

Nelthorpenews

The newsletter of Sir John Nelthorpe School

Summer 2015



Headteacher's News

I am pleased to be able to provide the foreword to this Summer's edition of the Nelthorpe News. Indeed, the time does seem to have flown by since I started at the school last September but as I reflect, I am mindful of the many great achievements I have witnessed in that time. Perhaps most notably, the School was judged to be a Good school by Ofsted as a result of our full inspection in December. This judgement was only possible through the dedication, hard work and support of all the pupils, the staff, the Governors, and the parents, and in a very short time-scale, but we did it and we should all be justifiably proud of our achievement. Next stop – Outstanding!

I hope you will find this edition of our Newsletter both interesting and informative, as it details the developments and achievements experienced over the year. I feel certain that the next academic year is destined to be just as exciting and fast-paced as this one has been. May I take this opportunity to thank all parents for your support over the year; there has been much to do (and there still is!)

I would like to wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer break.



Key Dates

- Wednesday 1st July - Sports Day
- Wednesday 8th July - Uniform Exhibition (see overleaf)
- Monday 13th July - House Matches
- Friday 17th July - School Closes for summer
- Monday 7th September - School Re-Opens
- Friday 18th December - School Closes for Christmas

Looking forwards

As we look forward to the new academic year I am very keen to welcome our new Year 7 pupils to Sir John Nelthorpe School. Our new uniform will be finally 'up and running' (please see the section on the new uniform within this newsletter), the Prefect system will grow and develop, a reinvigorated House system run by the fabulous 6th Form students will be introduced, and a new website (Twitter included!) will have been launched.

.....Exciting times ahead for us all!

School Facilities

I am very keen that our school receives additional funding to address the many age-related issues of its buildings and site, and I am working hard to make this a reality. It seems only reasonable that, as the only secondary school in North Lincolnshire not to have been deemed as 'eligible' for funding, (despite having the oldest buildings and the highest academic results) we are actually more eligible than many other schools in the area for such investment!! At least we can demonstrate that it is not the facilities that ensure the best outcomes for young people, but the quality of the provision within those facilities that counts. All the same, it would be lovely to be able to provide the students and the staff with the facilities they deserve. I won't give up until we receive this much needed funding....



New Uniform at Sir John Nelthorpe

A new uniform policy has been adopted by the Governors of Sir John Nelthorpe School.

From the moment pupils and parents started asking me if I would consider a new uniform for the school (as far back as June last year!!) I have worked with colleagues and governors, pupils (especially through the Student Council) and parents (through Open Evenings and feedback at Parent Evenings). It was clear to me that there was a desire for a new uniform; one which pupils would feel proud to wear and which would convey the high standards to which we aspire at this school. Indeed, the overwhelming feeling I gained was that the community wanted change for the better!

The process of finding the 'best' supplier and the right style of uniform has been thorough and as a result has taken a long time to complete, but has resulted in a decision that represents best value for families combined with a high quality of school wear and a level of service from the identified supplier that will hopefully make the experience of purchasing uniform items very straightforward. Whilst I genuinely believe parents will find the items available through 'Uniform Direct' to represent excellent value for money, there are a number of items that can be sourced from other outlets should you wish, provided the style matches that of the agreed policy. i.e. as can be viewed on the Uniform Direct website, or at their store in Grimsby, or at school (eventually, the school expects to stock a few sizes of the full range of uniform items as samples for parents to view). I would encourage all parents to check the Uniform Direct website first, before deciding to purchase from another source for this reason.

All pupils have seen the new uniform items in assemblies and feedback has been very positive.

The Governors have agreed to a period of one year for families to move to the new uniform code to ensure parents can replace items of clothing only when they require replacement, although it is expected that many families will wish to move to the new uniform much sooner than this.

The policy has been written to provide as much detail as possible in order to help families ensure they are able to avoid purchasing the wrong styles of clothing and as a result having to return items etc. Please read the policy/guidance thoroughly and view the Uniform Direct website to avoid problems when purchasing items. The guidance is available to view via our (soon to be replaced!) school website as a pdf document, or copies can be viewed at school. Regrettably, the school is not able to provide printed copies free of charge.

I am pleased to be able to invite Parents and students to come into school to view the new uniform on 8th July from 4:00pm - 5:30pm, you will also be able to speak to members of the senior team as well as the suppliers. Those parents wishing to purchase or order items on that evening may do so, but please be aware that there are still 2 more months before September and it's surprising how much growth a young person can experience over that time!

