

Solway Community Technology College Newsletter No.23

An action packed half term once again!

Some 22 of our Year 11 pupils spent last weekend in Wales, on a water based activities course, accompanied by **Mr Sunter, Mr Green and Miss Malkinson**. A good, if wet, time was had by all, though they were very tired, bruised and aching on their return. Many thanks to all staff involved for giving up their weekend.



April 2014

The first cohort of our Year 9 completed their Tuesday sessions with the CVQO trainers, **Mr Cant and Mr Starmer**, working towards their Btec level 1 in Team work, Citizenship and Personal skills. Well done to them for organising a super Awards Event, and to those Parents who readily joined in with a demonstration activity. The next cohort starts after Easter.

Solway was the only school in Cumbria to take part in the BBC School report; **Mrs Schafer's** Year 10 GCSE pupils are now fully fledged broadcasters and journalists, having worked with BBC Radio Cumbria's Ben Maeder.

Year 10 Hospitality & Catering GCSE pupils have completed their first Practical; making 4 dairy items in 3 hours. The final products were a credit to **Mrs Cooper**, and thanks again to **Mrs Martin**, our volunteer support.

One of our Year 11s is in for an exciting summer break; see inside for more details!

It is with sadness that we say farewell to **Miss Shepherd**, who has decided to leave due to illness. We are grateful for the work she has done in the Music department and wish her every success in the future.

Children cannot learn or achieve if they are absent, no matter how good their schools and teachers are, so it is great to report that our pupils' average attendance is above target so far this year, but there is still some room for improvement. Parents are encouraged to send their children to school every day, fully equipped and ready to learn.

Next term the exams are on us so Year 11s will need to spend the Easter break revising in preparation. Failure to prepare means prepare to fail!

Mrs L Baird
Headteacher



Living the Olympic
and Paralympic Values





JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME

**EXPANDING HORIZONS,
ENRICHING YOUNG LIVES**



Journey of a Lifetime 2014 Sat 14th July to Day 28 Friday 10th Aug

One of our Year 11 pupils has been selected, as one of 24 pupils to undertake a fantastic adventure in South Africa for 4 weeks during the summer holiday. It really will be a journey of a life time.

Molly was nominated by us then had to travel to Harrow for a face to face interview, then waited 3 weeks until she was notified of her selection! The trip will be paid for by the charity, but she will have to raise her contribution of £650. The provisional Itinerary looks fabulous, so I have copied highlights of it for you. Once she returns we will ask her to come and tell us about it.

They aim to travel from the heart of Africa to the Indian Ocean, starting in Zambia, before heading through Botswana, South Africa, Swaziland and arriving in Mozambique a month later. They will take in the mighty Zambezi River and Victoria Falls before entering Botswana, the gateway to the Okavango Delta. South African highlights include the world famous Kruger National Park and Blyde River Canyon. The Kingdom of Swaziland will be the location for a community project and some exciting trekking, before arriving on the beaches of Mozambique to complete our journey.

I am sure you will agree it is a wonderful opportunity. Lucky girl!

Day 2 Sun 15th July – Depart UK for Southern Africa

We will fly to Johannesburg on an overnight flight

Day 4 Tues 17th July – Canoe/Raft trip on the Zambezi River

This is where the real adventure begins! At 8:30am, after breakfast, we'll hop on a bus which will take us 27km to the mighty Zambezi River for the start of the overnight Zambezi river canoe trip. After a river safety briefing we will enter the canoes/raft and head down river guided by qualified river guides. The boats used are 2 person sea kayaks and are stable enough for a novice paddler.

The river is flanked on either side by protected national parks and wildlife abounds as you paddle open bodies of water and narrow channels of one of Africa's most enchanted rivers. Elephant, hippo and crocodile's are all common sighting along with a fantastic array of birds. On the right bank is Zimbabwe and Zambia on the left.

After 10 – 27km of paddling we will reach the campsite on the shores of the river where we enjoy the sunset before sitting down to dinner and a good nights sleep after an active day. Overnight in tents at campsite

Day 6 Thurs 19th July – Victoria Falls

Breakfast, then into our private buses for the short journey to the world famous and awe-inspiring Victoria Falls which is considered to be the largest waterfall in the world! The waterfall is a massive 1.6km wide and a soaring 108m high with an incredible volume of water which cascades into a huge chasm. The local name for the falls is Mozi-oa-Tunya is literally "the smoke that thunders" as you can hear the roar of the falls and see the 400m high vapour spray it creates from quite a distance before getting to the falls. When the spray is at its highest it can be seen from up to 43 km away!

