



SEATON SLUICE MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS REVIEW

Week Ending: September 11th, 2026

Autumn Term (1) End of Week 2: Read on to get the latest SSMS updates.

Spotlight on...English

This week, English classes enjoyed their first library visit of the term. It was fantastic to see pupils so excited to explore the shelves, discover new stories, and share book recommendations with their friends. We love seeing such a strong passion for reading, and we can't wait to see what books everyone chooses next!



Year 5

Year 5 Dive into Writing!

Our Year 5 pupils have made a fantastic splash at the start of the term with their baseline narrative task, titled "An Underwater Adventure". The children's imaginations ran wild as they plunged into deep-sea worlds filled with mystery, action, and humor!

We were blown away by the incredible creativity on display across the classes:

- Olivia wrote an imaginative story about a girl named Emily who discovers she is actually a magical fish and ends up being crowned underwater royalty.
- Jaxon took us on a high-stakes quest inside a magic mountain to find a hidden time pool before making a dramatic escape in a helicopter.

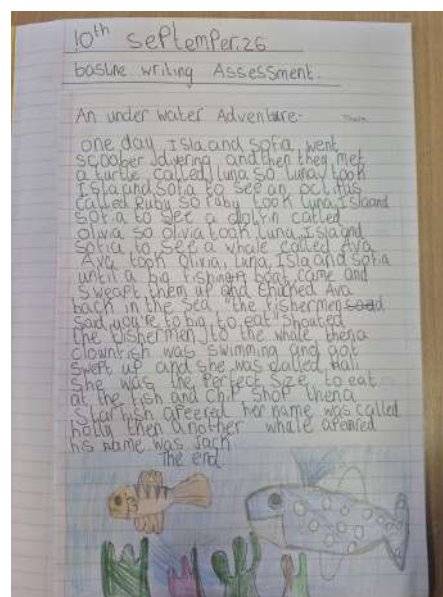


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- Jenson shared a brilliant tale of brave kittens in scuba suits using a screwdriver to repair a leak in the Eurostar tunnel.
- Ted wowed us with vivid figurative language, describing a giant white shark as big as *"stacked school buses"*.
- Aarun kept us on the edge of our seats with clever survival logic, swimming in *"zig-zags"* to outsmart a shark.
- Isla brought her adventure to a heartwarming close as her character enjoyed an ice cream on the beach while watching a mother turtle swim past with her babies.
- Lizzie guided us through a mysterious cave following a secret map to find treasure with Mr. and Mrs. Octopus.
- Evie brought magical fun to the ocean with a mysterious fish popping right out of a hat.

It has been a wonderful start to the school year, and we cannot wait to see our Year 5 authors expand their sentence structures, punctuation, and descriptive vocabulary as the term progresses!



Year 6

Year 6 have started an exciting topic based on Clockwork by Philip Pullman.

6/1 were amazing during their lesson on Tuesday where they took part in a P4C enquiry, based on a short film called The Clock Tower. They all demonstrated excellent listening skills and made interesting contributions to the class discussions. The students generated some thought-provoking questions based on the stimulus: What does it mean to self-sacrifice? What is more important: your own happiness or the happiness of others?



6/2 have written fabulous Clock Tower descriptions this week, following some work on similes and metaphors. They've also had their first Reciprocal Reading session, in which they've read aloud to a grown up and discussed in their group ways to decode what a writer's intentions have been. An impressive start!

Students in 6En3 have recorded ideas in preparation to write a description. In the Clock Tower animation there are two scenes - a bright, colourful one and a dull, melancholy one. We have collected adjectives, similes and examples of personification for each scene ready for next week's writing task.



Year 7

Our Year 7 students have made a thrilling start in English with their baseline story challenge, "*The Rescue*". From hot-air balloon expeditions over the Amazon rainforest to rocket ships crash-landing in dense jungles, their imaginations have truly soared!

7/3 wrote about dramatic cave survivals in Japan, stormy sea rescues, and even T.K. Maxx elevator mishaps and beach chases. We are immensely proud of all of Year 7's creative ambition, rich descriptive details, and vivid storytelling - what a fantastic start to the academic year!



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Year 7 have started reading *The Nowhere Emporium* by Ross MacKenzie. The pupils are already engaging with the novel brilliantly and are looking forward to finding out more about the mysterious shop which appears out of nowhere.

7/1 are taking on the role of Daniel Holmes (one of the story's main characters) and writing a diary entry about his unusual day. The students have really impressed with their outstanding effort and eagerness to develop their writing skills.

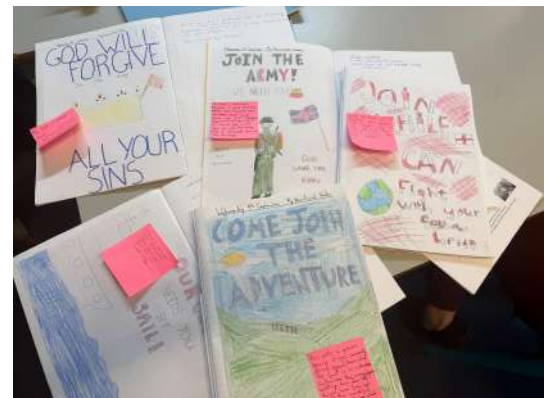


7/3 really enjoyed writing their diary entries, and got well into character as Daniel when they wrote about his life at the start of the book. Their writing has been very impressive!

