



AUTUMN
TERM
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Compiled by
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School Librarian

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NTS NEWSLETTER

Football Mr Clark & Mr Rudd



Despite The Nelson Thomlinson School football team trying hard to emulate the England football team's extra time and penalty shoot out records (two shootout defeats and one extra time defeat during English School and County Cup matches), the U13/U14/U15/U16 teams still managed to reach four of the five Allerdale Cup finals! The finals were held at Cockermouth School on Wednesday 16th October and the results were as follows:

U13

The Nelson Thomlinson U13 team beat Stainburn 3-1 to win the Allerdale Cup. They played some excellent football throughout and were always in control of the game.

U14

The Nelson Thomlinson U14 team beat Cockermouth 1-0 to win the Allerdale Cup. This was a hard fought and close game throughout. However, most of the possession and chances in the game were NTS's. In the end, a superb move was finished off well by Steven Crake to win the game for Nelson Thomlinson. The defence and goalkeeper John Reed were solid and in control throughout the game.

U15

Unfortunately, the U15's could not quite make it a cup hat-trick of wins and were beaten in their final. However, it was still an excellent effort from the team to reach the final.

U16

The U16 final will take place after half term.

Well done to all teams with Nelson Thomlinson having four teams in the five age group finals. A great achievement!

Geography Department News

Miss Reynolds

Years 10 and 12 River Fieldtrips



The Year 10 students have been to Mungrisedale to collect data for their controlled assessment project *'Why do the river characteristics lead to the need for flood management?'* They are studying the impact of velocity, channel cross-section size and land use on the need for flood management.



The Year 12 students have also been measuring rivers for their Unit 2 examination. They have to be prepared to explain how they undertook the measurements and how they would present them, analyse them and evaluate them. They also need to be able to explain the sampling strategies used, how ICT could enhance their work and what needs to be included in the risk assessment. The students were able to use flowmeters (to measure the velocity of the river) thanks to a donation from the PTA.

Silver Duke of Edinburgh - Practice Expedition

Mr Knott

Friday afternoon on 18th October saw 21 intrepid adventurers set out for Burns Farm campsite, Keswick, to start their practice expedition for the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award. The weather was cloudy and mixed but excitement was high and pupils couldn't wait to get the tents pitched and the camping stoves burning. Saturday saw an early start with groups setting off on their first day's route accompanied by members of staff, who were there to check out their navigation and motivation skills! A hike up Blaeberry Fell and High Seat was executed by all groups followed by a pleasant trip along St John's-in-the-Vale which saw them back at Burns Farm for soup and pasta! Unfortunately, the rain was heavy on Saturday night and some had to resort to bailing duties and improvise with paper dams to keep the water from entering tents! Sunday morning was no better and the groups had to endure a day of heavy showers and wet socks whilst making their way around Derwent Water and towards the finish line at Portinscale. All in all it was a successful, if wet, expedition and pupils were proud to have completed it. Well Done!

Library News

Mrs Crone

National Poetry Day Competition

National Poetry Day was on Thursday 3rd October. The theme this year was WATER and pupils from Years 7-9 were invited to compose a poem related to that theme. The winners were:

Year 7 – Natasha Fisher, Ashley Gate, Hayley Irving, Aiden Jackson, Faye Jackson, Holly Messenger, Rebekah Ostle, Joe Voisey & Rachel Walker.

Year 8 – Misha Atkinson, Maya Cooper, Alana Halpin, Matilda Oldham, Josh Pearson & Maddy Stanford.

Year 9 – Jake Markham & Tyler Martin.

All winners received a book prize.

Book Fair

The annual Book Fair will take place in the School Library during the week beginning 9th December. All pupils will have a timetabled visit with their English teachers and books can be reserved and paid for the next day if students forget to bring money on the day of their visit. Parents are very welcome to visit the Book Fair during that week after school from Monday to Thursday inclusive 3.30 - 4.30 pm.

Music News

Mrs Small

The Music Department offers a variety of instrument lessons which include:

Brass, Woodwind, Piano, Guitar, Drums, upper and lower strings including, Violin, Cello and Double Bass and Oboe and Bassoon.

If you are interested in learning to play any of the instruments above please see Mrs Small for details.

The Nelson Thomlinson Founder's Day service was held in St Mary's Church on October 10th. It was very successful and the cast and choir from 'Les Misérables' sang a song from the musical which was a 'taster' for next year's school production.

Members of the Music Department and students also provided music for our annual Prize Day. The Junior Music Prize went to Emily Smith and the Senior Prize to Adam Draude. Well done to both!

While we are on the subject of Adam Draude, this is what Mr Brockbank had to report...

Physics Department Alumni News

Adam Draude was one of the best Physics students that I have taught at Nelson Thomlinson School. He left this year and is studying Physics at Manchester University. Here is Adam pictured with one of his more famous lecturers!



Adam benefitted from the programme of events organised by **The Ogden Trust** which will continue for Sixth Formers this year.

Community & Enrichment

M Beechey

Tercentenary Celebrations: we need your help!

