

Solway Community Technology College Newsletter No.19



July 2013

As we come to the end of yet another year, we say farewell to our Year 11s and wish them every success in the future. We will spend the summer waiting nervously for their exam results.

Time also to say a sad goodbye to **Mrs Scholey** who has been Head of English and Drama at Solway for 16 years and is retiring from the teaching professions after 37 years! We wish her a long and fulfilling retirement, enjoying her passion for drama and the arts. We are delighted that Mr Green will take over the role of Head of department, ably supported by Mrs Schafer.

I am delighted to share with you the letter of congratulations from the SSAT (The Schools Network) for our pupils' achievements in 2013 which is only awarded to those in the top 20% of schools and academies nationally. I am sure you will agree this is a fabulous achievement.

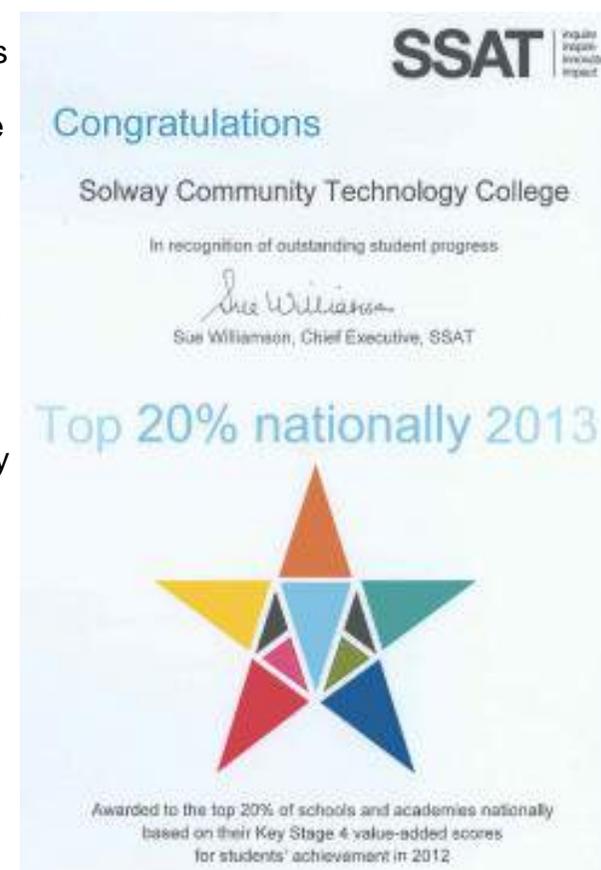
I am pleased to announce that there will be a Friday night club running for all our pupils aged from 11 to 19, from 7pm until 9pm in the Sports Hall. This will run throughout the summer and next term, generously funded by Inspira and run by North Allerdale Development Trust. There will be youth workers and sports coaches on hand to offer a variety of activities for the pupils. I hope they make the most of it.

Lastly I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer break. I expect pupils to return on Thursday 5th September refreshed and ready to put in all the necessary effort to succeed next year. Please do check the term dates and those for Parents' evenings; our aim is to reach over 95% attendance.

Mrs L Baird
Headteacher



Living the Olympic and Paralympic Values



Yr 5 Technology Day

Thursday 20th of June was a very exciting day for year 5 pupils from Silloth, Holme St Cuthbert and Allonby. Pupils experienced both Food Technology and Resistant Material Technology and successfully produced a batch of biscuits and a curly plastic key ring. By the end of the sessions, all pupils were justifiably proud of their achievements. Allonby and Holme St Cuthbert pupils also experienced the wonderful cuisine we have here in school and from their evaluation sheets, thoroughly enjoyed their lunch. I should like to thank the year 11 pupils and Mrs Martin who very kindly gave up their free time to assist in Technology for the day. Their help was much appreciated.

Mrs Cooper



Year 10 Career Exploration Week

I am delighted with the way our year 10 pupils responded and rose to the challenge of Career Exploration Week. At the start of the week each pupil received a timetable and checklist of the work that needed to be completed by the end of the week. Pupils were extremely well motivated and they commenced work immediately, compiling their C V and letter of application in preparation for their interviews with employers.

