



Charity Fundraising this half- term:

**Mental Health- Place2Be:
£153.69**

**Many thanks to all who
contributed.**

**PTFA Valentine
Disco—approx. £290**



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2022!

Yet again we have been wowed by our students and their achievements, both in and out of the classroom, and it's wonderful to have this opportunity to share some of the things the pupils have been involved in.

Y5 Bikeability

Over the past 2 weeks, The Cycle Partnership has been in school delivering Bikeability sessions to our year 5 pupils. Level 1 started on the school yard, where pupils had to demonstrate that they were not only competent riders, but also confident enough to take part in the offsite sessions. Level 2 involved cycling on single-lane roads and tackling simple junctions.

All pupils who took part were a real credit to SSMS and, after showing determination and resilience, we are so proud that everyone involved achieved their level 2. A big thank you to Mrs Roberts who also took part despite the horrible winds.

Miss Curry



SSMS pupils, staff and parents went to the Vertu Motors Arena, home to the Newcastle Eagles. The Year 6 basketball club were invited to take part in a training session where they developed their dribbling, passing and shooting skills before taking part in a mini tournament.

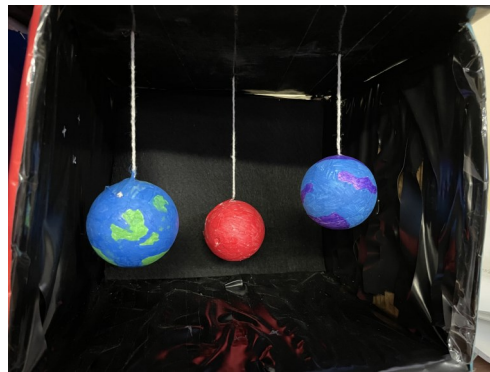
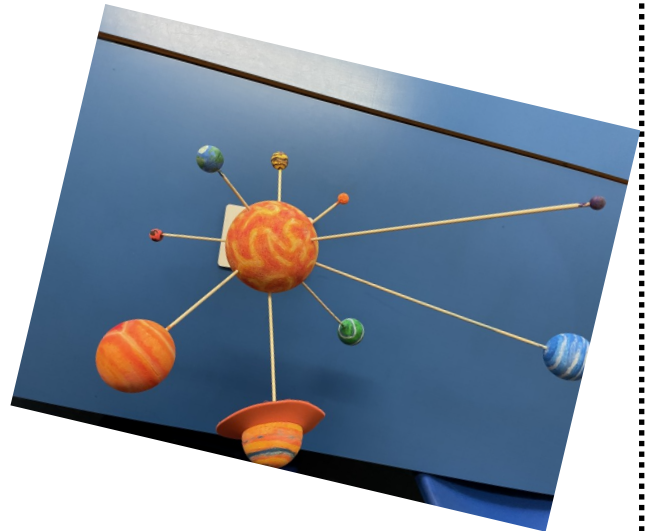
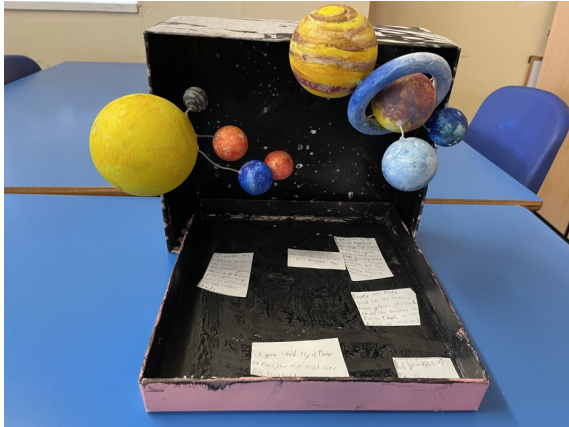
Following the training session, everyone stayed behind to watch the Eagles secure victory over the Surrey Scorchers, winning 114-72.

We couldn't be prouder of our basketball team: they were wonderful representatives of SSMS; behaviour, as always, was impeccable; and the pupils worked hard during the session showing we have a very talented team.

Miss Curry

Year 5 Models of the Solar System

Homework

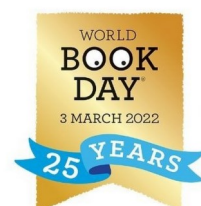


These models are just a small sample of the wonderful work that was handed in to Mrs Cassidy, as part of a homework project about the solar system. Mrs Cassidy has been blown away by the standard of work that the pupils have produced.

Congratulations to Matthew E (Y5) who has had trials for U12 Whitley Warriors, was successful and got in!

A brilliant achievement!

Mrs Middlemiss



Youth Cabinet Elections

This week SSMS has been taking part in the Northumberland Youth Parliament and Youth Cabinet Elections.

Youth Cabinet and Youth Parliament provide opportunities for today's youth to use their voice and bring about change. Members are elected based on their manifestos for improving Northumberland. These manifestos outline what our young people are passionate about in the county, and the changes they would like to see

The Northumberland Youth Cabinet take issues on a local level to decision makers, in order to influence change. They develop projects based on issues they campaigned for in their election manifestos.

Youth Parliament members represent Northumberland on a regional and national platform, working closely with the youth cabinet. The Members of the Youth Parliament (MYPs) in Northumberland are representatives on the UK Youth Parliament.

Volunteers from Year 8 have helped to set up and run the polling station, where all KS3 pupils were able to vote for their chosen candidates. This year for the first time, SSMS has been able to put forward 3 excellent candidates for the election. The results will be announced virtually at 4.30pm on Friday 18th February. We wish Ava, Joe and Oscar every success in the election and congratulate them on putting themselves forward for this exciting opportunity.

