



Did you know....

A "cronut" is a cross between a doughnut and a croissant

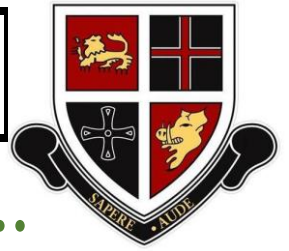


Issue
FIVE

MAY 2022

A half-termly insight into our wonderful year group

Excellent Eights Newsletter



National Literature Quiz: Wednesday 25th
May

Simpson says.....

Today was a good day. It had safety warnings, a huge amount of biscuits, a couple of dodgy maps, mountains of literature, and a lot of laughs. It started with being at Durham station for 5:10 in THE MORNING! We were at the station when one teacher, who wishes to remain anonymous, went on the wrong side of the station and got stuck.

After this 5am hilarity, we headed off on the train for three hours. When we got off, what was supposed to be a 5 minute walk from the tube station, ended up being a 15 minute circling of London. When we finally arrived at the venue, we were greeted with biscuits, juice and a very welcoming room. We spent around three hours completing the quiz and there were some mind blowing questions. After that, we had a very fancy lunch-pickles and all. We heard the scores and were pleased to be placed 13th in the country (Mrs Walton had hoped to be in the top 20, so she was super pleased).

By 'The Lit Quiz Team'

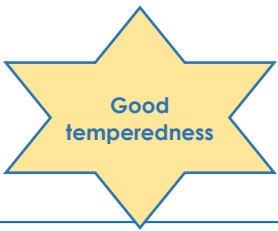
WELL DONE BEATRICE (8MK)

The mornings and evenings continue to get lighter, the temperature warmer, with more chances to get outdoors and do things. There are a lot of examples in this newsletter about the many things that year 8 students are getting up to; sporting achievements, community involvement, academic achievement. In short, great people doing great things together.

This is a shorter note from me as I have been away in Manchester for a few days, working with an exam board on standardising students' exams. I'll leave things here by wishing everyone well and passing on my best wishes for half term. Stay safe and active!

Mr Simpson





Extra-curricular

What is made of leather and sounds like a sneeze?
A SHOE!!

CONGRATULATIONS to **Katie Dawson (8UA)** who was recently graded to 4th Kyu in karate. Katie has also become a Cadet Leader, supporting teaching of the junior classes. Furthermore, she won the sparring and individual kata events at the club's Easter competition.

GREAT NEWS KATIE, KEEP IT UP!

WELL DONE to **Grace Carter (8HH)** attended the annual North East Harrier League Presentation Evening recently in Newcastle. Grace was awarded 3rd Grand Prix place for the overall season.

AWESOME, very well deserved!

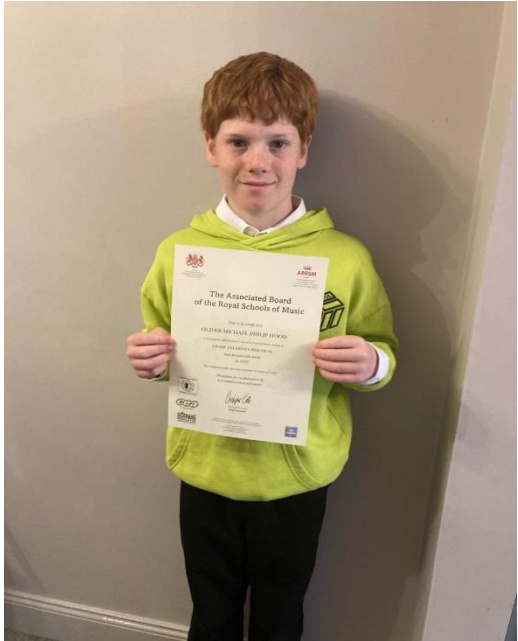


Arran (8UA) plays basketball for East Durham Lions, a team in the National Basketball League North. He was recently selected through a North East Aspire training camp as one of 15 players to represent North of England U13s. Training camps in Leeds and Manchester culminated in a national tournament against the other regions in Manchester on 18th/19th June.

AMAZING WORK ARRAN!

FANTASTIC news for **OLLIE (8JW)**, who last month achieved Grade 3 in his clarinet exam certificate and was awarded a merit.

GREAT WORK OLLIE!



On Monday the 9th of May, **Rachel (8UA), Emily (8DA), Lottie (8UA)** and **Ziva (8AK)** performed in a professional Opera. Alongside the English Touring Opera we were in the show La Bohème. The show is about young love on Christmas Eve and leads to the announcing of Mimi's death. Like all Operas it is a classic story of passion, friendship, jealousy and mortality that truly captures the drama and poverty of 19th century Paris. We were chosen to sing a song called Parpignol. The song was about a puppet who made toys so of course being poor children we wanted presents! We have all said it was an amazing experience and would love to have more great opportunities like this open up to us again.

By-Ziva-Steve Cruddace

AMAZING GIRLS-WELL DONE!



'AMAZING GRACE' CARTER (8HH)

won **GOLD** in the 3000m U15G race at The North Eastern track and field championships on Saturday 14 May.

WOW!!



EXCELLENT news for **ALFIE (8MK)** who has recently secured his orange belt in Karate.