During the week pupils were timetabled for a variety of activities including Level 2 Food Hygiene, Heartstart, Managing Money and an interview with employers.

I should like to thank the staff from Innovia Films, Gen II, Mrs Rowlands and Mrs Martin who gave their time and expertise to provide this valuable learning experience for our pupils. The feedback from the interviews was very positive, with Mr Wise commenting that our pupils “conducted themselves very well, pleasant and attentive, excellent eye contact and body language from them all.” He went on to say, “All the pupils are a credit to the school.”

We are the only school in the area that arranges this experience in a real life situation, with pupils in their choice of interview clothing and allocated half an hour each in a private room with two interviewers. Pupils have certainly gained much knowledge and life experience from the week and when asked about the activities made the following comments:

“I feel that I know what I want to do in the future now.”

“The interviews were good and I feel more confident after talking with the employers.”

“I thought the employers were nice and gave good advice.”

“We were treated like we were older and I liked the responsibility.”

“I have learnt new skills, especially writing a CV and a letter of application.”

I am really pleased that this week of focussed activities is so appreciated by our pupils.

Mrs Cooper



And then we walked back out... 'Lessons from Auschwitz' visit

I was privileged to take part in a trip to Poland on the 12th June to visit Oświęcim and the notorious Auschwitz – Birkenau death camp. It was here that nearly one and a half million men, women and children, mainly Jews, were murdered by the Nazis between 1939 and 1945.

The experience was organised by the Holocaust educational trust as an awareness raising project for staff. There may also be opportunities for pupils to visit in the future.

Having read a lot about The Holocaust and seen many documentaries and films, I knew many of the facts, but actually visiting these places truly brought home the scale of the operation to round people up from across Europe and transport them to the extermination camps; the vastness of the site was truly shocking.

In the evening, the two hundred of us gathered at the end of the railway line between the two ruined gas chambers and held a memorial service led by the rabbi accompanying the trip. We all lit and lay candles on the tracks and, as the sun set, walked silently back up the railway to the infamous gate and back to the waiting coaches, all so mindful of the difference between our visit and the final journey of those who never made it back out.

Bernard Green



Sweets and drinks in school

We only allow water in school; we have a water dispenser which supplies cold or ambient water. Pupils need their own bottles. Pupils are not to bring in sweets or fizzy drinks or gum. Please remember that goes for packed lunches too. They should be as healthy as our school meals.

School lunches

If you would like to pay weekly or monthly please do ask at reception.

Uniform

Black, **tailored** school trousers or a black school knee length skirt, are essential items; not fashion items but sensible school wear, as listed in the planner and prospectus.
Reminder: One pair of stud earrings only.

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

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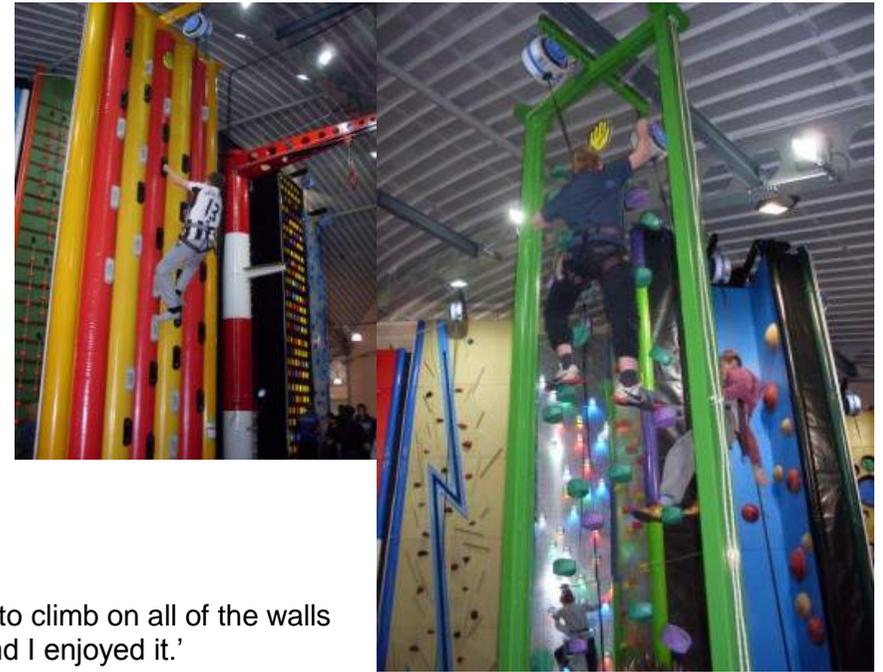
Clip and Climb

