



SPRING  
TERM

February 2017

Compiled by  
Mrs C. Crone  
School Librarian

KEEPING  
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AT  
HOME

The Nelson  
Thomlinson  
School  
High Street  
Wigton  
Cumbria  
CA7 9PX

Tel. 016973 42160

Fax. 016973 49160

www.nts.cumbria.  
sch.uk

Headmaster:  
Mr D.S.  
Northwood



# NTS NEWSLETTER

## Economics Competition Miss Walker



A group of 4 GCSE Economics pupils in Year 11 recently entered a national competition run by the Bank of England. The remit was to create a 3-minute video on 'A Day in the Life of a Five Pound Note', as a means to celebrate the launch of the new plastic notes produced right here in Wigton. The team frantically put together their video called 'Planet Cash', where they created a parody of a natural history programme, hunting for the elusive new £5 notes in Wigton, the birth place of this new 'breed' of money. The team and I could be found roaming around Wigton, filming various scenes, including a mock-up of a mugging in Wigton car park to demonstrate the strength of the new notes, as a tussle for the money prevailed. I was greatly relieved that no one called the Police when they spotted one of our pupils, Callum Clarke, dressed up as a thief, right down to the black balaclava! The team members are to be commended for their efforts, not least because the filming had to take place in the busy season in the run up to their mock examinations. I was, therefore, delighted to hear that the team's submission was chosen as a national finalist, and whilst it did not win first place on this occasion, their submission was nominated as, 'highly commended', resulting in a trophy and certificate for the school, as well as their entry being posted on the Bank of England website in the 'Bank, Camera, Action' section.

So, congratulations must go to Madeline Stanford, Callum Clarke, Daniel Clark and Kyle Hall for going the extra mile to enter this competition alongside their studies!

## Library News

Mrs Crone



Spellbinding 2017



19 members of the NTS Reading Club, including Miss Mallin (English student), have started to read their way through the 8 books shortlisted for *Spellbinding*, the Cumbria Schools' Book Award Scheme 2017. They have until the end of May to read and review as many of the books as they can before voting 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:

*Twenty Questions for Gloria* by Martyn Bedford

*Cell 7* by Kerry Drewery

*Hour of the Bees* by Lindsay Edgar

*Nightwanderers* by C. J. Flood

*The Bubble Boy* by Stewart Foster

*The Girl in the Blue Coat* by Monica Hesse

*Word Nerd* by Susin Nielsen

*Time Travelling with a Hamster* by Ross Welford

## Thinking forward...

Miss L Hays

Once every half-term we have been holding lunchtime talks about different careers or university courses in the School Library. During this year, Dr Armstrong from the University of Cumbria came in to talk about his work as a Zoologist and Mrs Hamilton (an NTS alumni), talked to pupils about how she became a Project Engineer. The talks are for all age groups and are open to everyone. Coming up is an insight into Journalism at university.

If there are any parents/carers who would like to come in to school to talk about their careers please contact Miss Hays (Science teacher).

## Reading Matters Update



Mrs Martindale

(English Teacher and Literacy Lead)

*'Where will you go today without taking a single step?'*

A brilliant 65% of our Year 9 target group began the New Year by achieving the 30 days reading challenge. Pupils who successfully completed the challenge received a House Point and a small prize.

This term we have launched the 'Step Challenge' for the whole of Year 8. This competition involves Form Groups competing against each other to see which Form will read the most books and win House Points for their Form.

At NTS, we encourage all pupils to develop a regular reading habit. We recommend that all pupils read for a minimum of 20 minutes per day. Our well-stocked school library has a wide range of books from all genres to suit all interests and tastes. If your child hasn't visited the library in a while, they should pop in during one break or lunch time - there's a great book waiting for them!

## 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).

# Sixth Form News

## Year 12 Dream Placement Scheme

Mr Walker



For the third year in succession, students from NTS Sixth Form have been successful in securing 'Dream Placements' through the programme run by the Centre for Leadership Performance. Following an assembly back in September delivered by Sarah Glass from the CforLP, Grant Jackson and Bill Fox from Innovia Films, twelve students successfully applied and were invited to attend a rigorous selection event.

Six students (a new NTS record) were chosen to undertake their placements during February half-term with a range of local and national companies: Katie Hague (Story Homes), Anna Hopcroft (Sealy UK), Lucy Reynolds (Bendalls Engineering), Holly Riddick (Sealy UK), Megan Scott (Coulson Associates), Hannah Young (NHS) and Jordan Smith (Direct Rail Services). We wish them all the best of luck with their 'Dream Placements'.

## Y12 Sutton Trust Summer Schools

Mrs Hudson

The Sutton Trust Summer Schools are week-long residential courses where students get to experience university life. This can help students work out which university and course would be right for them.

Year 12 students who have at least 5 A grades at GCSE can apply. Students can choose from 11 leading universities including Cambridge, Durham, St Andrews, Edinburgh and Warwick. The Summer Schools are free. The cost of travel, accommodation and food is covered. Students need to nominate a teacher to verify their application – please let that teacher know in advance. The deadline is **Thursday 2nd March**. Please let Mrs Hudson or the Sixth-Form office staff know if you apply.