Miss Staines



The Sluice Chronicle

A huge well done to all of our budding journalists involved in The Sluice Chronicle. A special thanks to Mrs Henson, who co-ordinates the whole thing.

Use this link to see for yourself the articles, views and opinions of our students!

svf.org.uk/news/2022-02-08-the-sluice-chronicle



Huge well done to Layla M who has just had 30cm of her hair cut and has donated it to the Little Princess Trust, raising £319!!! Absolutely amazing! Mrs Middlemiss

Attendance matters:

School attendance is really important .

It is a proven fact that children with good attendance go on to achieve higher grades at GCSE, than those with lower attendance.

This half-term we have been trying some new initiatives in school to promote attendance, including first lunch for the class in school with the best attendance**; a non-uniform day for the class with the best attendance over the half-term**; and certificates for children who achieve 100% attendance.

This half-term's winners are **6S**—huge well done to them!

They will have their non-uniform day on Fri, March 18th.

** Please note: covid absences are not counted in class attendance.

Year 6 Health and Wellbeing Club

The Health and Wellbeing Club have very kindly been making up care packages for people in the local community who may be struggling financially or with their emotional health. These have been taken to Blyth Foodbank. For distribution.

Thanks to all involved.

Miss Laird.



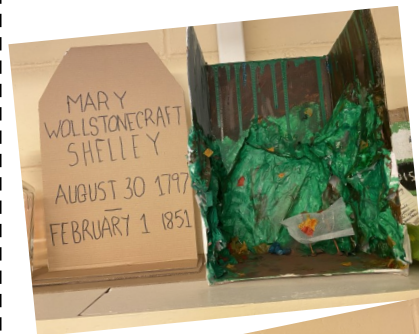
English Homework Heroes

While homework at SSMS is always of a consistently high standard from the vast majority of people, this half-term my mind has been blown by the absolutely superb items brought in week after week from my Year 7 and 8 classes.

Year 7 were challenged to work on Gothic Literature, while Year 8 have been investigating the theme of Survival. The photos should give you only a small glimpse into the continually high calibre of the items which arrived in Google Classroom, or emerged from carrier bags, every single week. They genuinely filled my heart with real joy to see how engaged our children have been with their learning, and their determination to excel.

Next half-term we will be working on 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' and 'Romeo and Juliet' and I'm already very excited to see what wonderful pieces of homework will come my way. Thanks all.

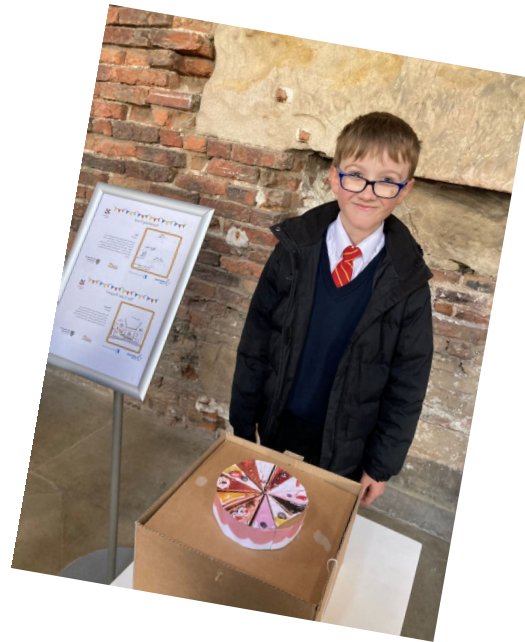
Mrs McLoskey



Maths news!

In January, all our KS3 pupils took part in a money management session offered by the money charity. To be savvy consumers, they had to learn about how banks work, the difference between debit and credit cards and how to look out for the best deals in shops. They might even be able to help parents save some money on their weekly shop too! Mr Porter

Mischief and Mayhem at Seaton Delaval Hall



Year 5 went to Seaton Delaval Hall for their return visit for the Mischief and Mayhem project. With great excitement, the children arrived in anticipation to find out if their prank design had been chosen as a winner. If it had, it would be on display somewhere in the Hall or grounds, as either an actual prank or as a scale model.

In groups, the children explored and were delighted to see that two pranks from SSMS were on display. Savannah had designed a prank where there would be falling bricks on ropes to trick and frighten the guests, just as the Delavals used to do at their parties. The prank was that the bricks would actually be made out of sponge. Cleverly, this prank was created in the mirror maze which initially made teachers terrified of the potential danger! Another prank from SSMS was on display as a model, which was disappearing food. This design was produced by Thomas. Imaginatively, Thomas had designed a mechanism where the food would flip over so would seem as if it had disappeared by magic! The model was a cake and it worked perfectly when the string was pulled.

Throughout the afternoon, the children were able to enjoy a range of displays and activities. In the stables was the opportunity to make music, using loose parts and recyclable materials to create percussion instruments. The beats were loud and rhythmic! Travelling around the grounds of the Hall were some time travellers, who performed some mind-blowing magic tricks, which left the children intrigued. There were other fun structures for the children to enjoy and masses of space to explore. Mrs Middlemiss

Uniform and Equipment Reminder:

Please ensure that your child attends school wearing the correct uniform (guidelines available on our website) and with the correct equipment—pen, pencil, ruler, rubber.

Thank you!

Finally, I would just like to say a big thank you to all the staff here at SSMS, who work tirelessly every day to give our pupils the best of learning experiences. It is very much appreciated.

Happy half-term! Mrs McSparron

Dates for the diary:

- Fri, February 18th—school closes for half-term
- Mon February 28th—school open for Spring Term 2
- Thurs, March 3rd— Word Book Day
- Wed, March 9th –Fri March 11th—KS3 London visit
- Fri, March 18th— Comic Relief