On Thursday 13th June we took a group of Year 8 and 9 pupils to Clip 'n Climb in Maryport as a reward for their hard work and good behaviour this year. After a quick induction and safety talk, our pupils were keen to have a go and were soon climbing up the walls, showing no sign of fear! The walls all had different levels of difficulty and our pupils were keen to have a go at all of them. There was fierce competition between some of the boys as they raced to get to the top of the clear wall to beat their friends.

There was one wall which had a timer on so you could do races. Josh Wilson narrowly beat Mrs Hurst but the overall champion was Reece Edmondson who scaled the wall in an unbelievable 8 seconds.

Our pupils were exemplary on this trip and were a credit to the school. We thoroughly enjoyed taking them on this visit and we hope to repeat it in the future.

Thanks to Mr Green, Mr Sunter, Mr Harris, Mr Hansel and Mrs Hurst for coming with us.
Miss Jones



'We went to clip and climb on Thursday the 13th of June. It was amazing; we were allowed to climb on all of the walls as a present from doing so well on 'Secret Student'. The trip as a whole was really good and I enjoyed it.'

By Jamie Kelly-Warwick

'We went to Clip 'n' Climb on the 15th of June because we were the pupils that passed Secret Student. It was really good and we all had good fun. There were loads of walls to climb and we all took turns on climbing them. Some of the teachers climbed them too and had a race to the top against pupils. It was really good fun and I would love to go again.'

By Lee Johnson

Race for Life

Macy Baker, Alicia Van Rotterdam, Faye Van Rotterdam, Ellie Scott, Abbygail Peacock, Hannah Dubberley and Kia Lamb all took part for the Race for Life in Carlisle last Sunday. The race was 5k through Bitts Park and all of the pupils tried extremely hard and managed to keep a good consistent pace, especially Macy Baker who managed to run it in 27.34 minutes.

The pupils managed to raise £300 for cancer research. Overall it was a good day and very rewarding.

Miss Malkinson & Miss Jones



Silloth at War

On Tuesday June 18th two former pupils of the school came in to speak to a group of Year 9 pupils about their memories of growing up in Silloth during and after the Second World War. **Mr. Lawrence Marshall** and **Mr. Iain Munro** spent an hour with the Year 9 History group during which they recalled their childhood experiences in and around Silloth and fielded questions from the pupils about their memories of that time. Year 9 pupils are currently working through a unit of study on the Home Front during World War II and Mr. Marshall and Mr. Munro were able to provide a local perspective on topics ranging from evacuation to rationing. Both men spoke at length about the RAF base that was built in the town and which remained open until the early 1960s. More than anything else perhaps, the visit by Mr. Marshall and Mr. Munro brought home to the Year 9 group how dark the early days of the War were for the people of Britain and how important it is to remember the thousands of men and women who gave their lives for their country during the conflict.



Mr Murray

Where are they now?

If you are an alumni of Solway School, or know someone who is, with a story to tell, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Deputy Head Judith Schafer at school on 016973 31234.



Congratulations

to Sarah Jane who has been awarded a Merit in her Grade 5 Drums, where she learned to play drum breaks and ghost notes as well as performing three songs and building on her Grade 4 Session skills. We were so pleased she came back to help with the Primary Samba workshop.

Annabelle Williamson

We also heard from **Annabelle Williamson**, a pupil at Solway from 1982—1987. She left with O levels and after studying A levels at Nelson Tomlinson school she completed a degree in English at Sunderland University, then a PGCE at Newcastle. Now married with two children, Annabelle is Deputy Head of English at Keswick School—a position she loves! Thank you for getting in touch Annabelle—it's lovely to hear how ex-pupils are achieving, especially when they become teachers themselves!



