

# SOLWAY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

April 2016

Newsletter No. 4



Dear Parents/Carers

Another half term has gone by so quickly! We are moving forward towards the exam term, and I hope that Year 11 students are working hard and revising.

KS3 enjoyed an exciting study skills workshop on the first day back which was, say the students, fun and interesting. Parents who came to the parents' forum following the study day, although they were out of their comfort zone and had to stand up, get involved and learn brain exercising techniques agreed that they would be able to work with their children – and that the techniques they were taught would be useful at work too! We hope to be able to repeat the workshop in the future.

We still intend our school to be at the centre of the community and we are working closely with the police, fire service and RNLI to make sure we make it clear to students how important these services are to Silloth. To that end the PCSO will be holding a surgery in school once a month, working with students as closely as possible to make sure our students understand how to work with the community to achieve the best results for everyone. The first of these will be on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> at lunchtime and will be an opportunity for students to get to know our PCSOs and, if they want, a chance to speak in confidence about issues in school or in Silloth as well.

In school I am delighted (as I am sure you are) at the success of our netball teams under the direction of our ferocious coach Ms Cross; under her tutelage her teams have beaten Nelson Tomlinson and gone on to win a tournament at Keswick school. Punching above our weight is what we like to do – fantastic, girls!!!!

The exams meanwhile are at the back of everyone's mind, and this is the half term for Year 11 students to consolidate their knowledge and spend revision time making sure they are as well prepared as they can be. Staff are running extra sessions after school every night of the week – please encourage your children, of all year groups, to make the most of the help available.

All that remains is for the spring weather to arrive for everything to be in place for another busy, successful term. Please get in touch if there is anything we can do to help.

Mrs Judith Schafer  
Headteacher



## **BBC School Report 2016**

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, students from all across the country reported on an issue or news that interested them, researched, interviewed and presented to meet a 2 o'clock deadline, then uploaded their report to the website which is linked to the BBC.

There were four groups of Year 10s who took part in the BBC School Report for Solway. Their reports were on holidays in term time, the age we start school and the amount of time we spend there, extreme weather and how VAT is a tax on

women.

The day was enjoyable but challenging, calling on lots of confidence-building skills: phoning agencies, going out researching, conducting interviews, meeting deadlines and resubmitting after an editor has looked at a finished piece.

See their reports by following the link on our school website. *Mr Green*

<http://www.solway.cumbria.sch.uk/school-report/>

## **Year 9 Community Project**

A group of Year 9 boys are undertaking a community project of their own suggestion, which should be of real benefit to the school.

The boys decided that they would like to "tidy up the school" as they put it, ensuring that most of the litter seen around school ends up where it should do.....in the bin.

They will be working on a weekly rota basis to police the school, putting any unwanted litter in the appropriate place, separating anything that is recyclable.

This should make our school a nicer place to be so, please encourage them, and even better.....put your rubbish in the appropriate place!

*Mr Hansel*

## **School Uniform Reminder**

If your child wishes to wear our new school polo shirt with the 'Solway' logo these can be purchased from the school office at a cost of £9.00. These can be worn instead of their usual school shirt and tie. However if your child chooses to continue to wear their shirt and tie this must be worn correctly with their tie on show.



## Sports Hall Damage

Due to ongoing damage at the Sports Hall, we have published a new set of rules for people who use the sports hall, both within and outside of school hours. While we charge for use of the hall outside school hours, it only covers staff wages, heating and lighting and does not cover the cost of rectifying damage to lights, safety equipment (e.g. the grills covering lights and heaters) and the emergency exit doors. In order to re-attach a safety grill on a light, we need to hire a scissor lift which can cost us hundreds of pounds. To replace a damaged door costs us thousands. This is money the school simply does not have and the cost of repairing damage that was caused over the last few weeks is currently potentially running at well over £2000 already. We hope that the users of the hall, and the community in general, will support us in putting these rules in place so we can continue to offer the use of the facilities outside school hours. The new rules are simple—**no balls above head height** and **emergency exits only to be opened in an emergency**. Hopefully this will help us stop any more damage happening.