The new uniform can also be viewed and purchased at the following web address:

<http://www.uniform-direct.com/acatalog/Sir-John-Nelthorpe.html>

Our uniform policy can be accessed via the school website at:
www.sirjohnnelthorpe.co.uk - parental information - policies

New Prefect System

35 Year 10 students have applied to be a Prefect in the new Prefect System. Their "term of office" has begun and will end in May 2016. We are delighted that the students are prepared to give of their time to undertake supervisory duties at various key locations around the school site, and promote the values that the school holds dear.

Alex Noton said: "Prefects will set a good example so that the younger students have someone to look up to. I am proud of my school and eager to represent it." As well as supervisory duties at lunch and break times Prefects will also be a visible presence around the school during the day and represent Sir John Nelthorpe School at functions such as Parents Evenings, Open Evenings and other public engagements.

The boys will wear the blue Briggensian tie and the girls will wear an enamel lapel badge as signs of their office. These will be presented to the Prefects at the start of the next academic year by the Chair of the Briggensian Association.

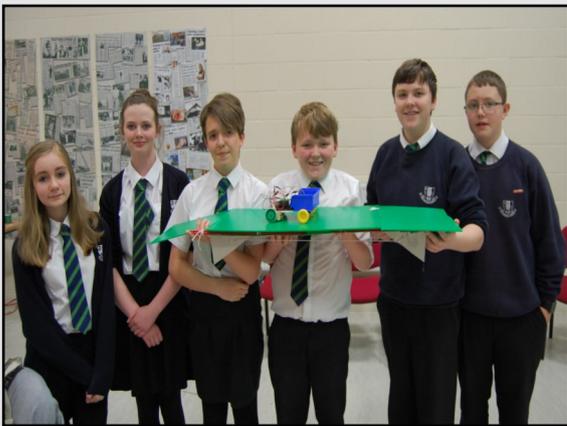
The school canteen will be opened at break time for the use of Prefects so that, if they want to, they can purchase snacks before carrying out a lunchtime duty (bacon butties have already proved popular!).

School Council

The past year has seen the re-launch of the School Council putting 'Pupil Voice' back into everyday school life. The new system consists of 48 form representatives, all feeding back to a total of 14 School Council members including the sixth form to discuss and present new ideas on how to improve the school and addresses any concerns. The council has met every half term and represented the student body's view on a variety of topics such as the new uniform, prefects and rewards, with one student remarking "the school council is a body that is being taken seriously by students and staff, its effects are positive and are being phased into the school." The upcoming year will again see the Council in full swing and ensure the pupils have their say in how to make our already great school, outstanding! **Ryan Johnson (Year12)**



Year 9 Are North Lincolnshire Schools' Engineering Champions... Again!

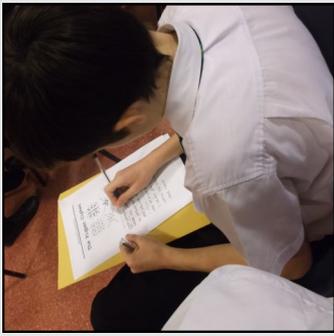


The Annual Engineering Challenge did not disappoint. Six Year 9 students from SJN were selected to represent the school and what a brilliant job they did against 12 other local Secondary Schools. The team made up of 3 boys and 3 girls were challenged to transport radioactive waste (not real) to a safe environment by means of levers, electric motors, pneumatic pulleys and gears. At the beginning of the challenge the team had to plan and present sketches to the judges then begin the constructional task. After several hours of serious head scratching, drilling, sawing, soldering, gluing and some bodging the final whistle blew for the end of the challenge. It was then the turn of the judges to do their rounds and scrutinise every teams' solutions. The final presentation was performed by the College Principal. She announced Sir John Nelthorpe as winners retaining the title for a second year!



£940 raised for British Heart Foundation

Sir John Nelthorpe presented a cheque to Brian Taylor from the British Heart Foundation for £940 from the Fun Run held in November. Adam Clarvis (year 9) and Joshua Topps (year 8) both raised above £100 each and presented the cheque in their assembly with Mr Biglands. Thank you to everyone who donated towards this very deserving cause.



GCHQ - Code breaking

In March we took 30 Year 9 students to a languages workshop day in North Lincolnshire. There were about 150 students from other secondary schools attending. The focus of the day was motivating students to continue learning foreign languages to GCSE level and beyond. The main speaker was a member of GCHQ. He was not able to divulge his name, nor were we allowed to take photos of him due to the nature of his job, working for British Intelligence. He explained his job and how his language skills were integral to his and other colleagues' roles. As you can imagine there were plenty of questions

from the audience at the end of his presentation. The remainder of the morning was taken up with workshops including code cracking, a Polish taster, linguistics and an Arabic language taster lesson. An interesting and energising lesson was had by all!