DIY SOS

Little **Noah Wall** and his family are having a make over for their home in Abbeytown, care of **Nick Knowles** and his talented team. So **Mrs Hoodless** and her talented team baked and donated masses of sausage rolls and cake for the hungry crew, delivered by **Hannah and Harvey**, accompanied by **Mrs Collins and Mrs Baird**. Such a good cause.

As you can see they went down a treat!



Shakespeare Schools' Festival 2013

Plans are racing ahead for our production of 'Macbeth' which Solway pupils will be staging in November as part of the Shakespeare School's Festival. 46 pupils have signed up to take part, either taking on an acting role, or stepping up to the challenge of backstage work and set and costume design. We are currently considering our casting decisions as well as design criteria, and the pupils and staff involved are excited and enthusiastic about the project. Rehearsals proper will get underway as soon as we return to school after the summer, but in the meantime we have been holding drama workshops at lunchtimes, this week practicing speaking in Shakespearean which was a challenge! Any parents who would like to get involved are welcome—expertise in all areas of the theatre is needed!

We will also be looking for help with transporting actors and sets to The Theatre on the Lake in Keswick.

Dates for your diary:

Technical rehearsal October 7th

Final rehearsal and Performance Night—14th November.

Tickets will go on sale at the end of September and we look forward to inviting as many parents and pupils along as possible to support the cast and production team in this terrific venture.

Mrs Schafer

☾ We are such stuff as dreams are made of.....

Be not afraid of greatness!

Gluten-free chocolate brownies

Being gluten intolerant, it is often difficult to get something to eat when you are out and about. One of the most common offerings in coffee shops is the chocolate brownie. Here is my favourite (foolproof) chocolate brownie recipe.

- 200g of good quality dark chocolate (at least 70% cocoa)
- 250g of unsalted butter
- 80g of cocoa powder (check it's gluten free)
- 65g of gluten free plain flour (I like Dove's Farm)
- 1 tsp gluten free baking powder
- 350g caster sugar

4 large eggs

Optional extras: 150g of chopped nuts or dried fruits such as cranberries or sour cherries.

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C and grease a 20 x 30 cm tin with butter before lining the tin with greaseproof paper.
2. Melt the butter and chocolate in a bowl over simmering water.
3. At this stage you can add 150g of chopped nuts or dried fruit like cranberries if you like.
4. Now, in a large bowl, combine the dry ingredients before pouring in the chocolate mix and combining well.
5. Now add the eggs, one at a time, mixing thoroughly.
6. Place the mix in the tin and bake for around 25 minutes. You want them to be gooey and soft. Leave them in the tin to cool completely.
7. Remove, slice and enjoy!

Serving suggestions: Serve warm with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Mix some crème fraîche with grated orange zest and serve with the brownies. Alternatively, enjoy a slice with a nice cup of tea!

Miss Jones

Recipe adapted from Jamie Oliver – Cook with Jamie



Free School Meals and Clothing Grants update

Children currently in receipt of free school meals and/or clothing grants do not need to re-apply for the 2013/14 school year as applications will automatically be updated.

Payment letters for clothing grants will be sent out in July.

New applications can be made on-line at www.cumbria.gov.uk/doitonline/applyforit.asp. Please also let Children's Services know if you have changed address on 01946 505560.

Peer Mentoring

Mr Harris has taken eleven Year 9 pupils through an intensive, three day programme on peer mentoring.

Chloe Smith explains:

'Once we have completed the Peer Mentoring course, we will be looking after the new Yr 7s as they are going through their first year at school. We can help them with anything from using their Homework Planners to troubles at home/school. In training, we learned everything from listening skills to handling any troubles that a mentee might have.

A Peer Mentor is someone a mentee can talk to and discuss anything they like with. Everything will be kept between the mentee and the mentor unless the mentor feels that the mentee might come to harm.' All 11 girls were successful and will start work with the year 7s in September.



Edinburgh Visit

On Monday, June 3rd two Year 9 pupils from the school journeyed by train to Edinburgh to take part in an Open Day organised by the University of Edinburgh for Year 9 Dux winners from around the country. **Chloe Smith** and **Lorna De Mello** accompanied by **Mr. Murray** spent the day in the Infomatics Building at the main campus of the University of Edinburgh.

