



Autumn Newsletter (1)

It is my great pleasure to share with you the first newsletter of the academic year.

We have had a lovely start to the school year and our new Year 5s are finding their way around and settling well.

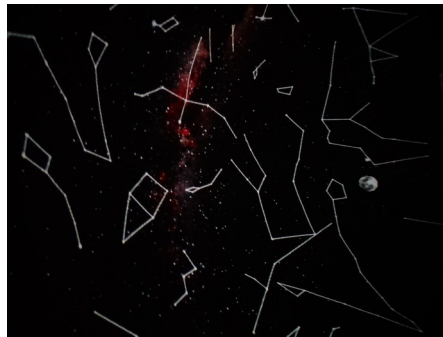
I would like to thank all parents and carers for their support in making sure children are wearing appropriate uniform and are bringing the correct equipment for school. This makes life in school much easier.

I hope you enjoy reading about just a few of the activities that have taken in place over the last few weeks.

Mrs McSparron

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to all involved. We raised £302.50!



On Tuesday 17th September, we were delighted to welcome our astronomer friends from Kielder Observatory. They brought along an impressive inflatable planetarium so that our Year 5 children could experience a motivating start to our Earth and Space topic. It was such an exciting opportunity for the children and they were able to feel as if they were under the stars! The children were shown all of the constellations, looked closely at the moon and watched animations about the Rovers that explore Mars. As well as supplementing the learning in class, this session was also to inspire our young scientists to get involved with the new Space Club which will be starting soon. The Space Club will be an after-school club, allowing pupils to explore astronomy and space engineering in ways previously unavailable. Meetings will feature a Kielder Observatory astronomer as a mentor, delivering a pre-planned curriculum remotely while Mrs Middlemiss leads the practical activities at school. Pupils will roleplay as members of a Space Agency, completing missions themed around different aspects of space exploration and engineering. Each pupil will receive a 'Mission Log' to track their progress! This will lead to an after-school astronomy event for families, with Kielder Observatory astronomers in attendance. We are thrilled to offer these stimulating opportunities soon. Watch this 'space'!

Mrs Middlemiss

Pupil Achievements out of School



Many congratulations to Daniel R in Y8, who took part in a prestigious event at his Army Cadets HQ in Cramlington. He had the honour of meeting and talking to Prince Edward, the Duke of Edinburgh, who was there to see how the Duke of Edinburgh Award is delivered across the army, air and sea cadets.



A huge well done to the extremely talented Matthew E, in Y8, who took part in trials in September to represent Great Britain in roller hockey. This is a huge achievement and we wish him lots of luck in being successful in getting a place in the team.

A huge well done to Alex W in Y8, who was lucky enough to have taken part in an Air Cadet experience at RAF Leeming in North Yorkshire. He took control of the aeroplane for a time and also tried some aerobatics. He did loop the loops and barrel rolls! He has been awarded his Blue Flying Wings. What an achievement!



Safeguarding Information for Parents

Navigating the Risks of Roblox

Roblox made headlines again this week and Colin Stitt, Head of Safer Schools at INEQE Safeguarding Group, spoke to the Mail Online about actions that parents, carers and safeguarding professionals can take to make the gamers in their care safer online. He said: "The report is a stark reminder that we can't simply assume a platform is safe for children just because it looks child-friendly. Parents and carers need to be proactive and educate themselves about the potential risks their children may face online, including exposure to inappropriate content, online predators and harmful social interactions.

More information can be read in the link below.

[Navigating the Risks of Roblox - Ineqe Safeguarding](#)

Dukeshouse Wood

In order to help Year 5 pupils settle into school, make new friends and get to know their teachers we took 62 excited pupils to Dukeshouse Wood, in Hexham. Despite having to make our own beds, which took far too long, we managed to fit in lots of different activities and eat lots of food. Sessions ranged from 3G Swing to Shelter Building to Fencing to Archery. There was something for everyone! We also found time to tell jokes and stories around the campfire and take part in launching our very own Bottle Rockets. We couldn't be prouder of our pupils – they threw themselves into every activity, worked well as a team and, despite the large number of pupils, actually slept through the night! :-)



Miss Curry

Maths News!

Well done to the following pupils, who have been nominated by their maths teachers for the following awards this half-term:

Certificates for excellent effort and participation in maths:

Year 5 Willem H, Alfie P, Esme S, Ella D, Gracie H, Ethan K, Alice C

Year 6 Jake G, Erin B, Orlaith S, JohnJoe T, Olivia E, George W, Christina M, Tillie M, Faith O, Kobi B, Nathan L

Year 7 Izzy K, Lily-Mae B, Riley H, Leighton O, Johnny C, Lolly B, Lara L, Josh D, Jack M, Aimee D

Year 8 Layla M, Daniel R, Harry C, Anna P, Oscar W, Hana D, Savannah H, Kayden S, Milly G, Katie A, Jessie E

Presentation Award—for making a real effort at presenting their maths work neatly in books:

Year 5 Lydon E, Hermione H, Esme M, Vinny B, Matthew M, Jacey W, Darcie-Rae R

Year 6 Ethan C, Callum W, Alice L, Sophia W, Theo B, Lacey H, Oakley S, Aimee B, Georgie P, Jay B

Year 7 Sophia W, Emelie B, Penny G, Joel S, Billy C, Jaiden C, Ryan C, Scarlett D, Gabrielle K

Year 8 Layla M, Darcy M, Jenson A, Freddie V, Olivia G, Lucy T, Charlie H, Cayden C, Lily A

Mr Porter



Poppy Appeal



Poppies and other items will be on sale at break and lunchtime the week after half-term for a small donation to the Royal British Legion.

Well done and thank you to all our Y8 prefects and pupils who volunteered to help out at Y4 Open Evening.

They had a great time demonstrating some of the activities the school has to offer and encouraging the Y4 pupils to have a go.

This photo shows Libby in Y8 showing off the inner workings of human body!



inner workings of human

PTFA Update



Through all of our fundraising during the last few years, we have raised over £5000 for school. We are delighted to have put this money towards the newly installed outdoor play equipment on the school field.

SSMS PTFA meet meets regularly to plan fundraising events. We are always looking for new members so please look out for notifications on our Facebook page for the next meeting, if you're interested in being involved.



Dates for the diary:

School closes for half-term holiday— **October 25th**

Pastoral Parents Evening— **November 6th** —4 to 6pm

Children in Need non uniform day - **November 15th**

Christmas Fair Donation non-uniform day — **November 22nd**

SSMS Christmas Fair—**November 28th**—6 to 7.30pm

Aladdin Trouble—**December 9th, 10th** —7pm

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day—**December 10h**

School closes for Christmas holiday—**December 20th** at 1pm

Consent for Photographs to be used

It would be really helpful if all parents could let us know if they consent for their child to appear in photographs around the school, the federation and local press.

Please login to My Child at School and look for 'Parental Consent'. If you use the web browser, this will be a check box (yes / no), if you use the App it will be a toggle button (grey means no consent).