Partial Eclipse March 20th

Sixth Form student, Thomas Petrie explains to a year 7 pupil how eclipses are formed.

UKMT Team Maths Challenge 2015

On Tuesday 17th March, four pupils from Sir John Nelthorpe School took part in the regional final of the UKMT Team Maths Challenge 2015 held at Danum School in Doncaster. The pupils who took part were Abbey Higgins and Adam Clarvis from year 9 and Byron Stewart and myself James Smalley from year 8. Mrs Chaffe was kind enough to accompany us all.

The event was held in the sports hall, where we came face to face with the other contestants. They were aged 12 to 14, and came from all types of schools including public, private and grammar. Everybody warmed up with some practice questions. Then the competition began...

The questions were very tough, varying from fractions to equations and from decimals to mind boggling problems.

After lunch the competition really heated up with more challenging questions designed to really stretch us. It was a tough day but well worth it. When the results came through we finished a commendable 19th out of 30 schools. We had a great day out and would encourage other students to participate next year.

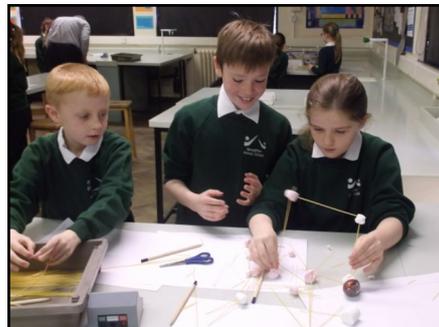


Broughton Primary School Year 5 Science Day

Almost 60 year 5 pupils from Broughton Primary School visited Sir John Nelthorpe School to experience some fun and challenging science activities. The visit also included taking lunch in the school canteen.

Activities were chosen from physics, chemistry and biology and gave the pupils hands-on experience in science laboratories.

Pupils made bath bombs to take home in chemistry; were challenged to build structures using spaghetti and marshmallows in physics and solve a crime using forensic science in biology. The children did exceptionally well and were a credit to their school with everyone enjoying the great experience.



SJN Sports *Bulletin*



A selection of sports news from last term at SJN

The key stage 3 badminton team represented North Lincolnshire at the regional finals in March and finished joint second (third on number of points) in the region. They lost out to the team that went on to win the CenterParcs final. The team was made up of William Odlin (Y8), Lloyd Kettles (Y8), Ben Lingard (Y9) and Toby Traviss (Y9).



The KS3 and KS4 boys entered the first ever North Lincolnshire handball event at the Pods. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event and the KS4 team made it to the final losing to the Vale in a close encounter!

Congratulations to Lucy Chrost and Eleanor Bryan (Y11) as both girls have been selected to join the County athletics team following on from their County trials.

Well done to Luke Middleton (Y8) who has been selected to the NLD Rugby team. Archie Swain and Ben Botham (Y10) have already been in the NLD team for a year.



Sir John Nelthorpe took place in the Quad Kids athletics at Quibell Park on Tuesday 9th June finishing 2nd out of 7. This takes them through to the Regional Final at the Humber Games on 3rd July. The team members are: Eve Whiteman, Anna Cavill, Lily Featherstone, Shannon Donaldson, Samuel Aynsley, Owen Dunderdale, Connor Shipley & Adam Simms (Y7&8). Archie Swain, Ben Botham, Matthew Boden, Nathaniel Stanfield, Jodie Steadman, Mary Wells, Alicja Lisiewicz & Chloe Hopkinson (Y9&10).



Y8 Cricket Team

Sir John Nelthorpe fielded a large team in this year's Orienteering event. There was a joint year 7&8 team and an individual competition for the year 9's. Sam Davies and Aiden Bulmer (Y8) went to defend their title and won once again! They have now qualified to represent North Lincolnshire in the Humber Youth Games in July.

The year 10 rounders team competed within the district competition, winning every match they played in their league and narrowly losing in the final by 1/2 a rounder resulting in finishing in second position securing them a place in the Humber Youth Games final which will take place on Wednesday 15th July.



Y9 Football - Plate Winners

While in year 10 the girls of SJN were given the opportunity to play cricket as part of the England cricket initiative to encourage more females to take up the sport of cricket. Mat Fowler a county cricket coach came into school to coach the girls and prepare them for a competition, the girls won the district competition and went on to represent North Lincolnshire in the County cup, where they finished in Bronze medal position a real achievement as many of the schools they faced the girls had played cricket from the age of 10

The year 9 rounders team took part in the district tournament and finished 3rd in the league, fantastic effort by all girls involved



Y10 Football - Plate Winners

Mr Taylor organised a charity football at Brigg Town FC in memory of Mr Gibbons. A number of staff supported the day and played in a game that saw Briggensians FC play Briggensians and Brigg Town Old Boys. The Briggensians won 4-3. £1222 was raised for the British Heart Foundation and it is hoped that this will be an annual event.