## Christ's College, Cambridge, History Essay Competition

Christ's College, Cambridge, is pleased to invite entries for the 2017 History Essay Prize competition, open to all current Year 12 students.

The prize of £500 will be divided proportionately between the winners and runners-up.

You don't have to be studying History or intend to take History at university to be eligible to enter. Essays must be word-processed, no more than 2,500 words in length and should include a bibliography.

To enter, write an essay of no more than 2,500 words on one of the following:

- **Is historical research the friend or enemy of cultural memory?**
- **In what sense, if any, is history "the essence of innumerable biographies"?**
- **Should all historians aspire to influence a public?**
- **To what extent should the historian's method vary according to the period being studied?**

Hand to Mrs Hudson by **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April**.

## The Advanced Discussion Group

All Year 12 and Year 13 students (and all teachers too!) are welcome. We read academic texts and discuss them. The following will be taking place over the next couple of weeks:

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February from 3.30-5.00pm - *What is Art?*

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 3.30-5.00pm – *Brexit and Trump Special – Nationalism, Internationalism and Globalisation*.

Students need to collect a pack of articles relating to the discussion which they need to read and write a short response to in advance. If you would like to come, please see Mrs Hudson (in the History department staffroom on a Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays).

## Sixth-Form Donation to Inglewood Residential Care Home

Dr Lovegrove

On the Sixth-Form Christmas Jumper Day in December, the boys' 'Chiller Choir' visited Inglewood Residential Care Home to sing carols to the residents, an event which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Sixth-Form students gave £1 to wear their Christmas jumpers for the day and this raised £229.87, which was donated to Inglewood and will be put towards outings and social events for the residents. Below is a photograph of two of our Upper-Sixth students, Jake Watson and James Holyoake, presenting the cheque to Jan Long, Dorothy Haile and Myra Lawson.



## P.E. Department News

Mrs Lee

### U16 Netball

The U16 squad travelled to Birkenhead to participate in the North West Regional netball tournament as part of the National Schools' competition. Leaving at 6.45am, we made the venue with plenty of time for a warm-up and bacon butties. The squad played four games in its section but, due to strong opposition, failed to win a game and did not make the semi-finals. The standard of netball was extremely high, and although the girls fought hard they could not contain the more physical opposition. However, they remained positive, and gained some valuable experience by playing at this level.

Squad: Heidi Todhunter, Hannah McTear, Anna Middleton, Lizzie Airey, Victoria Hewat, Charlotte Bewley (Capt), Emma Barwise & Sally Harrison.

### Cross-Country

The following runners participated for Cumbria at the North East fixture held at Kirkby Stephen School:

Nathan Gray: 27th - 11th Cumbrian

James Young: 41st - 16th Cumbrian

Molly Wren: 10th - 5th Cumbrian

Annie Bell: 23rd - 10th Cumbrian

Molly Wren and Annie Bell have now been selected to go the National Championships at Norwich in March. We wish them well!

## Gymnastics

Mrs Moody



17 pupils attended the County Gymnastics Competition at Morton Gymnastics Club. The standard was very high and all our pupils performed very well on the floor and vault. Congratulations to members of our U14 Girls' team (Kate Southwell, Philippa Hall, Cara Greenway, Sophie Hetherington, Brooke Steel and Rebecca Holliday) who won and are now County Champions. Also, well done to Cara Greenway, who came second individually. Also, well done to Joe Irving, who competed in the U14 Boys' Competition and won, making him Boys County Champion.

## Football

Mr Clark



The Year 8 footballers had a fantastic run in the English Schools' Cup this year, reaching the last 8 of the Competition. The Competition started with 674 entries, so to reach the last 8 was a brilliant achievement! It involved three, long, away trips for the boys, the first being to Wigan (last 32), where they beat Fred Longworth School, 2-1. It was a late goal by Liam Keyes which decided the match. Then, they journeyed to Liverpool (last 16) to play against Steven Gerrard's old school, Cardinal Heenen, where they produced their best performance with a 4 - 2 win. There was excellent defending throughout the match coupled with Liam Keyes' excellent finishing ability. Next, they travelled to Ashington (last 8), which turned out to be one hurdle too far for the boys, who started too slowly and were well beaten in the end. However, the team should be very proud of its achievements - the second best the school has ever done in this competition since reaching the final back in 2004. Well done to all the team, and thank you for the support we had at the away matches from the parents who made up the crowd!

The Year 11 team, unfortunately, lost its County Cup semi-final to Queen Elizabeth, Kirby Lonsdale, 3-1.

The Nelson Thomlinson Sixth-Form team beat Queen Katherine, Kendal, in its semi-final, 3-1 and now plays Trinity or Ulverston in the County Cup final in April. Good luck to the team for this final!

## 100 Club

Mrs D. Richmond

A big thank you to everybody for their support of the 100 Club this year – we have exceeded the '100' and have a grand total of 109 members!

The draw for January is as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Mrs Pearson.

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Mrs Routledge.

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Mrs Spowart.

Well done!

**REMINDER – Colour versions of the Newsletter can be viewed on the School website!**

**HALF-TERM - 20<sup>TH</sup> -24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**