Rotary photography Competition

This year the title for the Rotary Photographic Competition was 'people' and pupils were asked to create a portfolio of three different photographs no larger than A4. In addition to this they also submitted fifty words describing the inspiration for their work. A representative from the Rotary Club collected all of our entries which were then presented to the Rotarians for deliberation. On returning the photos I was informed that the decision had been a tough one!



The winner of the club level for the **Senior group** was **Eloise Johnson** who submitted three atmospheric photos of people on the beach. **Richard Emmerson** took second place, **Ell'e Jackson** in third place and **Eve Scott** in fourth place.

In the **Intermediate level** **Dexter Johnson** took first place with his black and white photos followed by **Amy-Jo Gorman** in second place and **Skye Woodford** in third place.

Well done to everyone who took part.

Good luck to Eloise and Dexter for the next round at District level.

Mrs Bell

Maths problem:

Add five matches to these six matches to make nine matches.



Praise postcard to the first answer back with the correct solution.

External Candidates

We are happy to enable external candidates to enter and sit any examinations which we are currently offering.

Please contact **Mrs H Long** for details.

Congratulations to Ms Warwick who won the draw for the meal for two at the Golf Hotel.



Congratulations

As Clara was unfortunately unable to attend Awards Evening due to illness, she picked up her cup this week. She was awarded the University of Cumbria prize for achievement, presented by our Governor, Mrs de Mello.



Open Day

Year 11s visited Askham Bryan College, Newton Rigg campus during their Open Day to see what was on offer for their post 16 studies.

The Durham University Move project had Year 9s working with Year 7s using physical activity as a route to high achievement, as well as supporting younger learners.

Young Cumbria

Years 9 to 11 enjoyed an Apprenticeship presentation to inform them about possible future routes post 16. The bus of activities has also visited over 3 weeks to enable all year groups to see what is available. They enjoyed the activities.



BBC SCHOOLS REPORT 2014

Recently the Year 10 girls have been taking part in the BBC Schools' Report. This was broadcast on 27th March and the girls were live on the radio on Friday 28th March. We worked with **Ben Maeder** from BBC Radio Cumbria who brought editing software to school to help us put together our reports on Cumbria 40 years ago. Beforehand we had practised our reporting skills and written news reports on all sorts of subjects from Michael Gove to the death penalty which are available on our website. We also took pictures of the BBC microphone cube which were published on the BBC website!

BBC
RADIO CUMBRIA



SCHOOL REPORT

BBC
NEWS



bbc.co.uk/schoolreport

On the day itself we followed up a breaking news story about Cumbria County Council investing £130,000 to repair the road at Dubmill Point between Allonby and Silloth following storm damage earlier this year. The spokesman from the highways office told us that they had £400,000 to spend on Cumbria's 5000 miles of roads. He continued that while he could never say never that the road would crumble again, they were working on strengthening it as well as rebuilding to try and stop it happening again.

Ben returned to school on Friday morning to interview **Shannon, Eloise, Nikki and Lorna** live on the news programme. It was nerve wracking and scary to be interviewed live on local radio, because we knew all

our friends were listening in their classrooms and we worried about stuttering and getting it wrong. **Mrs Baird** was also interviewed by Ben. She was also very nervous but she had a lot to say about how wonderful we all are and how professional our editing had been.

We all enjoyed being reporters and are looking forward to next year's experience.

By **Eloise, Ebony, Peyton, Lorna, Hannah, Jess, Ell'e, Ellie, Chelsea, Shannon, Nicole, Eve, Nikki, Alicia, Chloe** with help from **Mrs McCarthy and Mrs Schafer**

PS Special thanks to broadcast assistant **Adam Johnston** for helping with the microphone!



Artist **Sue Llewellyn** working with **Bayli** to incorporate her poem into the stain glass window for the atrium in the Cumberland Infirmary.

BREAKING NEWS

Crumbliia not Cumbria

By Alicia, Chloe, Eve, Nicole and Shannon.

If you live in Silloth, then you'll know that travelling up and down the coast road at Dubmill Point can sometimes be a hazardous business. A combination of high tides and bad weather has left the B5300, the Allonby to Silloth Road, crumbling into the Solway. Cumbria County Council is investing £130,000 to rebuild the road. 300 cubic metres of concrete will be used in rebuilding the quarter of a mile road. Traffic will not be affected because only one lane will be closed with temporary traffic lights. The road is expected to be finished by the start of May, but this depends on the weather. If this road is not rebuilt pupils at our school will find it harder to get here and back, already they have had to go home early due to high tides. Will the money be enough to bring our friends permanently back to school?