After a welcome by the Outreach Team of the University, Chloe and Lorna were given a tour of the Robotics Department where students and research professors are working at the cutting edge of this field of technology. Among other ongoing research projects, Chloe and Lorna watched a team of robots play football and watched a demonstration of a robotic arm being developed to assist medical doctors in complicated micro-surgery.

After lunch, there was a Philosophy lecture on the relationship between humans and robots. The Open Day closed with a bus tour of the city which finished at Waverley Station in time for the train back to Carlisle. An exhausting day but a memorable one also.



F

irst home
Reece Blake 46m:40s

Joint 2nd Reece Edmondson & Dean Hewitson 52m15s

Walk for water

To raise fund for providing villages in Africa with safe water thus saving lives. We were delighted to be joined again by Silloth Primary and Nursery, and Jelly tots Nursery as well as Abbeytown Primary this year. Well done.

Sports report

Silloth Primary and Allonby participated in the Solway Olympic Games on Tuesday 25th June where they took part in various athletic activities. The Sports Leaders ran the festival and were in charge of events such as; standing long jump, 50m skip, quoit throw and many more. The pupils all had fun, especially during the relay at the end of the day!

The year 7s took part in the Allerdale Athletics competition at Copeland Stadium, where they competed against all of the schools in Allerdale. All of the pupils put in lots of effort and had a great day. **Shea Wilson** managed to win his heat in the 100m and **Charlie McGuirk** came second in discus. From this competition Charlie went on to represent



House Competition

Beginning in September 2013, the school is going to organise a new House Competition which will last through most of the year and culminate in Olympic Week in July 2014.

Between September and February, pupils in their Houses will take part in a series of sporting and non-sporting events. Points will be awarded for Houses finishing first through to fourth and a running total of these points will be kept. The House that gains the most number of points at the end of the year will be awarded a shield. There will also be team trophies awarded to the winning House of each event. Participation points for each pupil taking part will be added to their House totals for the event. Most of the sporting events will be held in the Sports Hall on a Thursday afternoon, after school and it is hoped that as many pupils as possible will take part in the House Competition.



Beginnings and Endings

After 16 years, 120,000 miles of commuting and teaching over 13,000 lessons it is time for me to bid farewell to Solway and take retirement (early!!)

This school, our school, has been a major part of my life for so long that it will be hard to adjust to new beginnings in the 'real' world. Appointed when Brian Quinn was Head, I have seen many 'happenings' over the years – the 'new sports hall; new computer rooms; the loss of our attached library and the addition of Jelly Tots; changes in heads, governors and staff; the demise of blackboards and the invention of interactive whiteboards to name but a few! The building and Mrs Quinn remain the only constants, one being substantially younger than the other!

I dare not add up the number of pupils I have taught over the years. They are legion! All different, all unique except for one thing - their niceness. My classes will know that 'nice' is a word I usually hate because it has so many meanings but, in this case, almost all aspects of the word fit. Having taught for 37 years in a wide variety of schools, I have never come across more open, friendly or polite pupils. Pupils supported by really caring and canny parents. It's been a pleasure to work with you - parents and pupils – during my time at Solway.

It wouldn't be realistic if there weren't some disagreements and disputes along the way but here grudges are never borne. Sometimes noses have had to be metaphorically pressed to the grindstone, but high expectations and hard work have led to pupils doing their best and, eventually, sighs of relief all around!

I can't believe how quickly time has slipped by. When I started at Solway my daughter Heather used to bring her crayons and colouring books and sit behind me at parents' evenings. Now she has just finished university. My work at Solway has always been a family affair. Heather has been my assistant every summer holiday, filing, photocopying, tidying, labelling and doing the million other jobs that take up teachers' holidays. My husband, Carl, has been chief cook and bottle washer and never complained when I have arrived home at all hours after school and my brother has been my home IT technician, rescuing me during numerous technopanics – and also rescuing me when I 'parked' my car on top of a hedge at Blitterlees on the first morning of an Ofsted inspection having stayed up all night checking and double checking paperwork and then falling asleep at the wheel. Whoops!