## Communicating with Parents—when we need to talk to you urgently

Quick thinking by our staff identified a potential gas leak at school last term. In order to keep our students safe, we needed to send them home. The protocol within school is that we must speak to parents before releasing children from school. While the vast majority of parents were contactable, some parents did not answer their phones when we rang - but picked up when their children rang from their mobiles. If we ring more than once or twice in a row, it is because we really need to speak to you—it will be an emergency, not a problem with homework, behaviour or anything else. Please pick up when we ring, as we really do need to speak to you. It is a legal requirement that we have a contact number for every student, please make sure yours are up to date. Thanks to everyone who ensured that the school was made safe as quickly as possible, and children were all able to be sent home within a couple of hours of the evacuation.

## Term dates 2016/2017

Start back to school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016  
 Half term – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
 Christmas holidays start Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December **1.05pm finish**

Spring term starts Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and ends Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017

February half term is Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
 Easter holidays Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017

Summer term Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July **1.05pm finish**

## 30 second challenge!!

<b>BEGINNER</b>	<b>15</b>	x2	-8	HALVE IT	x4	+1	÷9	MULTIPLY IT BY ITSELF	-7	HALVE IT	ANSWER
<b>INTERMEDIATE</b>	<b>89</b>	+11	$\frac{3}{5}$ OF THIS	-5	$\frac{2}{11}$ OF THIS	MULTIPLY IT BY ITSELF	-19	÷9	x3	DOUBLE IT	ANSWER
<b>ADVANCED</b>	<b>4</b>	MULTIPLY IT BY ITSELF TWICE	+16	70% OF THIS	-2	$\frac{7}{5}$ OF THIS	-3	$33\frac{1}{3}\%$ OF THIS	x100	50% OF THIS	ANSWER

## Church Visit

As part of this term's RE module based on religious symbols and buildings the Year 7 students have been on a visit to the local church. During the visit students listened to a talk delivered by Reverend Rothwell and had chance to ask lots of questions. The students got involved which was great to see and thoroughly enjoyed exploring the church. They have all agreed that the highlights included speaking to the vicar, standing in the pulpit and listening to the organ. It was a thought-provoking visit and hopefully one that will help the students as they continue to study RE. *Miss Dakers*



## World War One Centenary Tour

On the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> March three year 9 students were selected to take part in a World War One Centenary programme. During the trip the students had the opportunity to visit a number of sites in France and Belgium, these sites included; the Thiepval Memorial, Ulster Memorial Tower, Lijssenthoek Cemetery and Tyne Cot Cemetery. After visits to these sites the students realised how important the memorials were to the soldiers who served during the Great War and as a result began to carry out research based on a local soldier.

During the visit to Tyne Cot Cemetery the students tracked down the final resting place of this local soldier, Thomas Pinguey, and laid a cross on behalf of all of us here at Solway Community College.

Overall the students involved found the experience rewarding and motivating and now plan to visit local primary schools to share their experiences.

*Miss Dakers*



# Yr7 Pizzas

Well done to ALL the yr7 food pupils who have completed their design and make a pizza task this half term. Great work and progress made.

Keep it up!!

*Mrs Hurst*



## Year 10 Catering Practical Exam

Produce four products containing dairy produce.

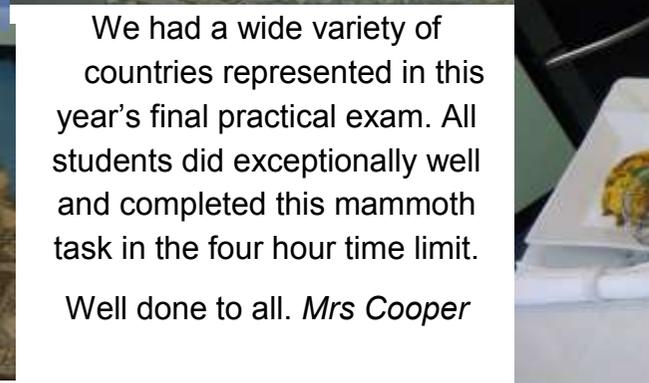


Well done year 10. This was a very successful practical exam. I can honestly say that each student surpassed all previous practical assessments as they independently produced their products to a very high standard. I am really delighted with their progress and look forward to helping them through their next challenge. *Mrs Cooper*



## Yr11 Catering

Produce a two course meal with side dishes from a country of your choice.



We had a wide variety of countries represented in this year's final practical exam. All students did exceptionally well and completed this mammoth task in the four hour time limit.