Also, if the road is not rebuilt by the summer holidays, then Silloth's tourist businesses will lose money from some parts of the UK. People who can't safely make it to Silloth for their holidays will invest their money in travelling to somewhere else, technically "stealing" money from businesses such as Davidson's Ice Cream store, and The Stanwix Holiday Park, which thrive in the holidays.



We called Cumbria County Council to ask a few questions about this road being rebuilt. We asked if it thought that the road may crumble again. A County Council spokesman said "We can never be sure because we can't control the weather". We were also told that £50 million is spent on the 5000 miles of road in the county, £849,000 was spent on roads like Dubmill Point that were damaged in the storm, and it was confirmed that £130,000 was spent on Dubmill Point itself. We asked if this amount of money would be enough, and they said that even though they had a rather tight budget, they could get it

done.

We then asked if work has been done on this road before. He replied saying that work had been done before, but not as extensive as this. The storm was in January, and during that month the debris was cleared. This road was publicly reopened last month. This road took a long time planning, but other work was also being done so it slowed down the process of this particular road being cleared and reopened.



Cumbria Schools get together for an outdoor event.

CVQO
SCHOOLS
PARTNERSHIP
PROJECT

Changing lives
Through education

Two of our Cumbrian partnership schools recently came together to take part in a challenging activity day hosted by Keswick Canoe and Bushcraft. The students were stretched throughout the day with the activities which included natural shelter building with a water test. A demonstration of how to use Kelly Kettles to make a hot drink. They also learnt to light fires using flint and steel, then baked some bread.



The completion of the activities, together with the preparation work involved before hand ensured successful completion of Unit 4, Wellbeing in the Field of their Level 1 BTEC.

CVQO Schools Partnership Project

Solway Community Technology College Volunteering on the beach

CVQO
SCHOOLS
PARTNERSHIP
PROJECT

Changing lives
Through education



Solway students recently spent some time volunteering to clean-up a local beach in Silloth. Following the issue of equipment, they received a briefing from **Mr Graeme Proud** from the Solway Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) before a brisk stroll to the beach. After a couple of hours of hard graft there were in excess of 20 bags to show for their efforts.



CVQO Schools Partnership Project

Medals on ice for Cumbrian pair

By Ellie and Chelsea



Over the last two years we have seen British Olympic success over the summer Olympics in London and the winter Olympics in Sochi. Not since Torville and Dean has Britain produced such a successful ice dance couple as **David King and Stacy Kemp**. King and Kemp train in America but they originate from Thursby near Carlisle, Cumbria. This seems like an unlikely place for Olympians to live, but King and Kemp are very proud of their Cumbrian heritage. David King is 29 and Stacy Kemp is 25. They have been skating together for several years and have been working very hard. They came 16th in the Vancouver Olympics 4 years ago and were hoping to be in the top 10 in Sochi, but unfortunately after a fall they finished out of the medals. We caught up with David King and we asked him some questions.

Ellie: How often and how long do you train?

David: I train every week day from 9 until 4 with 45 minutes for lunch

E: What's it like to be in the Olympics?

D: Amazing, being part of Team GB is a great honour for me and to be in an Olympic Games was a dream come true

E: What do you think of your performance?

D: I was very happy with our performance we had made huge improvements throughout the season which we showed at the Olympics.

E: How did you feel when Stacey fell?

D: These things happen, we literally live on a knife edge and no matter how much training and preparing we can still fall.

E: When did you first start ice skating?

D: I started when I was 9, which is kind of late in the skating world.

E: What do you do in your spare time?

D: I play cricket, watch movies, see friends and family

E: What do you feel like before you ice skate?

D: At competition I still get nervous, as long as I control the nerves and use them to help its fine. It's always the waiting right before that is tense, I go through my programs in my head and think of key points.

E: How do you feel having to train in America?

D: I like America and have lots of friends here but it's not home.

E: Do you intend to get married anytime soon?

D: Hopefully early next year, we've been waiting a while now and can't wait to finally tie the knot.

E: What will you do when you give up ice skating?

D: I can coach and do some shows, there are quite a few different ways for skaters to earn a living.

E: What was your favourite subject at school? And why?

D: I really enjoyed Design Technology, I got to design and make things.

E: Are you proud to represent Great Britain in the Olympics?

D: Very proud, being part of Team GB makes you feel like you can do anything

So what next for the Cumbrian pair? They are looking forward to competing in the next Olympics in 4 years in, but before that they've got the British championship and European championships. Everyone at Solway wishes you luck!

Licensed to comma!