In 1714 there was an official agreement to establish a Free Grammar School for the people of Wigton. 2014 will therefore mark the official 300th anniversary of the start of education in the town. In its humble beginnings the school housed 20 boys, a far cry from the 1350 students in the school today!

Our Tercentenary celebrations will highlight this important milestone. We have already set the ball rolling by giving all our Year 7 students a 'Tercentenary 300' tie!

In 2014 we hope to have a range of events from a Tercentenary Concert to a Tercentenary Day.

Were you a past student of the Nelson Thomlinson School, the Secondary Modern School or the former Girl's Grammar School? Do you have any interesting stories, memorabilia, uniforms or photos that you would be willing to share with us? We are looking to create a display which will include old photographs and historical items.

If so, please contact the school, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Prize Day



Mrs Lee & Mr Edmondson

With the Tercentenary in mind it was wonderful to welcome former student, Mr Geoff Edmondson OBE, back to be our special guest speaker at the Senior Prize Ceremony in September. Mr Edmondson whose photograph graces our sporting honours corridor, played rugby for Bristol and Exeter and taught and lectured in schools and universities for many years. He was awarded his OBE in 2001 for services to sport. Mr Edmondson also donated the 'Spirit of Sport' Trophy to the PE department which will be awarded to a worthy recipient in their annual awards ceremony this year.

The Senior Prize Day was the finale to our usual week of celebrations across all years for academic excellence, attitude and service and 100% attendance.

We also welcomed back Mr I. Downes, former Assistant Head and Head of Sixth Form, and Mr J. Herbert, former Deputy Head, who were our special guests during the week and who were instrumental teachers at NTS.

In all, 80 academic prizes were awarded including the school's first ever winner of the GCSE Economics Joseph Nelson prize, Jack Watson. There were some outstanding winners of the 60 attitude and service prizes for those pupils who have made superb contributions to charity efforts, extra-curricular activities or who have just been caring and kind to their peers.



Emily Jackson -winner of the Community Service Cup

Emily masterminded a monumental fund-raising effort and raised over £7000 for those battling against CRPS (Complex Regional Pain Syndrome).

Our Cumberland News Prize photo appeared in the newspaper on 4th October and we now struggle to fit all our winners into one library photo! Also featured in the newspaper was Year 11 student, **Owen Ogden**, who won the national Spirit of Normandy Trust's Young Historian competition.

In terms of attendance, last year saw an overall school attendance of 95.6%.

142 students had exemplary 100% attendance. Each received a personal medal and certificate.

Clubs and Activities

This year we have the usual range of activities on offer at lunchtimes and after school. We have 53 lunchtime activities and 28 after school. This of course includes the hugely ambitious 'Les Misérables' stage show. I hope you will be joining us to watch this in the spring.

For the full list of activities please see the school web site.

Parents - we need your help!

On Friday 28th March between 9.30am and 12.30pm we will be having a 'Work Ready' day for our Year 10 students. If you can spare us some time (just one hour would do) to conduct a mock interview, we would love to hear from you. The day gives students a real insight into what lies ahead so if you can help and have experience running a business or interviewing job applicants we would very much like to hear from you.

Contact Mr Beechey mb@cumbria.sch.uk

The School Council - Charity News

Mr Beechey



Each year the School elects representatives from each Form to represent the views and opinions of the School as a whole.

This year, **Chloe Park** (pictured above) has been elected to the post of chairperson with Astrud Turner and Oliver Latimer vice chairs.

The council met and had impassioned discussions about our selected three school charities for the year: our local choice was the Great North Air Ambulance, our national choice was Cancer UK and the Make a Wish Foundation was our international selection.

In October, at our Founders' Day Service at St Mary's Church, a school and church collection made £330 which will be contributed to these three charities.

Jack Pape (11JL) recently organised an inter-year rugby match between Years 10 and 11 which Mr Northwood kindly volunteered to referee. The Year 11 team won and £93.00 was raised for The Eden Valley Hospice, Carlisle. Well done to Jack for organising this!

'Danger High Voltage' Science Exhibition by the National Science Museum

Miss Hayton



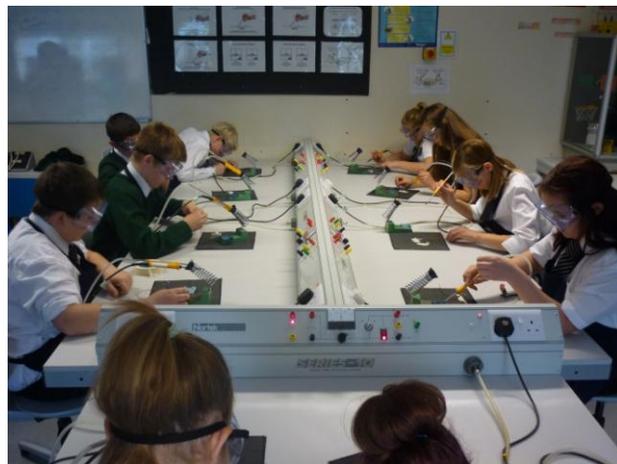
On Monday 23rd September, a team of professional scientists from the National Science Museum visited the school to deliver an exciting and innovative practical display to over 300 pupils in Years 7, 8 & 9. The exhibition was brought to the school by the REACT Foundation based at West Lakes Science Park, and gave the pupils an opportunity to experience a host of practical experiments and demonstrations that they may not normally access in a school environment.

