

NTS NEWSLETTER

Issue 29

AUTUMN
TERM

December 2010

Compiled by
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School Librarian/
Literacy Co-
ordinator

KEEPING
YOU
INFORMED
AT
HOME

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Headmistress:
Mrs J Downes



Community and Enrichment Mr Beechey

Students have been involved in a range of activities this term:

Crocus Appeal

Year 7 students from 7NM were involved in planting Crocus bulbs in Wigton in support of the Rotary Club's worldwide eradication of polio charity, 'Focus on the Crocus'. When a young person in the third world is vaccinated for polio they have their index finger dipped in purple ink symbolising that they have been treated for the disease. The thousands of bulbs planted by Wigton Rotary Club celebrate this work and will give a show of purple colour to the town.

Litter Awareness



Mr Broster, our Citizenship co-ordinator, has been undertaking litter picking with groups of students suitably equipped for the task. It seems like a minor issue but making students aware of the amount of litter on our school grounds and how much is out there should open their eyes to a worrying community and national problem. Mike Phillips, President of the National Keep Britain Tidy Campaign, lives in Wigton and is consequently very supportive of our efforts.

Wigton Christmas Lights

The end of November saw the turning on of the Wigton Lights. The Town Council again worked hard to make this a great event. Just like last year we saw freezing but beautiful weather for this occasion. Ten of our Year 7 and 8 students helped set up in the morning with our NTS Music Department taking centre stage for the day. 7 Rock bands, the Samba Band, Brass Band and The Big Band represented the school and community. The Learning Support Department were again there in force with staff and students manning their tombola stand in freezing conditions. They raised £300 for charity.

Young Citizens of the Year Award

Wigton Mayor, Mr Brian Warren and his wife were special guests to Miss Wilson and Year 10 NTS students in December. They presented the Wigton Young Citizen of the Year award jointly to Natasha Wilson 10DK and Abbie Hethrington 10 JP. Both girls have excelled in the field of sport. In the Javelin, Natasha is the U15 Champion and School Champion and holds the County record. She was also a finalist in the School Nationals Pentathlon. Abbie is the U15 1500m Champion, English Schools Champion, Scottish 800m Champion, Northern 1500m Champion, was 3rd in the Schools International Cross Country event and 2nd in the English Schools 1500m.

Shoe Box Appeal



An early deadline meant October was the date for our Shoebox appeal collections. The school put together 191 shoe boxes for the Appeal, a fantastic effort by tutors and students and of course parents. Thanks for all your efforts.

School Events

The end of November saw two events on the same evening. On the back of their hugely successful Rock Night where 100 pupils, including 20+ rock bands, raised over £500 for 'Help the Heroes', the NTS 'Big Band' took the stage. The band performed at Innovia Films for a 1940s Night in aid of the Mayor of Allerdale's Charities. On the same evening our PTA and Mr Murray staged their annual quiz of the year at the Rugby Club.

PTA

The PTA does great work raising money for worthy causes within school. Last year they raised £2,500 for items which have a direct impact on your children.

It would be appreciated if you could join in or help, even in a small way, at the next PTA meeting at the Rugby Club on Monday 24th January 7.30pm. You may also want to join our PTA lottery draw for £10. (PTA report continued over page)

Each month £45 worth of prize money is paid out. We currently only have 66 members.

An easy way to help would be to raise money for free whenever you buy anything on the internet. If lots of parents register this can be an easy way of supporting your children directly. To register go to either of the following fundraising websites:

www.thegivingmachine.co.uk

www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Then select The Nelson Thomlinson School as your chosen charity and access your shopping website through the fundraising website. Donations will then be made to the school each time you shop online.

Library News

Mrs Crone

Book Fair

The Book Fair was held in the School Library from 6th - 10th December. All pupils had a timetabled visit with their English teachers and a record total of approx. £1,640 worth of stock, supplied by Hills Books of Workington, was sold. This enables the School to purchase £410 worth of books for the School Library. Thanks to all pupils and parents who supported this. The overall winners of the Year 7 Book Fair Poster Competition were Adam Davison 7HW & Esther Newton 7LJ. Both pupils received certificates and book prizes to the value of £10. There were also book prizes for 13 other pupils who were runners-up or highly commended with their entries. Well done to all!