After lots of hard work, **Mrs Schafer's** Year 8 English class were delighted to be presented with their certificates that allow them to use commas in their written work. Their Licence to Comma certificates were hard won and were only presented after the pupils had proved they know the rules governing the use of commas and can use them effectively - something that is a real skill! They are quite rightly beaming proudly here and are looking forward to using their skills across the curriculum. Well done everyone!



SOLWAY COMMUNITY

Morris Dancing

Thursdays
3:30-5pm

YOGA

EVERY TUESDAY IN THE
SCHOOL HALL FROM
7PM - 8.30PM



SPORTS HALL

LEGS, BUMS & TUMS

Every Monday at 9am-only £3 per person
For all levels of fitness-see results in just weeks

ROLLER SKATING

EVERY FRIDAY 3.15PM - 4.15PM
ONLY £1 PER CHILD AND £2 PER ADULT
PRIMARY AGE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A
PARENT/CARER
(TERM TIME ONLY)

METAFIT

Every Wednesday at 6.30pm -
7pm

KETTLEBLAST

Designed to shape and sculpt your
body in as little as 50 minutes for
rapid fat loss and a lean toned body.
Every Wednesday 7pm - 8pm
£4 per session
Mats and kettle bells are provided
(16 years and over)

JUNIOR FOOTBALL TRAINING

5-7 YEARS 4PM - 5PM
8-12 YEARS 5PM - 6PM



Kettle bells

Fridays 8:50-9:20am

Ladies Netball

Every Thursday from 6.30pm - 7.30pm



Badminton/Tennis/Table tennis

Do you like to play badminton tennis or table tennis or all 3?
Slots available every evening
Courts including all equipment - £10 per hour

TRAMPOLINING

RUN BY WIGTON TRAMPOLINE CLUB

Fridays 7pm - 9pm

Sessions cost £2.50 per hour



BOOKING IS REQUIRED - PLEASE CONTACT THE SPORTS HALL FOR MORE INFORMATION

AVAILABLE TO HIRE

To enquire about any of the above or
for any more information on private
hire please call into the Sports Hall or
speak to Angela on 016973 31234

Music Department

Instrumental lessons are going well with pupils now studying violin with **Mr Taylor** on a Thursday and attending Violin Practice Club on Tuesday lunchtime. Others are having guitar lessons with **Mr Kellett** on a Tuesday afternoon. Pupils from throughout the year groups attend after school Music Club with Mr Kellett in the music room on a Tuesday.

If you want to develop your musical skills or fancy yourself as the next X Factor or voice winner, just come along. School can now offer lessons for violin, woodwind, guitar or brass instruments so if interested in having a go, see Mr Kirby. Luke Rumney in Year 11 is running a Drum Club on Wednesday lunchtimes and presently there are 12 pupils, from Years 7 to 10 attending.

Pupils in Year 9 are creating their own music based videos as an introduction to the new GCSE in Performing Arts being introduced for Year 10 this September. Whether your skills and interests lie in singing, instrumental music, dj'ing, dance, theatre, film, costume, stage makeup and all the supporting areas of the performing arts, there are opportunities to study these at GCSE.

Mr I Kirby

Meet our Staff : Hello my name is Mr Harris. I have worked at the school for six years and previous to that came into Solway one day a week for five years to work with pupils.



My days/weeks are extremely varied. In lessons I work with pupils who require 1:1 help or who may need some encouragement or motivation to help them stay on task. I also work with pupils on a 1:1 basis or small group work on S.E.A.L (social, emotional, aspects of learning) which

encompasses social skills, self esteem etc.

In July of each year I undertake Peer Mentor training for those who wish to gain this accreditation and are going to be Year 10 in September. We place a great deal of importance on our pastoral support and we like to make our incoming Year 7's feel as welcome as possible. The peer mentors complete their training and are assigned a Year 7 pupil who can theoretically speak to their mentor about anything and everything. We believe the Year 7s benefit from having a "buddy" higher up the school. The peer mentors benefit from an increased sense of self worth and a level of responsibility that comes from "looking after" someone.

The EduVoice scheme

is now open to anyone that is over the age of 11. This means that we can now involve pupils; its a brilliant way of getting the children to fund raise themselves for school and earn a bit of pocket money for themselves!

EduVoice are part of the Marketing Research Society and adhere to all the rules and regulations drawn by this society. They are also all CRB/ DBS checked and work closely with major charities such as the NSPCC and The Children's Society.

School code : 404433042



Fund raising

We raised £ **167** for the local RNLi Life boat, from our non-uniform day and the change collected by the canteen staff.