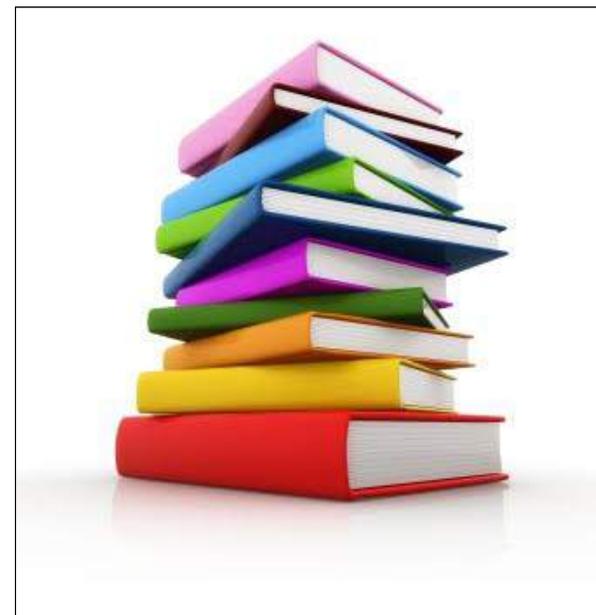
Ofsted! This looms in 2014 and I wish everyone luck with it. I only hope that 'they' recognise the hidden qualities of Solway. A dedicated staff who nurture the children, offering them a level of care and support which it is impossible to find in a big school and which is also impossible to measure.

My plans? To follow my 'passion' with lots of assorted theatre related work. I will continue with my Front of House work at Theatre by the Lake and I also hope to do some work with their education dept., to be part of their Easter production and to continue assisting with the running of the annual Jazz Festival. Hopefully I will see many of you there in November for our fabulous Shakespeare production! I am also heavily involved with the Theatre Royal in Workington, both off and on stage and will increase my commitment with them. AQA exam board work also beckons and I want some term time cheap holidays so I won't be bored!

Wherever, whatever, you will not be far from my thoughts as you have played such a big part in my life. I will keep in touch because I want to know how you all – staff and pupils – get on. I leave 'my' dept. in the safe hands of Mr Green and Mrs Schafer who will both bring new ideas and fresh energy to our already successful department, with my special thanks to Mr Green who has been my 'rock' for a number of years.

Staff, pupils and parents -thank you for your support/ work and good luck for the future.

Gillian Scholey



P Primary Samba classes!

We were delighted to have pupils from Holme Cultram Abbey with us for the Walk for water and then Samba and rounders after lunch.



B Book appeal

The English department is looking for help. We are trying to establish a reading zone in room 4 next year to encourage pupils to read for pleasure. Not only will this support the curriculum, but reading for pleasure is something every pupil should have the opportunity to try and is a habit we are looking to encourage with everyone from year 7 to 11. We are gradually building up our library collection, but it would be lovely to expand it still further. If you have any unwanted books, in good condition, languishing on a bookshelf and looking for a good home, we would be delighted to take them in and add to our shelves. Fiction or non fiction, anything is welcome from Austen to Zephaniah,. Please send any donations in to the school office.

Thank you for your support!



Prom night! This year's prom—Under the Stars—was held at Stanwix on 23rd May. A dazzling array of outfits were on show, along with some sparkling dance moves which made the evening truly star spangled and a night to remember. Staff at Stanwix were very complimentary about the fabulous behaviour of all who attended. Well done! Check out Mr Harris' hat!



Civic duty



As part of the school's contribution to Silloth Green's entry for the Green Flag award year 9 pupils were involved in a big litter pick. Luckily the sun shone as we gathered bags and bags of rubbish from under trees and bushes. The pupils were all keen to help, especially when they were promised an ice-cream in return for their hard work!



Calling Volunteer Gardeners

By the end of the summer term we hope to have erected a polytunnel so we can grow our own herbs, fruit and vegetables for use in the kitchen. While we have plenty of enthusiasm, we could do with some help and expertise; from donating pots, compost, seeds, seedlings and plants to helping us sow, plant, water and weed. If you have any knowledge, enthusiasm or donations for us we would be delighted to receive them. For more information contact Mrs Rowlands, our Business Manager on 31234.