Year 8

Year 8 have started their topic about World War 1. During this topic they will be reading *Private Peaceful*, by Michael Morpurgo and studying some of the many poems written during this war.

8/1 studied WW1 Recruitment posters, to understand how they persuaded young men to volunteer for the army. They then designed their own amazing posters and analysed how effective their use of persuasive techniques had been.



8/2 took part in a P4C enquiry, using the events of Christmas Day, 1914, as a stimulus. They showed respect towards their peers, listening carefully and responding to their comments. Many pupils have already demonstrated a real enthusiasm for the topic as well as great prior knowledge.



8/3 have been focusing on spellings this week. We have recapped the ly spelling rules and in pairs played a spelling game. I've also been blown away by the effort and enthusiasm, in class but also homework. Tia and Oakley both made cakes to represent trenches and No Man's Land using both their knowledge of WWI and baking skills! We have all enjoyed eating the cakes in our lessons this week. Keep them coming! MRS ELLIOTT



Year 8 Computing

Year 8 students have been exploring the world inside a computer! They have been learning about the key components that make a computer work, including the CPU, hard drive, RAM, power supply and motherboard. Students have been identifying what each component looks like and, importantly, discovering the role each part plays in helping a computer function. It's been a great opportunity for students to develop their understanding of the technology they use every day!



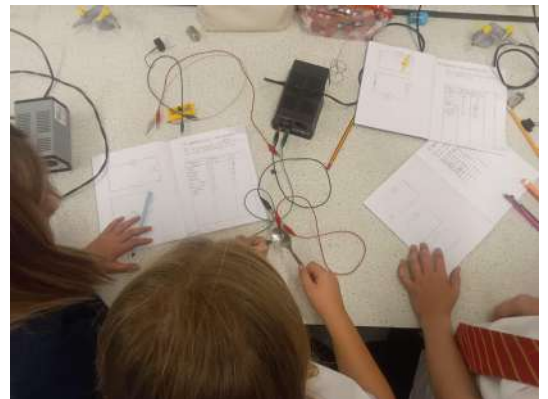
Year 8 Art

Year 8 have been developing their observational drawing skills by creating detailed studies of poppies. They have shown fantastic focus and concentration, carefully observing the flowers and paying close attention to their shape, proportions and finer details. Pupils have been developing their ability to use line and tone to create depth and form, while taking time to evaluate and refine their work. It has been wonderful to see the care and attention pupils are putting into their artwork.



Science

In Science, pupils have been investigating which materials conduct electricity and which act as insulators. Working collaboratively in groups, they have tested and compared a range of materials, making predictions and using evidence from their results to explain their findings. This practical investigation has helped pupils to apply their understanding of electrical circuits while developing important scientific enquiry skills, including making predictions, observing carefully, discussing ideas and drawing evidence-based conclusions. It has been fantastic to see pupils working together, challenging each other's thinking and developing their understanding through practical experimentation.



Year 7 Food lessons

7E and 7S have been learning safe knife skills mastering the claw and bridge grips to cut potatoes. They also learned about the 4 C's and how to prepare their workstations before handling and preparing food. Students were sensible and mature when using knives and proved to be excellent washer uppers! Plus they had great fun wearing hair nets!



Stars of the Week:

Y5 - Emily T, Ruby E, Emilia L, Olivia S

Y6 - James H, Minnie W, Mattilda R, Ella H



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Attendance

Please remember to call in or send a message via MCAS if your child is unwell and will not be attending school by 8:30am. It is important that we have evidence for each day your child is absent, even if they were sent home the previous day.

To report an absence via telephone call please dial 0191 2370629, select 4 for Seaton Sluice Middle School, then select 8 to report a student absence.

Please send evidence of medical/dental appointments/medication to ssms@svf.org.uk so we can attach these to your child's profile on our system.

If you are submitting a Leave of Absence request, please ensure any documentation supporting the exceptional circumstances is handed in at the same time as the Leave of Absence form.



This week's whole school attendance (YTD): 94.0%

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
96.9%	93.1%	94.3%	92.5%

The current best attending class is: 7 East

Dates for the diary:

September 17th School Photos

September 25th Macmillan coffee morning 9.30am - 11am

October 1st Year 4 Open Evening

October 2nd Feel Good Friday

October 5th - 7th Year 5 Ford Castle Trip

October 23rd - Fun Run

December 10th - KS2 Trip to the Panto. Sign up [here](#)



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Lunch Account Balance

Please check your child's lunch account balance, and top up as necessary. We will never allow your child to go hungry, and should they not have enough money on their account then we will ensure they are able to buy a Main Meal Deal by granting them a temporary overdraft for that day of £2.60. You will then receive a message via MCAS advising you that you need to top up their account. This temporary overdraft facility will not be extended for additional days and should your child not have enough funds in their account the following day they will only be provided with a basic sandwich and drink. Our expectation is that you will top their account up immediately so they have a positive balance again.

Social Media Channels

Don't forget to keep up to date with everything else on our social media channel.

https://www.instagram.com/seaton_sluice_middle/

Facebook - @Seaton Sluice Middle School

Links to external agencies are provided in good faith. We do not take any responsibility for the content of these links.



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