We are fund raising this week too for the local Life boat station.

Tennis leaders

Members of the Year 10 GCSE PE group spent a day with **David Wise** honing their tennis skills.

They all successfully completed the course and are now fully fledged and ready to lead the Primary pupils in their festival .

Calendar 2013-14

07/04/2014 M Maths mock p4&5 1hr 45m Vicar - assembly - Easter
08/04/2014 T Quiz - N
09/04/2014 W Roast dinner day 1.15pm for public / PTA bag packing ASDA
10/04/2014 Th Fundraising Non uniform for Lifeboat

Easter Holidays Friday 11th April - Tuesday 22nd April

28/04/2014 M Girls' Yr 10 group lunchtime- Sarah Williams
29/04/2014 T Yr 11 Art exam Quiz -S / Meningitis C vaccination for Yr10
30/04/2014 W Yr 11 Art exam Primary teaching Lancaster University visit Yr 10

May

02/05/2014 F Ambassador Day
05/05/2014 M Bank Holiday
06/05/2014 T BACs Practical exam 2 hrs am
07/05/2014 W BACs Practical exam 2 hrs am Vicar - assembly - Making mistakes Girls' group 12:15
12/05/2014 M RE unit 1 am 1h45m Girls' group 12:15
13/05/2014 T Biology 2 & 3 am 1hr each Quiz - F
14/05/2014 W Spanish pm Listening 35/45min Reading 30/50min HWB Fusehill Street campus Yr 10
15/05/2014 Th Chemistry 2 & 3 am 1 hr each
16/05/2014 F History am 1hr 45min PE pm 1hr/1hr30min
19/05/2014 M Physics pm 2&3 1hr each Girls' group lunchtime
20/05/2014 T English lit 1 am 1hr 30min Quiz - N
21/05/2014 W Criminology visit Fusehill St campus Yr 10
22/05/2014 Th English lit 2 pm 1hr 15min Sports Hall Polling Station 6:40 am to 11pm
23/05/2014 F History Unit 2 am 1hr 45min Y7-11 Levels & Motivation home

Half term Mon 26th May - Friday 30th May

June

02/06/2014 M Music exam am Exam weeks Yr 7-10 Assembly Healthy Eating
03/06/2014 T Eng/English lang Unit 1 am 2hr15min Quiz - S
04/06/2014 W RE unit 2 am 1hr 45min / Hosp & catering unit 2 am 1hr 15min
06/06/2014 F Biology unit 1 pm 1hr
09/06/2014 M Maths 1 am 1hr 45min Vicar - assembly - Samaritans, helping others
10/06/2014 T DT unit 1 am 2hrs Quiz - D
11/06/2014 W Hospitality & catering unit 4 am 1hr 15min
12/06/2014 Th Physics 1 am 1hr
13/06/2014 F Maths 2 am 1hr 45min
17/06/2014 T H&SC unit1 pm 1hr 15min Quiz - F
18/06/2014 W BACS pm 1 hr Leavers assembly
19/06/2014 Th Technology Day - Yr 5 / Sport Lanc Uni Yr 10 / Whole school Prom 7-10pm
20/06/2014 F Walk for Water
23/06/2014 M Work prep week / Liverpool Uni Yr8 p4, Yr10 p5
24/06/2014 T H&SC unit 4 am 1hr 15min Uni Cumbria Finance Yr 10 am in school Quiz - N
27/06/2014 F Yr 11 leaving day
30/06/2014 M Yr 10 Work Exp week

Solway Community Technology College

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Head teacher: Mrs. Lois Baird B.A.

Stamps

Please continue to collect and bring in to school, old used stamps from any letters or parcels you receive. **Mrs Baird** sends them off to raise money for Eden Valley Hospice. A worthy cause.



Email

If you wish to receive school letters and the newsletter by email and you are not already on our mailing list, or should you wish to comment on anything in this newsletter, or give us your views on any other school matters please email office@solway.cumbria.sch.uk

July

01/07/2014 T Yr 6 day 1 CVQO Celebration cohort 2 from 6-7:30 Hall
02/07/2014 W Yr 6 day 2 Roast Dinner day 1:15 Yr6 Parents Evening
08/07/2014 T Quiz - D Final CVQO session
14/07/2014 M Olympic Week / Uni Cumbria Summer school
15/07/2014 T Quiz - F / Uni Cumbria Summer school/
16/07/2014 W Uni Cumbria Summer school
17/07/2014 Th Yr 7 & 8 ROA and Year 9 Tutor report out to Parents
18/07/2014 F Final end of term assembly

August

21/08/2013 Th GCSE Results day