CREST Gold Award Science & Engineering Research Projects

Mr Downes



On December 2nd, fifteen Sixth Form science students, who had been involved in joint research projects with Innovia Films at their Research and Development Centre, gave their final presentations and reports to a large audience of fellow students, members of the School's Senior Management Team and scientists and managers from Innovia Films. The presentations were of a very high standard and reflected 10 months of genuine scientific research and the unique opportunity afforded to our students through the close and valuable relationship with Innovia Films.

Three of the projects were science based (looking at the manufacture and treatment of polypropylene film) and one of the projects was engineering based looking at the energy efficiency of the manufacturing process.

At the end of their presentations the students were presented with individual CREST Gold Awards by Mr David Beeby, the CEO of Innovia Films and Mr Tony Gill representing the British Science Association. The CREST Gold Award is a very prestigious national award.

Year 7 Inter-Form Rugby League Competition Tournament Review

Mr Hamilton

All eight Year 7 forms participated in the 2010 tournament and this year's theme was the NRL, the Australian competition. In the first round matches South Sydney Rabbitohs (7LJ) were crushed by the Penrith Panthers (7HS) by 36-8. Proudfoot and Green crossed the line for the Rabbits but this was not enough to cancel out three tries from Kemp and a brace each for Charters, Holyoak and Hodgson. Manly Sea Eagles (7RS) were dispatched by St George Dragons (7JW) in a tight game ending 16-4. Wilson crossed for Manly and Hetherington and Harrison each bagging a brace for the Dragons. The third 1st round match saw Sydney Roosters (7LSP) go down to a strong looking West's Tigers (7NM) outfit by 24-8. Bewley and Russell crossed the line for the Roosters and Barley and Jackson scoring two apiece for the Tigers with Warwick and Wilson wrapping up the scoring. The final game in this round saw the New Zealand Warriors (7VB) edge a tight game with the Gold Coast Titans by 16-8. Classy centre Barton and powerful forward Nichol both scored a brace for the Warriors with the Titans only managing the two tries from O'Neill and Watson.

The schedule was interrupted by some foul weather and as a result the semi-finals had to be postponed until the following week (8th November). In the first semi-final the Penrith Panthers (7HS) routed a feeble St George (7JW) side in a shock one sided 40-0 victory. Beaty, Holyoak and Brown bagged a brace each with Kemp adding one. However, Hodgson grabbed the headlines with a well taken hat-trick. The second semi saw the West's Tigers (7NM) just do enough to defeat the New Zealand Warriors (7VB) by a score of 16-8. Allinson and Barton crossed for the Warriors but a brace apiece from the strong running Jackson and speedster Wilson proving enough for the Tigers.

A large and enthusiastic crowd enjoyed some excellent late autumn weather to witness perhaps the best inter-form rugby league final in the history of the competition. Penrith Panthers (7HS) were hot favourites to win this year's crown but West's Tigers (7NM) were quietly confident of an upset. Tigers coach Mr McConnell led by example and his troops responded accordingly. In a see-saw game the lead changed hands four times and the final score was locked up at 16 all at the end of normal time. History was made as the final went to extra-time golden point. The Panthers scored shortly into the first period of extra time to leave the Tigers heartbroken and prompting scenes of wild jubilation in the Panthers' camp.

Mr Hetherington kindly presented the shield to the winning captain and the man of the match, decided by Mr Hetherington and Mr Chapman, was awarded to the tough-tackling John Kemp of the Panthers.

A special thank you must go to Mr Clark for helping with the refereeing.

Bring on 2011!

An underground nuclear waste facility near Wigton?

Miss Reynolds



30 year 10 pupils were invited by West Cumbria Managing Radioactive Waste Safely (MRWS) Partnership to attend a nuclear waste consultation event to find out about a proposed underground nuclear waste disposal site in Cumbria. The pupils were given talks from a government representative, a geologist and a local councillor, providing them with information about the issues involved in locating such a site in Cumbria for the next 100,000 years. The presentations included the suitable areas for siting the facility, jobs created by it and other benefits to the local community. The pupils were encouraged to take part in the debate and to share their opinions with the speakers present. Back in school these pupils fed back to the other year 10 Geographers about the talk as part of our wasteful world topic that the pupils are currently studying.