GREAT WORK ALFIE!



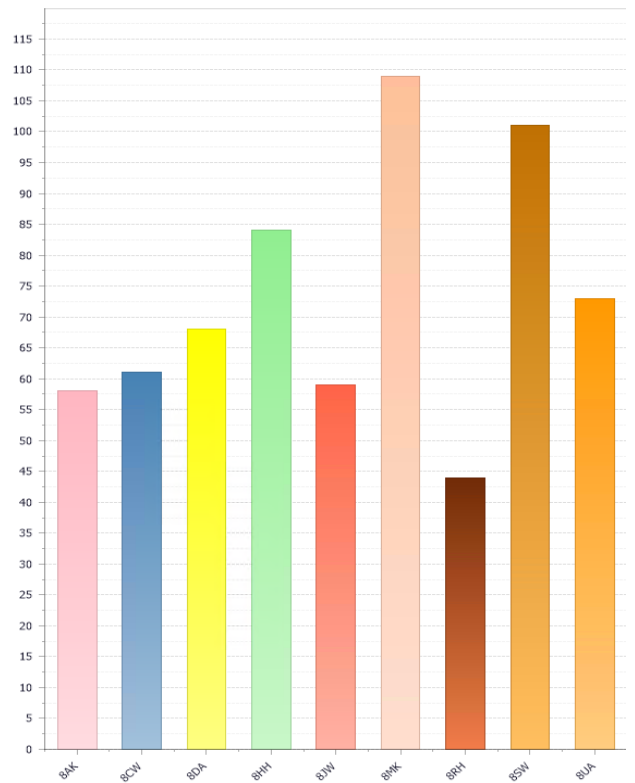
Our U13 girls tennis team played Vs. Whitburn this afternoon. DJ girls won all their matches (6 sets). Everyone played in good spirits and there were some amazing rally's.

WELL DONE MADDY (8MK) and NADIA (8HH)

Mrs Hopper

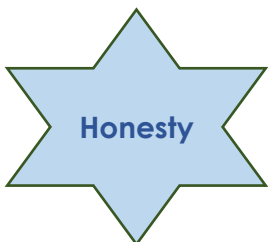
House Points

HP Summary for Year 8



Well done to **8MK** who have the most house points (**109**) this half-term

Keep up the good work year 8's!



Did you know....

Rabbits can see behind them without moving their heads

Extra-curricular



Well done to the Y8 girls, in their first friendly of the season against St Leonard's. Lovely matches excellent team work and all players conducted themselves beautifully.

Mrs Bell



FABULOUS news for two Y8 boys, NIK (8UA) and WILL (8DA) who on Wed 4th May were invited to receive awards for their entries to the Newcastle University Maths Challenge. Nik received a prize and Will received a certificate EXCELLENT WORK!

Outstanding performance by our Year 8 cricket team who beat RGS, Newcastle by 116 runs in the English schools national cup. Unfortunately, Sedbergh were too strong for us in the next round. However, we were the last comprehensive school left in the competition, a MASSIVE achievement.

WELL DONE!



The U13 girls won their first outdoor tournament of the season at Sedgefield CC today. Playing some outstanding cricket V Greenfield & Sedgefield schools. On to the next round.

GOOD LUCK GIRLS!

A Mexican magician gets on stage and says "I will disappear in 3 seconds." He counts: "Uno, Dos." And he disappeared without a.....

OUTSTANDING performance by our U15 pentathlon teams who were competing in the county championships. Our girls finished 1st to become county champions. Our boys A team finished 2nd and our boys B team were 3rd. Best overall school AGAIN. Also, well done to all of the Y8's who participated in the ESFA athletics and **WON**, the area athletics and **WON** and **GOOD LUCK** to those selected to represent Durham on 11th June.



Congratulations to our Y8 boys football team who won their final league match 7-2 against King James and finish the season **UNBEATEN**. The lads have been crowned **LEAGUE CHAMPIONS**. The team also beat Woodham in the League Cup final 5-. A FANTASTICK free kick from **HARRY CLISH** sealed the victory!

EXCELLENT SEASON LADS!



Don't forget to check out our 'Excellent Eights' Teams for weekly updates on all extra-curricular clubs and activities.

Would you like to write an article/subject review for the next newsletter? Please get in touch with Mr Kidd via email/Teams




Can you and your school take on the #30DaysWild challenge this June?

The Wildlife Trusts have been running the #30DaysWild challenge since 2015, hoping to encourage people from all walks of life to spend time with nature. Since then, millions of people have gone wild during June – taking a moment each day to connect to the natural world.

In a time where the natural world really needs our help, you and your class can make a real difference by simply doing one thing a day. It's not just wildlife that will see the benefits, either! Alongside the University of Derby, we've studied the effects of taking part in #30DaysWild and found that participants report feeling happier and healthier - not only right after June, but for months after, too.

You can sign up for a free pack today over at wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild and we'll provide you with activity ideas and inspiration for what you can do each day. You might be having breakfast with the birds on Monday, feeling the grass between your toes on Tuesday, and watching wildlife webcams on Wednesday. There's no set structure, so you can take part in a way that suits you.

We really hope you can join us in going wild this June.

Stay in touch with Durham Wildlife Trust at durhamwt.com and on   



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