



SPRING  
TERM

February 2015

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School Librarian

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# NTS NEWSLETTER

## Young Enterprise

Miss Walker



We are pleased to announce that Young Enterprise is up and running again this year. **'Cumbria Unwrapped'** is a group of 19 Year 12 students who have set up a business creating a range of products aimed at promoting the best of Cumbria. The high quality product collections include **'Cumbria Loves Ewe'**, **'Cumbrian Treats'** and **'Cumbrian Tea Time'** each priced at a competitive £14.99. They are the perfect gift for Mother's Day! What makes these products truly unique is that all the products and even the packaging have a clear Cumbrian link, with slate bases from Honister Mines, to clear film wrapping from Innovia. We are now only weeks away from the first competitive Trade Fair which will be in Carlisle town centre on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February. This means the team are now frantically making products to sell as well as designing an eye catching trade stand to wow the judges. To support the team you can follow them on twitter @Cumbriaunwrap or come to L3 at lunchtimes to place an order for one of the Cumbrian collections, which are currently flying off the shelves. If you are in Carlisle on 28<sup>th</sup> February, please go over to the trade stand which will be outside Marks and Spencers and say hello to the team.



## Friday Lunchtime Speakers

Ms Williams  
Citizenship Co-ordinator

As many of you may have heard we are in General Election year, and come May 7<sup>th</sup> we will all be going to the polling stations and voting for our next Parliament. Many of our Year 13s will be eligible to vote this year and there is a growing interest in politics and political parties in the school.

To encourage debate and to help our future voters make up their minds whether they will be voting, red, blue, green, yellow or purple, I have invited local politicians from the surrounding constituencies to come in and give talks to students. They have spoken for fifteen minutes on why they got into politics, the importance of voting and their manifesto promises. The students have then had the opportunity to ask questions. There have been some excellent questions from the students that have had to really make the politician's think.

These have been held in the library fortnightly and have proved a huge success amongst the students and staff. The talks have been very well supported with about forty Year 10 – 13 students attending.

So far we have had Lee Sherriff, Labour's Carlisle Parliamentary Candidate and Neil Hughes, Liberal Democrat candidate for Penrith and the Borders. Jill Perry from the Green Party, John Stanyer from UKIP and Brent Kennedy from the TUSC Party have confirmed for forthcoming talks.

After the election it is my aim to continue the talks (on a monthly basis) with a variety of guest speakers from all walks of life. If you have any suggestions of who to invite or would like to give a talk yourself, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me at the school.

## Library News Mrs Crone Spellbinding 2015



28 members of the NTS Reading Club have started to read their way through the 10 books shortlisted for 'Spellbinding', the Cumbria Schools' Book Award Scheme 2015. They have until the end of May to read and review as many of the books as they can before they vote for their favourite 3 titles. The overall winner will be chosen from the top 3 at the final decision day meeting in June.



The shortlisted titles this year are:

*Captain* by Sam Angus  
*Stay Where You Are & Then Leave* by John Boyne  
*The Ultimate Truth* by Kevin Brooks  
*The Boy on the Porch* by Sharon Creech  
*Say Her Name* by James Dawson  
*The Everest Files* by Matt Dickinson  
*The Book of Storms* by Ruth Hatfield  
*Winter's Bullet* by William Osborne  
*She's Not Invisible* by Marcus Sedgwick  
*Counting By 7s* by Holly Goldberg Sloan



All Year 7 pupils have completed their second Star Reading Test. The results of the spring term test have been encouraging, with every English class showing an average improvement in reading age and ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development) scores. The aim now is to keep up the momentum and encourage pupils to read as much as possible within their ZPD and to take the quizzes relating to their books as soon as they have finished them to ensure a target score of 85%+. Please try to make every effort to encourage your child to take an active part in this scheme so that they will gain the maximum benefit from it.

The leading tutor group up to present in the competition for the much coveted Tutor Group Trophy for the most points accumulated in AR quizzes is **7IL**.

# Community and Enrichment

## Mr Beechey

With the mock exams for Years 11, 12 and 13 over, this is the time of the year when, for many students, they are preparing and practising for those crucial summer exams.