Attention all parents!

We would like to bring to your attention the dangers of a free online website called Omegle.

This site allows users to communicate with strangers without registering. The service randomly pairs users in one-on-one chat sessions where they chat anonymously using the handles "You" and "Stranger".

Users are supposed to be over 18; however the site can be easily accessed by under-18s; schools in Carlisle have found Year 9s familiar with the site. It has been reported too that on some occasions, users were redirected to pornography sites.

The site is not available on any school machine but I am aware that most of your children have internet access on their phones. Do you know what they use it for?

Mrs Quinn

Solway enjoys a day of culture



On Friday 5th July, 29 pupils from Year 8 went to enjoy a day of culture at Cockermonth School. Hosted by Links Into Languages, the school offered an enrichment day to promote languages to young people.

The first session was a talk about why it is so important to learn a foreign language and we learned some surprising statistics, such as the fact that 75% of the world's population do not speak any English at all. We split into two groups and were joined by some pupils from Cockermonth. Our first activity was Arabian belly dancing and we were pleased to see most of the boys, including **Mr Harris** and **Mr Sunter**, taking part enthusiastically. With scarves wrapped around our hips, we learned a traditional routine

from the instructor Michelle and we soon had the moves perfected. Top dancers in our group were **Abbie**

and **Josh Wilson** who both did a routine with the instructor in front of the whole group.

We then moved on to a Chinese workshop to learn how to make an origami frog. The instructor also taught us how to say hello, goodbye and thank you in Chinese. The origami was quite tricky to do but we were all able to make a frog. We then had a race to see whose frog could jump the furthest. **Abbie** was thrilled when her frog jumped the furthest, only to realise it wasn't her frog at all!

After lunch we had an Italian language session with **Fabrizio** from Florence. Pupils learnt some interesting facts about Italy and some of them took part in a dialogue in Italian, which they have never learned before. We then did a quiz about Italy and top marks went to **Kieran Browbank-Ealand** and **Ben Goodman** who scored a superb 20 out of 20!

All in all we had a fantastic day out and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. I was so impressed with how well the pupils participated and behaved all day. Well done, Year 8!

Miss Jones





Primary 6 induction days

A taste of life at Solway School—trampolining, samba bands, science, Spanish, History.... A taste of things to come in September!

Pupils took part in a range of different activities, including making key rings in technology and learning basic samba techniques with **Mr Kirby** in Music. In English the pupils studied a poem called 'Woman of the future' by Cathy Warry before coming up with their own man and woman of the future poems themselves. Joe Oates' poem is published below. We loved the idea that he is unique! The pupils all had a great day, including lunch in the canteen. We hope they all gave it a perfect ten!



Attendance

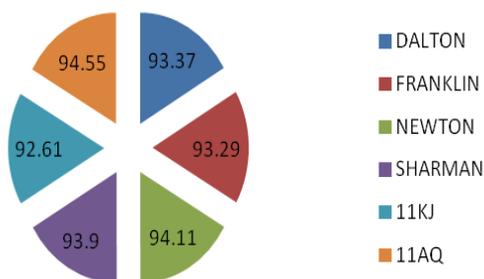
Unfortunately our pupils didn't reach the target of 95% attendance set by the Government between September and May half term. We only managed 93.61%.

Holidays account for less than 1% of our total absences (383 sessions missed) so that still wouldn't have allowed us to reach our target. Medical appointments in school time are almost the same as holidays. We do have several persistent absentees (PAs). Those are children deemed to be off too much whether they are ill or not and these are the pupils I target in order for them to be in school more. We currently have 9 pupils who have been absent for more than 47 sessions in the school year. 47 sessions represents an extra 23½ days not at school, in addition to the 63 days of planned holidays.

When young people start work, they usually only get 20 days holiday per year and they must understand that being off work with a bad head or similar minor ailment will not be tolerated. Neither will medical appointments in work time. We understand fully about orthodontist and hospital appointments, but going to the doctor and dentist must be done out of school time.