The Clothes Show Live Visit

Mrs Summerfield



Early last Tuesday morning – one of the coldest yet this year, we gathered at the bus bay for the coach journey to Birmingham for our visit to The Clothes Show Live. Thanks to all the providers of transport for getting to school in such difficult conditions, we were able to get away and made it safely down to the NEC in time to make the most of the day.

Once again, the students had a great time enjoying the displays, catwalk shows and presentations whilst being inspired, entertained and amazed by the scale and atmosphere of the event.

As always the coach space on the return journey was compromised by the number of shopping bags accompanying most members of the group and although slowed down by heavy traffic we were not hindered by the very cold conditions – a memorable and enjoyable day for everyone involved!



Seasonal Cake Display in

The Food Technology Department

Mrs L Johnston

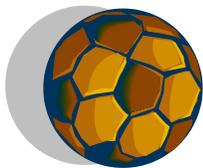
Students in years 10 and 11 Food Technology classes have produced a lovely display of cakes again this year. The typical Christmas cake with a fruit cake base decorated with marzipan and white fondant icing was presented in a range of exciting designs. One cake notably had Santa Claus, a reindeer, carrots and biscuits at the door of a house. Another had a snow scene with a blue sky and white snow panorama so reflective of the current weather. The students produced rolled out Christmas trees, a three dimensional Christmas tree and penguins as well as traditional holly and red berries.

Chocolate logs decorated by year seven students with Mrs Cass were also exciting with white chocolate snow flakes and other designs.

We have really enjoyed working with these students to present their cakes and we are thrilled with the results. Many congratulations to all who took part in this seasonal occasion.

P.E. Department

Mrs Lee



Netball:

- U16 Girls are County Champions
- U14 Girls came third in the County Tournament

Cross Country:

- Junior Boys are through to the NW regional finals and will represent Cumbria at Manchester in January.
- Intermediate Girls are through to the National Junior Cross Country Final.
- Abbie Hetherington came 1st overall.

Football:

- U16 boys are Allerdale champions.
- U16 and U18 Girls are through to the semi-finals in the County Cup
- U13 Girls are through to the quarter finals in the County Cup.

The School has 3 teams through to Round 5 in the English Schools' Cup competition:

- The U18 Boys' team has been drawn away to Monkseaton High School.
- The U13 Girls' team has been drawn at home to Cramlington High School.
- The U12 Boys' team has been drawn at home to Seaton Burn High School.

Hockey:

- U13 Girls are mini Hockey North Cumbria Champions.
- U14 and U15 Girls got through to the County Finals.

Trampolining:

- U13 Girls Beginners County Champions.
- U13, U15 and U19 Boys Novice County Champions.
- U13, and U15 Novice Girls came 2nd
- Joseph Harrison: Elite Champion.
- Lucy Ferris came 3rd in the Elite section
- Joseph Fava (U15), Sam Lightowler (U19) and Natasha Richardson (U15) came 1st in the Novice section.
- The above teams and individuals go to the Regionals on the 4th December

Gifted and Talented:

- A Gifted and Talented Club has started up for the Yr 7 pupils.

Inclusion Club:

- Yr 7 to Yr 11 pupils attend Inclusion Club. We are trying to get the Yr 11 pupils to help lead the younger students. All pupils are registered on the special educational needs register.

Yr 7 and 8 inter-form Football and Rugby:

- NTS team leaders and BTEC pupils organised an inter-form competition for the Yr 7 and Yr 8 pupils.

Team Leaders:

NTS team leaders have helped to organise and run primary festivals and tournaments.

ADULT EDUCATION

Fiona Wastenay

We have a number of brand new courses starting after Christmas and your child should be bringing home our Course Guide. You can also get information from our new website, www.wigtonadulteducation.org.uk which will be updated over Christmas.

Finally, we would like to thank our hardworking **Site Team – Jim Richardson, Mike Graves and Conrad Hetherington** - for their superb efforts in keeping the school clear of snow and ice during the recent cold spell thus enabling the school to remain open throughout.

THANK YOU!



MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Spring Term starts on
Wednesday 5th January
2011