The 'Danger High Voltage' show brought to life the topic of electricity and gave a historical fact file of key developments over the last 150 years. The pioneering work of Thomas Edison, Joseph Swan and Nikola Tesla was exemplified with use of a Van der Graff generator and Tesla coil and despite being greeted with a 'Danger of Death' warning there was a host of willing volunteers ready to act as assistants!

The enthusiasm shown by the team from the science museum certainly transmitted to the pupils and a number of interesting questions were waiting to be asked once the practical element of the show had finished. The interactive nature of the experiments meant the pupils were constantly kept on their toes and fully engaged throughout, particularly when chocolate muffins were set on fire using the Tesla coil. 'Cool', 'excellent' and 'entertaining' were just some of the adjectives coming from the pupils as they left the hall and we all look forward to what the science museum has to offer on their return to the school in the future.

Electronics Products get a fresh new look

Mr McConnell



The Electronic Product's suite in L-Block has a fresh new look this year. During the summer holidays, Nortek Ltd completed the £8000 refit, comprising a 10 user soldering station with built-in extraction. The purpose built benching also includes a variable voltage supply and 'earth' point which the current GCSE groups will have full use of. The new benching will provide the pupils with a real life experience of how circuit testing and manufacture takes place in an industrial environment.

A special mention must go to Mr. J. Parker who organised the finance of the project, to Mr.Chapman and Mr. Richardson during the crucial planning stage, and Mrs. Tweddle and Mrs. Hoskins who helped make the original bid a successful one. Thank you for all your support.

Year 12 Health and Social Care

Mrs Johnston



Sign Language Lesson

As part of the A Level course, AS students enjoy investigating and demonstrating effective communication skills and practising care values during unit two of the subject. On Tuesday 17th September the two Health and Social Care groups were fortunate to have the benefit of learning some aspects of sign language. Mr Whelpdale gave up his time to come and demonstrate some sign language communication skills such as greetings, conversation starters, colours and life skills which enable some service users in the community to communicate appropriately. The experience was fun and lively with students and teachers conversing with each other in a friendly and kind manner. The lesson was a lovely introduction to understanding and appreciating a different aspect of communicating with others and we are grateful for Mr Whelpdale's expertise and continuing support in this area. The students always learn valuable new skills from this lesson.

Sport News

Mrs Lee

Netball

U16 Netballers

The U16 tournament was held at NTS in September. After completing a round robin competition, NTS emerged as the victors and will go on to represent Allerdale and Copeland at the county tournament in November.

Results so far in the leagues:

Results	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16
WON	3	3	3	3	2
DRAWN	0	0	0	0	0
LOST	0	0	0	0	0

Other results:

NTS v Queen Elizabeth

U19 lost 6-22

U16 won 20-11

U15 won 17-11

U13 won 9-3

NTS v Keswick

U19 lost 10-15

U14 won 5-4

English Schools' Cross-Country Cup Competition.

Four teams travelled to Kendal Rugby Club to compete in the Cumbria round. At the end of the competition Intermediate Boys finished third and will compete in the North West Competition on Saturday 9th November in Liverpool.

Hockey News

Miss Wilson



The U14 team took part in the North Cumbria tournament and finished 2nd.

The U15 team played Keswick at home recently and recorded a 3-0 victory.

The U16 team have reached the North West England hockey finals in Manchester next month after competing in two county tournaments to progress. This is an excellent achievement for the team and congratulations go to all those involved.

U13 A & B teams recently took part in a friendly fixture versus St Bees. The A team won 3-1.

NTS Sixth Form first X1 took on St Bees in a friendly game at home and won 1-0.

Sport in our Primary Cluster



Mrs Moody has been into Wigton Infants' School teaching Year 1 gymnastics. She has also been into Kirkbride School teaching Years 1 and 2 how to perform a 'circus' themed dance and Bowness School where she's been teaching Years 2, 3 and 4 netball.

The following has also taken place:

- Twenty Year 10 boys took part in a rugby leadership course and then helped to run the Rugby Festival for Years 1 and 2 at the Rugby Club.
- Twelve Year 9 pupils officiated at the football tournament for Years 5 & 6, which Thomlinson Junior School won.
- Fifty Year 9 pupils helped to run the multi-festival where 240 pupils in Years 1 & 2 attended.
- Twelve Year 9 leaders helped to run the Year 6 leadership course, which was attended by 80 pupils.

The Year 6 pupils have been given targets which will be assessed by their primary teacher. When the pupil has fulfilled all the criteria for the level 1 award, they will receive a certificate. The same applies for their level 2 certificate.