Our school community has focussed on an important issue this term, **e-safety**. There have been assemblies for all years, student and parent drop-in sessions at parents' evenings as well as a parents' evening specifically focussed on the topic. Students in Years 10 and 11 watched a Channel 4 drama on the subject of cyber-bullying. It is a subject we will continually try to inform and update parents, students and staff on.

This edition of the Newsletter sees the end of the term of office for our current Year 13 co-head prefects (pictured below) who have represented the school and worked tirelessly to support our Sixth-Form prefects. Many thanks to them for their hard work during our historic Tercentenary year.



## Sixth Form Ski Trip

Ten places remain for our February 2016 Sixth-Form Ski Trip which is open to current Year 11 and Year 12 students. Please see Mr Beechey for details.

## NTS Co-heads Blog

### Joel Slater, Year 13

This school year has certainly been a busy one so far, not least, because of my duties as a Co-Head Prefect. Representing the school at key events such as Founders' Day, Remembrance Day and the Christmas Carol Service kept me busy, as did keeping Thursday's dinner queues in check! Getting back into the rhythm of school life was a challenge after a relaxing Christmas break, but with mock exams out of the way it is now full steam ahead to the real things. No hard work comes without reward, however, and I'm looking forward to a very long summer holiday, with all sorts of plans in place with family and friends.



With only a short time left as Co-Head Prefect, I look back at how much I have enjoyed having the role and getting to know a much wider range of people. After half term, I'll be officially taking off my badge for the last time, and handing over to the new Co-Heads. I hope they enjoy bossing around a team of prefects as much as I have! As my time at NTS is coming to a close, I'm excited for what the future holds, hopefully studying History at the University of Sheffield.

I'll miss NTS though, and all the Nelsonians I leave behind. It's been a great seven years, and I hope when you come to leave NTS, you'll look back on your memories here as fondly as I do.

## Robert Walker, Year 13



I'm an A2 student studying Chemistry, Biology and History. I'm also unlucky enough to suffer from an incurable inflammatory form of Arthritis called Ankylosing Spondylitis. This year, I'm aiming to raise £10,000 for the National Ankylosing Spondylitis Society - the only UK charity that deals with the disease - and raise awareness about the condition which affects 1 in 200 people in the UK.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> February, I'm running an American Football match played between Upper and Lower Sixth students in order to promote the charity and more events will be following this throughout the year.

# Rotary Chef Competition 2015

Miss Bryan

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January the following 3 pupils took part in the first round Rotary Young Chef Competition:

Laura Elliott, Lucy Peile & Mathew Esslemont.

Each pupil had to research, plan, prepare and serve a healthy two-course meal for two people within a budget of £10 using local produce. They had to demonstrate a variety of practical skills and work under pressure to prepare their meals within one hour and thirty minutes. The standard of the competition this year was very high and the judges commented that the pupils were all talented young people which made it difficult for them to choose a winner.

Their menus were challenging and their table displays were simply elegant which reflected the amount of time that each pupil had invested in the competition.



First place went to **Laura Elliott** (pictured above) whose menu consisted of:

Main: Locally sourced rabbit in air dried bacon served with creamy mashed potatoes & sautéed cabbage, leeks & carrot puree.

Dessert: Creamy rice pudding with poached pears and raspberry coulis.

Second place went to Lucy Peile and Matthew Esslemont was third.



I would personally like to thank Mr A. Hyde for giving his time and expertise during coaching sessions with the pupils; his experience in this field has been invaluable to the pupils.



I would also like to thank Mr L. Baseley, Mr I. Downes and Mr D. Cooper for giving up their time to judge the competition and in supporting the pupils and giving them advice based on their years of experience.

## Rotary Chef Competition 2015 Cumbria Finals

The Cumbria finals were held at Kendal Catering College on 6<sup>th</sup> February with 12 competitors this year. The standard of the food was again very high and showcased the vast talent that these young competitors have.

Unfortunately, Laura did not progress through to the regional finals but her three fantastic dishes were highly praised by the judges.

Laura should be extremely proud of her achievements!