Well done to all. *Mrs Cooper*

# RMT News

This term KS3 have been working hard at designing and manufacturing their own product ideas. Yr7 and 8 have focused on a tea light challenge to include at least 2 of the 3 resistant materials. Yr9 have focused on a fun themed bird box. All classes have worked hard and are keen to complete their designs to a high standard. Well done to all, keep it up!!

Open workshop will be on offer to all pupils on **Thursdays** afterschool **3-4.30pm** after the Easter hols, looking forward to seeing many of our pupils there!!

*Mrs Hurst*

Yr9 Bird boxes



Yr7&8 Tea lights



## **British Science Week**

British Science week got off to a flying start with an assembly and then a full day of demonstrations, each class got to watch or participate in some fiery and exciting science experiments.

This year the theme was all about the different spaces where science can be found and done, focusing on **five different types of space**:

- **open space,**
- **outer space,**
- **digital space,**
- **built space, and**
- **personal space.**

All pupils had the chance to go on the Science hunt where lots of questions and keywords to be found all around the school. KS3 were given the chance to enter a poster competition and some year tens were let loose with paints and art supplies to make their own model of the star life cycle. *Mrs Potts*



Your Science department is on

twitter 



- Revision tips and links!
- Revision questions
- Ask questions!
- Interesting science facts

**@sciencesolway**

## Primary Science Day

This half term, Year 5 students from Allonby, Mawbray, Abbeystown and Silloth primary schools took part in a primary science day. The pupils had to solve the mystery of the stolen biscuits by collecting and analysing evidence left around the “crime scene”. The children all had fun taking fingerprints, looking at hair samples under the microscope, doing some chromatography and completing flame tests. Year 9 pupils Mark Bonomy, Naomi Buck-Hornby, Sam Lennon, and Andrew Blackburn along with Grace Bennet from year 8, helped out during the day and were excellent at encouraging and explaining the tasks to the primary pupils. At the end of the activity, pupils who were brave enough had an opportunity to have their hands set on fire! The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. *Miss Gibson*



## **British Basketball League Finals Trip**

### **Emirates Arena, Glasgow 2016**

For the third year running, a group of SCTC basketballers went to watch the much anticipated BBL final at the brilliant Emirates Arena in Glasgow.

The final was preceded by a Scottish National Championships final which was a closely contested game between the Fury and the Blaze, which the Fury won 76-61.

Between games the crowd were entertained by the BBL babes, Leni the Lion and most impressively, the Lords of Gravity Freestyle dunk team.....who wowed the boys with huge, somersaulting, gravity defying slam dunks!

The BBL final was a replay of the 2015 final between Newcastle Eagles and Leicester City Riders. Leicester dominated throughout , leading for all but 13 seconds of the game.....and eventually came out clear winners to take their first BBL Trophy.

Brilliant day all round.....can't wait 'til next year.

*Mr Hansel*



## Cumberland wrestling champions at SCS

Report by Kian Orchard and Aaron Anderson, Year 7

Cumberland and Westmorland wrestling, more often known just as Cumberland Wrestling, is an ancient sport that comes from Cumbria. Some people think it was invented by the Vikings.

There are rules that wrestlers have to follow and they have to try and unbalance their opponent. If any part of a wrestler's body touches the ground aside from his feet then he loses. If both fall down at once the last to hit the ground is the winner. You are also out if you break your hold. Matches are usually decided by the best of three falls.

Famous wrestlers included Adam Dodd of Langwathby Mill and Abraham Brown of Brampton School who was Britain's first wrestling hero. Now we have our own famous wrestlers in Solway Community School. Jack Harrison in year 7, Ben Harrison in year 11 and Jenny Harrison in year 9 are all Cumberland wrestlers. They got into the sport because their grandad used to wrestle so it runs in the family.

The family recently went to a competition in Quimper in France, which was a long journey. We asked Jack was it was like. He said he didn't have any tactics but he did a lot of practice for the competition and he got second place in his age group and won a silver medal. There are wrestling shows every year where you can win money. Jack said the best thing about the trip was the hotel, and the worst thing was the ferry home.

We are very proud that this famous sport is happening right here in our school and that the Harrison's are all champions!



## Netball!

Congratulations to all the pupils who have been attending training and taking part in matches!

