



School Newsletter — February 2012

Year 8 Rise to the Challenge

Year 8 took part in a two day Project Challenge at the end of last half term about homelessness. Their challenge was to put on an event that raised awareness amongst the rest of the school about the issue of homelessness.

It is often difficult to draw our minds away from the typical stereotype of someone who is homeless. The dirty, scruffy, smelly weirdo sleeping in a shop doorway begging for change that they will probably just go and blow on drugs and alcohol. However Year 8 soon found that it really can affect people in all walks of life including those that you might not expect. The class examined the causes of homelessness and researched the various charities that help by providing food, shelter, friendship and advice. They looked at the work of the "People's Kitchen" which is a charity based in Newcastle. During the week Year 8 collected twenty bags of clothes and food for this charity. Thank you to those of you who made a contribution.

Staff from Northumberland Housing Authority came in to talk to Year 8 about the many homeless young people they work with as well as doing an activity with them which demonstrated how much it actually costs to live independently. The class were set a budget of £150 a week to live on but they then had to pay all the bills out of this. Many of them were surprised to learn that they had to make some hard choices - mobile phones or new clothes, home insurance or broadband, Sky TV or food!

The highlight of the two days was the event on the final afternoon. It included a "People's Kitchen" dishing out hot cups of tea, quizzes, homeless crazy golf, a back pack game and even a sleeping bag obstacle course all of which helped the rest of the school engage with the realities and facts about homelessness. On top of all this Year 8 surprised everyone with a flash mob dance (a first for Seahouses I think) to a punk version of Streets of London followed by a performance of Ed Sheeran's very topical song A-Team.



Civic Cups for good Citizenship

This annual award for Good Citizenship is now in its thirteenth year and is sponsored by **Seahouses & District Rotary Club**. A cup is awarded to a boy and girl who fulfil some or all of the criteria below:

- Is always willing to support community activities.
- Accepts responsibilities at home, which are beyond normal expectations.
- Takes an active part in youth activities eg. Scouts, guides, girls brigade.
- Participates in extra curricular activities.
- Give time to help the disabled and elderly.
- Lends peer support when it is necessary.
- Raise money for charity

The winners will be presented with their cups at a meeting of the Rotary Club next half term along with a cash prize of £20.

Many of our pupils will grow up to be excellent citizens in our local communities and further afield. They are already displaying the qualities we associate with good citizenship including caring for others by giving up their time and sharing their skills. In school we are trying hard to give our pupils lots of opportunities to take responsibility and we are aware of the types of activities most of our pupils are involved in out of school. However if you feel your son or daughter fulfils any of the criteria that we may be unaware of in school please let us know.

Active Kids is back — play your part!

We're participating in Sainsbury's Active Kids 2012. This presents a fantastic opportunity to collect vouchers for a range of additional equipment and experiences that gives our children the opportunity to learn new skills.

Last year you helped us collect vouchers which we put towards basketballs & volleyballs. This year, we want to take full advantage of Active Kids and hope we can count on your support!

You can collect Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's **between 15th February and 6th June**. You'll receive one voucher for every £10 spent at any main Sainsbury's store or £5 spent in Sainsbury's Locals. Vouchers can be collected at petrol stations too and when you shop for groceries online. Nectar points can also be converted into vouchers—visit nectar.com for details. This year, we're aiming to collect enough vouchers to get another set of hurdles for use in athletic lessons.

So please remember to collect your vouchers and donate them to us and help spread the word to friends, colleagues and neighbours that we're collecting! Every voucher is greatly appreciated, and with your help we're looking forward to a great year.

Children's Cancer Run

A sponsored cross country family run is being held on Sunday 13th May at Newcastle Racecourse, Gosforth Park. The money raised goes to help the North of England Children's Cancer Research Fund to support work done at the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle. It is a charity we have supported for a number of years and we are keen to be involved in the event again. We would like as many children and adults associated with our school to take part in this 5 mile event. It costs £6.00 for children under 16 and £12.00 for adults. All participants receive a T shirt, medal and picnic! Last year about 50 of us took part raising an outstanding £1830 and we were presented with a special trophy from the North East Children's Cancer Research Fund in recognition of our efforts. We would really like to get even more of you involved this year so please complete the slip overleaf for an entry form and return it to school by **Friday 23rd March**. All participants will be responsible for making their own way to Gosforth Park but if you really want to take part and have not got transport please let us know because we may be able to arrange a lift for you.