## The Complete Learner Project Ms Pettifer

Year 9 is an important year for our pupils – they are now established in the school and are treated in a more grown-up manner. One way in which this happens is through our Complete Learner project which allows small groups of pupils the special opportunity to discuss and recognise what learning looks, feels and sounds like, and to identify their own individual learning characteristics, strengths and weaknesses. Pupils are taken out of one timetabled lesson and work with a tutor in order to talk about how lessons are organised and adapted for them as learners. Since Christmas, more than half of Year 9 have had this opportunity and they have enjoyed it immensely. One pupil from Mr Hamilton's French class said he now realised how hard teachers work for pupils so pupils should also work hard for their teachers. A pupil from Mrs Peart's Maths class said she now understood more about how different lesson activities were designed for different reasons. Some staff have commented on how the programme has given pupils a more mature understanding of the part they (the children) themselves play. Pupils have enjoyed observing lessons in the observation room, or by camera – as they are able to watch the lesson unfold, and comment on what they see, without disturbing the flow of the learning in the class.

## Music News Mrs Small

### Violin Results 2014

Tamara Heritage: Grade 1 Distinction 92%

Beth Mackenzie: Grade 1 Distinction 92%

Alice Reid: Merit 84%

Tamar Atkinson: Grade 1 Merit 82%

### Woodwind Results 2015

Lucy Irving got a distinction in her Grade 3 Clarinet exam and Emma Wolstencroft passed Grade 5 Clarinet.

**The Rock Night** was well attended last year on 14<sup>th</sup> November and we managed to raise £110.00 for the local charity "Bring John Home".

Charlotte and Emily Studholme very kindly sold refreshments and Katie Small, a former student, baked cakes for the event.

**The Music Department Concert** was held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December and a good variety of musical talent was on show. Students from Year 7 right through to Year 13 were involved.

For Jenny Allen, who is in Year 13, it was her last music concert. Jenny has been with the Samba Band since Year 7, so for the last concert she wrote a piece called "Shout Out" which went down very well with the audience. We would like to wish Jenny good luck in the future.

**The Choir** was invited to perform at the Rugby Club and at Hope's Auction. The auction hosted a formal carol service to raise funds for local charities. The service was held in the auction ring and we even had donkeys, which kept the students amused!

Miss Raven would like to thank the Year 13 Music students for their enthusiasm and dedication to the Music Department and all the staff who make these events possible.

## FONT'S News Mrs Hoskins

The first draw of 2015 has taken place. Well done to the winners! If you still want to join in contact Mrs K. Hoskins at the school on extension 202.



## Loveday House Mrs Thwaite

NTS have links with Loveday House which is located at South End on the edge of school premises. The late Dr Loveday, who was a teacher at NTS, made a substantial donation towards the building of Loveday House in the 1980s. It houses elderly members of the local community and is designed to be a 'home from home' for them. Each Christmas we present them with a cheque for £100 and also buy each resident a small present. They use the money towards a day trip and are always very grateful.

Fundraising for this goes on throughout the year at school and I would like to thank those who helped or contributed in the following way:

Madelaine Oliphant (Year 10) and friends organised a raffle among pupils. Ellie Sanderson won an itunes voucher and chocolates were won by Adam Dixon (Year 10) and James Green (Year 13).

The canteen staff collected loose change at the tills.

The Pastoral Department ran a 'bonus ball' competition.

Well done to all of them!

### Tercentenary Mugs



If anyone would like to purchase a Tercentenary mug they are £4 each and available from the School Reception.

### Careers Information, Advice and Guidance

#### Mr G. Clark

Careers guidance is available to all NTS students from home or at school:

1. From home, at: <http://vle.nts.cumbria.sch.uk/>. Please log on to 'Moodle', select 'Careers Guidance', and follow the blue links that interest you.
2. For personal help with finding out about Careers, or making choices about your future, please contact the Careers Education & Guidance Officer at NTS, Mr Graham Clark.
3. 'Drop-in' Careers Guidance sessions are available to NTS students on Monday and Friday lunchtimes, from 12.45. Please come to the Careers Education & Guidance Services office.
4. Parents or carers: if you have any queries about your child's career options or choices, please feel free to contact the NTS Careers Education & Guidance Officer at Parents' Evenings for Years 9-13, by phone (016973 42160, extension 250), or email at: [careers@nts.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:careers@nts.cumbria.sch.uk).

