July: Sports Day
- 7 July: Blues Night
- 7 – 11 July: GCSE/A Level French Trip
- 7 July: World Challenge - Madagascar Team 1
- 10 – 14 July: Year 10 Work Experience
- 10 July: Year 7 Celebration Evening
- 13 July: Year 9 Celebration Evening
- 14 July: World Challenge – Madagascar Team 1 & 2
- 17 – 19 July: Year 12 Work Experience
- 17 – 19 July: Activities Week
- 17 July: Year 12 Celebration Evening
- 18 July: Year 10 World of Work Day
- 19 July: End of Term
- 17 August: A Level Results Day
- 24 August: GCSE Results Day