Parents can help! We would like you to be very pro active in encouraging your child to go to school as if they were in employment.

% ATTENDANCE BY FORM GROUP



This pie chart shows the attendance of each year group. Year 8 and Year 10 are so near the target.

Our Year 11 attendance is also excellent compared to other schools. 11AQ win again! That's because I encourage them every day, something that obviously works since the pupils responded well.

Well done to all those pupils with more than 95% attendance; almost half the school. Well done to the 11 pupils who haven't missed a single session this year and another 16 who

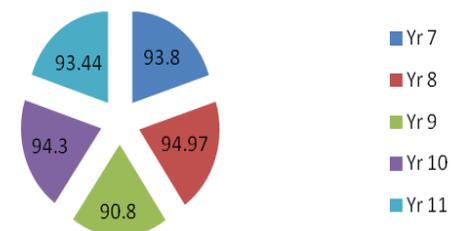
have only had one day of absence since the start of the year.

We appreciate that sometimes absence is inevitable and we understand reasons why pupils may not be here, but in the big world of employment, employers are not always as understanding!

The Government has changed the rules regarding holidays in term time; as Mrs Baird explained in her recent letter we can no longer authorise holidays, except in exceptional circumstances. Applications must be made in writing to school in good time, however it is likely that only absences due to legal reasons or bereavements will be allowed.

Mrs Quinn

% ATTENDANCE FROM 5 SEPT TO 24 MAY BY YEAR GROUP



Meet our staff

Alison Tallontire is our Science technician, First Aider and finance department assistant. She enjoyed accompanying the pupils to Barcelona with Miss Jones last year and would like to go again!

She will usually be the member of staff who the children go to if they are feeling unwell while in school.

She knows where everything is in the Science department and prepares all the apparatus for each practical lesson.

She lives in Silloth and has worked at Solway since 1994 and we'd be lost without her.



I am a child.
I am all the things of my past
I am the eyes of my mum and I've got the nose
of my dad
I am the laziness of my brother

I am all I see.
I saw Whitby for the first time and seeing the sea
for the first time

I am all I hear.
I like hearing the sea crash against the rocks

I am all I feel and taste.
The taste of cheese burgers

And all I remember.
Going to school for the first time
Going on my first holiday

And I am all I've been taught.
Learning how to write, speak and walk

I am all I think.
I am glad to be a part of life

I am all these things.
I am like nobody else; I am unique

But one day I'll make my family proud
And be free
Because
I'm the man of the future.

By Joe Oates



CHILDREN'S SERVICES DIRECTORATE

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2013/2014

AUTUMN TERM 2013		
STARTS	ENDS	INSET: Tues 3 Sept Wed 4 Sept
Thursday 5 September	Wednesday 18 December	HALF – TERM HOLIDAY Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November
Number of school days in term – 70		
SPRING TERM 2014		
STARTS	ENDS	HALF – TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 6 January	Thursday 10 April	Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February INSET: Mon 24 February
Number of school days in term – 63		Good Friday – 18 April Easter Monday – 21 April
SUMMER TERM 2014		
STARTS	ENDS	HALF – TERM HOLIDAY
Wednesday 23 April	Friday 18 July	Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May
Number of schools days in term – 57		Early May Bank Holiday Monday 5 May

Parents' evenings

We have a slightly different plan this coming year. We would like to start Year 11s off on the right track by having a meeting with Parents and tutors, Mrs Quinn and Miss Jones, early on in September. This will be to ensure we are all doing our utmost to help them in their final year towards mocks, exams, interviews and their next steps. The subject staff will meet with Parents in early October while the sixth forms, colleges, employers and other providers will be available in January at the Destinations evening. I do hope you will support your child by attending at these vital times

Parents' Eve	
Yr 11 Tutor evening	Wed 18 th Sept
Yr 11 Subject evening	Tues 8 th Oct
Yr 7-10 tutor evening	Tues 15 th Oct
Yr 11 Destinations evening	Tues 21 st Jan `14
Yr 10 subject evening	Tues 28 th Jan `14
Yr 9 Options evening	Tues 4 th Feb `14
Yr 7&8 Subject evening	Tues 4 th March `14