Come on, get fit and help save lives!!

Behaviour for Learning Seal of Approval Scheme

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been chosen for our "Student of the Week" Award during the last half term.

Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8
Charlotte Pratt	Sophie Allan	Mark Jobs	Nathan Hankinson
Declan Swordy	Nicholas Wilson	Cameron Bloomfield	Josh Barella
Jordan Grey-Duns	Erin Dawson	Charlie Caden	Ben Fordy
Lisa Wilson	Rachel Cockburn	Oliver Scott	John Sprot
Shannon Clarke	Daniel Hall	Kieran Fordy	Nicole Hall

Raffle tickets are awarded throughout the term for behaviour which promotes learning. The raffle is drawn at the end of each half term. The eight winners last half term were;

Year 5 Holly Filer & Kai Spouse
Year 6 Sophie Allan & Raphael McCall
Year 7 Lauren Baillie & Owen Robson
Year 8 Nicole Hall & John Sprot

We are pleased to announce that we have joined the Kits 4 Schools program.

Kits 4 Schools seeks to provide every school child in the UK, playing competitive sports for their schools, with a high quality branded kit to play in.

This comes at no cost at all to the school or the pupils.

Kits 4 Schools provide the kits by raising sponsorship from local and national businesses.

If you or your business chooses to sponsor a set of kits, your name and logo will appear on the shirt of every player in the team that has been sponsored for the school year.

Every parent/guardian with a child at the school will be informed of your support and your business name and logo will be added to the Kits 4 Schools website. This will form part of your company's CSR (Corporate and Social Responsibility), and you will benefit from the positive PR generated by participating as a sponsor.

Kits are sponsored on a first come first served basis and sponsorship is for one school year (September to July).

We are really excited about this great initiative and would welcome parents and their businesses getting involved to show their support.

Kits 4 Schools can be contacted directly on 020 3589 6032 or by email at info@kits4schools.co.uk



Disco

We will be having a disco on Thursday 22d March from 6–8pm. The cost of entry is £1.50 and your child will need to have earned 115 seals during the half term.

Reports and Parents Evening

You will receive a copy of your child's report on Wednesday 21st March along with information about Parents Evening. To allow you to see more members of staff and have longer appointments if you need them we will have two Parents Evenings, one on Wednesday 28th March for those of you whose child's surname begins with A – L and the other on Thursday 29th March for those of you whose child's surname begins with M – Z.

We hope you find the report informative and that you will be able to join us at one of the evenings to discuss your child's progress.

The opportunity to talk to you on a one to one basis is extremely valuable to us as teachers and undoubtedly sends a clear message to your child that we are working in partnership to support and develop their learning.

Extra curricular Activities Spring Term

Lunchtime

After school finishes 4.45pm

Monday

Young Journalists
Dr Spy

Tuesday

Band
Homework club
Badminton
Maths Yr 5

U13 Football

Wednesday

Film Club
Maths Masters Yr 7 & 8

U13 Netball
U11 Football

Thursday

Volleyball Yrs 7 & 8
Homework club

Archery

Friday

Choir
5 a side Football Yrs 5, 6 & 7

Diary Dates

6/3/12	World Spelling Day
7/3/12	World Maths day Whole school workout for Leprosy Charity
8/3/12	World Science Day
12/3/12	U11 & U13 Football v The Dukes (away)
15/3/12	U11 & U13 Football v Belford (away)
19/3/12	Key Stage 2 SATs evening for Year 6 parents 6.30 — 7.30pm
21/3/12	Reports to Parents
22/3/12	Year 8 Midyis tests for Duchess's High school Disco 6 — 8pm (115 Seals)
23/3/12	Sport Relief — Run A Mile
26/3/12	U11 & U13 Football v Rothbury (home)
26-29/3/12	Year 5 Cycle training
28/3/12	Parents evening 4 — 6.30pm
29/3/12	Parents evening 4 — 6.30pm
30/3/12	School closes for Easter holidays
16/4/12	School reopens

Year 6 SATs Evening

We are holding our annual SATs Evening on 19th March at 6.30pm for parents of children in Year 6. This is an opportunity for you to find out exactly what Key Stage 2 SATs are about as well as being able to discuss with teachers how you can help your child at home.

More information about the evening will be sent out soon.

Children's Cancer Run — Sunday 13th May 2012

Name of child Year group

Number of adults @ £12 each Number of children @ £6 each

Total amount enclosed

Size of T shirt(s) required