SJN are due to host the Primary finals of the district rounders tournament of Tuesday 23rd June where our young leaders will officiate and provide encouragement for the younger pupils involved.

Dates for the diary

- * Sports day - 1st July
- * Humber Games - end of July

- * District Athletics - 7th July
- * House cricket & rounders - final week term.

In keeping with the long standing tradition of Sir John Nelthorpe the Outward Bound trip took place over the weekend of May 8-10th, with a mixed bag of weather to be had!! On Friday 8th May 30 year 8 students, excitedly rushed to board the 2 mini buses to begin the journey to Ullswater in the Lake District, on arrival students were shown to their rooms, put into groups and then rushed to pack and prepare for a night under canvas on the mountain side. Pupils were very excited a



first for many, we packed in glorious weather and spirits were high, as we set off mother nature decided to be unkind and the heavens opened (the rain continued until the early hours of Saturday morning), making our expeditions all the more challenging. Once the groups reached their respective camping spots for the night tents were erected and tea was cooked, ration packs were enjoyed by most, the hot food a welcome luxury in the inclement weather. Saturday brought a day of sunshine and high energy activities ranging from gorge walking, to canoeing, team building activities and a camp fire. Sunday brought a day of high winds and sun, activities undertaken ranged from ghyll scrambling, high ropes, night line, jacobs ladder, canoeing, rock traverse with a jump into the lake, and many more. Student had an awesome time, developing many skills, learning team work and overcoming challenges, the weekend ended with a trip to McDonalds, and

a party atmosphere on the mini buses, returning the students to their parents at 9.30pm, tired and with many tales to tell.

In February half term students from years 9,10,11 and the lower 6th visited the ski resort of Folgaria in Italy. The trip began with the students excitedly leaving the Wrawby road site at midday Saturday and travelling by coach to Dover, where we caught the ferry to France, travelling throughout the night to reach our destination by lunch time the Sunday. The range of ski abilities were spread across the whole spectrum from those who had never skied before to those students who were able to pull off tricks and jumps in the park, every student made fantastic progress on the slopes with all beginners able to tackle and competently ski some challenging red runs. Students were kept busy every evening with a fun packed apres-ski programme, ranging from quizzes within the hotel, pizza night (where we had a dance off with a school from Essex), disco night in a local youth night club, to snow shoeing under the star lit skies. The quality of the accommodation was excellent with the hotel staff meeting all our needs. Students and staff alike had a fantastic trip with excellent ski conditions. I cannot write this without mentioning our coach drivers Ally & Paul, who ensured our journey was as smooth as possible and provided us all with many a tale and joke, a great asset to the trip. Due to the suitability of resort and quality of the hotel and ski area we have chosen Folgaria as our next destination for the school ski trip in February half term 2017, see Mrs Cook if you would like further details



Netball The team was formed in year 7 and the girls have remained committed and determined to achieve, and once again became the team within the district to beat. Achieving the title of district champions in year 7 and maintaining this throughout their schooling career. This team has gone on to represent the district twice at both U14 and U16, achieving the accolade of representing the whole of Lincolnshire in the regional rounds as U16's, due to their outstanding performance at district rounds finishing in Silver medal position. The team consisted of Katie Willerton, Rachael Major, Fran Coupland, Eleanor Bryan, Eleanor Dobbs, Sophie McMillan, Jess Hill, Niamh McIntyre, Abbie Seaton, Rebecca Brooker and Sophie Scutt.

The year 11 netball team, travelled to Leicester to represent Lincolnshire in the regional rounds of the schools netball competition a fantastic achievement one achieved by few schools in the district. The girls put in a sterling performance, playing 5 games but unfortunately coming away in 9th position.



The Year 7 rounders tournament will take place on Thursday 18th June, and SJN will be fielding a strong team so fingers crossed they can match the year 10's achievement.

Rounders again a strong team was formed within year 7 and this team went on to play in all the district rounders tournaments, finishing in either gold or silver medal position throughout their schooling career.

Hockey from starting SJN in year 7 this year group have fielded a strong hockey team, consisting of Abbie Seaton, Eleanor Dobbs, Eleanor Bryan, Jessica Hill, Katie Havercroft, Fran Coupland, Megan Wells, Rebecca Brooker and Lucy Chrost, this team have stuck together throughout their time at SJN and have been the team to beat within the district and have remained district champions for 5 years both indoors and on astro.turf.