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 7A and 7B played their first away match of the year against Nelson Thomlinson in Wigton. Both games were fantastic to watch. Miss Cross and Miss Thorpe were on the edge of their seats as both games were close and very exciting. Final scores; 4-1 to Solway A and 3-2 to Nelson B. Moment of the match: Holly Smith scoring her first goal against Nelson Thomlinson.

Girls of the game: Sadie Henderson, Becky Weightman and Amy Carr

### **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 7A and 7B took part in the U12s netball tournament held at Keswick! Everyone had a fantastic day of netball, the weather held out and the views around Keswick were amazing! Both teams played extremely well showing off their new skills and tactics they had learnt in training!

The overall winners of the tournament were Keswick beating our very own Solway A girls in the FINAL 9 goals to 5. A very well deserved 2<sup>nd</sup> place of out of 8 schools and 16 teams! Watch this space as we will be after the trophy next year! Girls of the game: Lucy Carr and Anna Fisher



## Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

### U13s netball tournament

Well done to the yr8 and yr7 netball team who took part in the U13s netball tournament held at Keswick yesterday! The yr8s played fantastically well and were undefeated in all 6 of their netball matches! Finishing top of their group! An amazing achievement! Well done! Girls of the tournament: Mollie Scott & Beth Rudd

Yr7s held their own in their group against some exceptional year 8 teams from other schools! They got through to the semi-final but got beaten 7-4 against Keswick. Not bad considering they are a year younger!! Girls of the tournament: Ella Baker & Jodie Firth

A special mention to Macy Baker for her fantastic umpiring! Macy umpired over 10 matches included the Final!! Keep up the hard work!



### Carlisle United.

Thank you to Tracey Gannon at Carlisle United Football Club for working with all of our girls each week for the past term. They have loved every minute and we are very impressed with how much the girls have progressed! This has inspired and encouraged the girls to now get involved in football outside of school! *Miss Cross*



## Work Ready Day at Caldew School

Earlier this half term a group of our Year 11 pupils benefited from a 'work ready day' provided by Caldew School in Dalston. During the day our students had workshops lead by recruitment specialists from large West Cumbrian employers. Gen2 and Stobbarts were two of the main providers. The student developed their CV's during the day and were given some invaluable interview techniques. The day finished with a face to face interview with a recruitment officers from one of over 50 companies based in Cumbria and Lancashire. The event was a fantastic experience and has hopefully given them some skills for life. *Mr Sunter*



## Chelsea's Choice

On Wednesday 9th March our Year 8 pupils went to join Beacon Hill school pupils to watch a theatre production. The play tells the story of a group of three students who discover the diary of a girl called Chelsea. Chelsea was a young girl who, having fallen out with her friends and family, was approached by a man called Gary. Gary was older, owned a car, had a flat and treated her like an adult. Unfortunately Gary was not what he seemed to be! Chelsea's story is played out and examined by the three students who, along with their teacher, attempt to understand what happened to Chelsea and how it could have been prevented.



If your child has any concerns about their safety or wellbeing they can speak confidentially to any member of our safeguarding team:

Mrs Schafer  
Mr Wigginton  
Mr Sunter  
Mr Harris  
Mrs Woodman  
Mrs Wise



## **Don't Miss It! - Lucy Stevens celebrates the life of Kathleen Ferrier in a one-woman play at Solway Community School.**



Whattalife! is the first staged dramatization of Kathleen Ferrier's life, and follows her from her debut as a singer in 1940, through her meteoric rise, to her tragic death in 1953.

Lucy, who carried out extensive research while writing the show which included studying Kathleen's letters, has described it as "an intimate record of a period well remembered by our parents and grandparents, from the Blitz until the Coronation".

The play is written in Lancastrian Kathleen's own words, taken from her letters and diaries, and has received the blessing of the trustees of the Ferrier Estate and the Kathleen Ferrier Society.

Music from the late singer's repertoire is woven throughout the performance.

**Tickets can be purchased from school.**

**£8 in advance, £10 on the door.**

**£6 Solway Arts members and £2 children.**

Whattalife! is a one-woman show focusing on the late English contralto – whose voice and recordings are treasured to this day – during the Second World War and the post-war years.

Written and performed by acclaimed actress and singer Lucy Stevens, the play will be presented in **Solway Community School on Friday 27th May at 7.30pm.**

Lucy is an experienced developer of new material for the theatre, including productions at the Linbury Studio, Royal Opera House and the Turbine Hall at the Tate Modern.