



# SPRING (2) NEWSLETTER

## Charity Fundraising this half-term:

### Comic Relief:

£210

Ukraine: £771.06 (to date)

**Huge thanks for everyone's generosity in donating.**

Easter is upon us and I am delighted to be able to share with you some of the exciting things that have been going on in school this half-term. From sporting activities and charity fund raising to drama and residential visits, there has been something for everyone. Here is a brief snapshot of the last few weeks' events.

## Seaton Sluice Middle KS3 London Visit

February saw KS3 visit London and what a trip it was! The itinerary was such a full one that the pupils barely stopped for breath



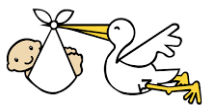
## Baby news:

This half-term we have temporarily said goodbye to Mrs Young, who has begun her maternity leave.

Replacing Mrs Young as Teacher of French during this period, is Mrs Naqib.

Congratulations to Mr Wright, one of the cooks at SSMS, whose wife has just given birth to a baby girl, Jessica.

We wish them all the very best.



This included seeing two shows—Wicked and The Lion King; a trip on the London Eye; a river cruise along the Thames; and a visit to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

The highlight of the trip was a visit to Warner Brothers' Studio to see the 'Making of Harry Potter', which was a fantastic experience.

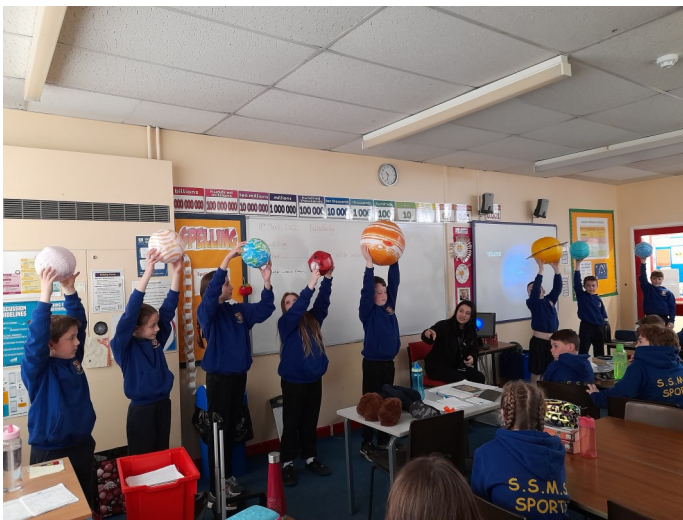


The children were a credit to the school and a great time was had by all.

A huge thanks to Mr Barkley for his organisation of the visit and all the staff who volunteered their time.

## Y5 NEWS

In March, John Challis, a poet who is the current writer in residence at Seaton Delaval Hall, visited Year 5. Feeling very privileged to have an actual real-life writer in our school, Year 5 were full of enthusiasm and were thoroughly engaged with the session. After learning about his job and seeing how he recorded his work in a notebook, John shared some poetry using voices for objects. Following this, the children considered the voices of some images he shared from Seaton Delaval Hall, including: the statue, the gate, the bluebells, the winding staircase and laburnum tunnel. The children listed some words then wrote their own poem in the voice of the object from one of the given images. There were some wonderful creations and John was truly inspirational!



An astronomer from Kielder Observatory came into school to work with our Key Stage 2 children. In Year 5, the children were intrigued to find out so much information about stars and meteors. After watching fascinating video clips of actual meteorites falling to earth, the children were able to touch a range of space rocks. As the children passed around a piece of a meteorite which was the size of 2 double decker buses when it fell, they found out that they were holding rock that was older than earth! After being presented with other space rocks, the children even got the opportunity to hold a small piece of Mars!! After the Space Rocks session, the children found out all about the Solar System. The astronomer brought blow up planets that were accurately sized if the sun was 4mm! Using this scale, the children stood the relative distances apart and were given the opportunity to share their knowledge learnt from our previous Space topic in Year 5. The astronomer was impressed with the facts retained by the children and shared her wealth of knowledge too. The children asked many questions and enjoyed a fun-packed morning!

Mrs Middlemiss

SSMS Y7 and Y8 Netball  
Teams in their new kit!

Miss Curry



### Reminder:

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform for school.

A full list of what is required is available to view on our website and in pupil planners.

The two week holiday is a good opportunity to purchase any new items needed.

### Youth Cabinet Elections



Huge congratulations to Joe H in Y8, who was successfully elected to the Northumberland Youth Cabinet and has already had his first meeting with other elected cabinet members!

This is a two year position and is a great achievement.

Joe has already been to his first cabinet meeting and has joined the Equity and Equality Committee.

Well done, Joe. We are really proud of you!

### Good-byes

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to two highly regarded members of staff. Mrs Brannigan, who has been a teaching assistant at SSMS for 15 years is retiring. She will be much missed by all and we wish her every happiness for the future.

We are also losing Mrs Johnson, who has been one of our librarians for the last two years. She has been inspirational with our students in promoting the love of reading. We wish her every success in her new job.

### Attendance matters:

School attendance is really important both for academic reasons but also for physical and mental health of young people.

Our new attendance initiatives are really helping keep good attendance at the forefront of everybody's mind.

Well done to **8E** who are this half-term's winners. They will have their non-uniform day on Friday, 29th April.

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

### Seaton Sluice Middle School Community Jubilee Garden

Work is now underway on our Jubilee garden. We are planning the raised beds to be built after Easter and then we will be asking for volunteers to come and help with planting etc.



Follow our progress on  
Facebook:

**SSMS Community Jubilee  
Garden**



### *William Shakespeare—A Play in a Day!*

*Earlier this term, Y6 worked with Leigh, from Splat Entertainment, creating their very own performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream.*

*Throughout the day, pupils worked in four separate groups to brush up on their acting skills, with each group performing a different scene from the play. They also challenged themselves to learn a range of different circus skills: from juggling, to ball throwing, to balancing feathers (both on their fingers and their noses). Preps were also prepared, with Miss Gibson creating a very impressive donkey (for Bottom) and a lifelike wall for the final scene.*

*To end a wonderful day, the Year 6 pupils performed their hilarious play to both the staff and pupils in Year 5. I think everyone will agree that we have some very talented actors among us.*



*Miss Curry*



Congratulations  
to our Y6 Maths  
and English  
Easter Egg  
Competition  
Winners!

Mr Porter

Congratulations to Insect Week Photography winner William Hunter from Y7 SSMS who received a Commended Certificate in the post and has had his photo published on the [Insect Week](#)



### Fundraising for Ukraine



Yet again, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our young people and their families. Over the last two days, we have held fundraising activities in school and pupils and their families and have created paintings, jewellery, knitted items, key rings, as well as donating all sorts of cakes and goodies to sell.

To date we have raised an enormous £771.06.

I am so proud of our school community and would like to say a heartfelt thanks to everyone involved. What a wonderful donation to be able to give to the Ukraine Appeal.

From everyone at SSMS, we wish you a very Happy Easter!



#### **Dates for the diary:**

- **Thurs, April 7th**—school closes for Easter holidays
- **Mon, April 25th**—school open for Summer Term
- **Fri, April 29th**— Non-uniform attendance -winning class
- **Mon, May 2nd**—May Day holiday-school closed
- **Wk beginning May 9th-13th**— Y6 SATs