



NEWSLETTER JUL 2023



A message from our headteacher...

I'm writing this as we approach the end of the academic year and... what a year it has been!

Some thanks are needed for your support, understanding, resilience, determination and good humour throughout the year; without that support.

I also want to formally recognise the contribution of all our staff: our teachers for their adaptability and professionalism as well as our site team for all of their efforts. However, I would especially like to thank, our students. We are immensely proud of you: you have continued to try your best in your lessons and in life. Most importantly, you have kept smiling through it all!

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to school in September but, in the meantime, I want to wish everyone a restful and happy summer holiday.

Alex Hook Head of School

In this issue...



Students rock the stage

Our talented students took to the stage as part of the NELT summer concert and wowed the audience!



What Would David Do?

This term we launched our new eco campaign in school and crowned our first set of winners.



Fluffy friends!

This term we welcomed some super cute visitors to school - chicks and ducklings!



Goodbye Year 11

We said a fond farewell to Year 11 this term as get ready for their next steps after school.

Students rock the stage!

WOW, what a night! The term came to a close with a bang as our students came together with children from across the North East Learning Trust last night for the fantastic NELT annual summer concert at the Sage Gateshead where they blew the audience away!

The atmosphere was electric as our students performed hit songs, You Can't Stop the Beat and Good Morning Baltimore, from muchloved musical Hairspray. Our superstars' talent and enthusiasm shone throughout the evening, resulting in a roaring applause and standing ovation as they took to the stage together for their finals bows.

A huge congratulations to everyone who performed and a massive thank you to all those who organised and supported the







What Would David Do?



This term we launched our new eco initiative in school and earlier this month we crowned our first winners, who now proudly wear their eco friendly What Would David Do? pins around school.

Here's what our eco warriors have been up to, to gain one of our limited edition prizes...

Year 10 Joshua works hard fixing up old vacuum cleaners to save them from going to landfill and earning himself a little profit, what an entrepreneur! Joshua has saved around 250 vacuums from going to landfill just in the last 8 months!

Year 9 Alfie regularly walks along our coastline litter picking, reuses water used in the house to water the garden and put together a bug hotel using old materials that would have otherwise gone in the bin!

Year 9 Ilana creates her own compost putting those vegetable peels and eggshells to good use. Ilana then using her nutrient rich compost to grow veggies and fruits like carrots, potatoes, tomatoes and strawberries!

Year 7 Athena has taken her talent of crochet and made it eco! Athena using old plastic carrier bags and crochets them together to create stylish bags!

Well done to our winners and to everyone who applied this term - you're all fantastic and David would be very impressed with your passion for helping the planet!

If you'd like to get involved next term, find out more at www.nelt.co.uk/wwdd.



Cuteness overload

There was a buzz around school this term as we had some 'eggs-citing' visitors join us. Staff and students were glued to hatch-cam to witness eggs become some very cute chicks and ducks.

After lots of attention, our fluffy visitors moved on to start their new lives at a local farm.













Year 7 buddies

Our Year 7 buddies have been chosen ready for September!

Over 80 Year 7s went through the selection process, getting teacher references and attending an interview. The standard was incredibly high and Mrs Sharpe certainly had a difficult task choosing the lucky candidates. Huge well done to everyone who applied!

Our buddies have supported the Year 6s throughout their transition to big school and will help them settle into school life in September.

Great job everyone!



Checkmate!

This term saw our Chess Club develop their skills further. Boldon School kindly invited our chess team to a friendly tournament alongside Ponteland School.



Our students came away with medals and certificates, and more importantly, had lots of fun and gained valuable experience. They were a credit to themselves and our school!

Summer time careers

Let's take a look at some careers that really come into focus during the summer months.

Pilot

A newly qualified captain can earn between £54 and £75,000. For experienced captains, this can rise up to £140,000. Before you can fly a plane, you must gain an Airline Transport Pilot Licence by completing a modular or integrated course.

Coastguard

The busiest time of year for Coastguards is during summer. A Coastguard sends out weather and tidal reports, responds to emergency distress calls, offers navigational advice along certain stretches of sea, monitors radio and satellite communications and gives information about coastal and sea safety.

Rollercoaster

Did you know that having a degree in electrical, structural or mechanical engineering could lead you to a career in designing rollercoasters? The salary for this unique careers is around £30,000 per year.

The big NELT debate!

For the second year running, our school went up against five other secondary schools in the NELT debate competition. Students took on the challenge and shared their take on some hot topics including 'should animal testing be banned?' and 'should the voting age be lowered to 16?'.

Well done everyone, we can't wait for the next battle!



DATIES

FOR YOUR DIARY

21 JUL - Break up for summer

05 SEP - Back to school

27 OCT - Break up for half term

06 NOV - Back to school

27 NOV - INSET day (closed to students)



Say hello to our student leaders!

Say hello to our new Student Leadership Team for September 2023!

The team is made up from

- Head Students, Isabella and Adam
- Deputies, Max and Sheryl
- Student leaders, Halima and Matty (Equality and Diversity), Ellie (Sport and Extra-curricular)
- Senior Prefects: Charlotte, Alina, Joshua and Evan

We cannot wait to see what the team get up to in September!

Stories brought to life

This term our Year 8 Drama Club worked to bring David Walliams' The Midnight Gang to life!

The group not only put on a stellar performance of the play, but also put together a 45 minute workshop for four different local primary schools. Everyone had a fab time, with one member of the audience even saying the play was better than going to the cinema!

Great work everyone!







Cricket champs

Congratulations to our girls Under 13 cricket team who had their final tournament of the year this term and won by 100 runs!

A special mention to Lucy F who opened the batting in the second game and surpassed the opposing team's runs score in the first 3 balls. The team have had a fantastic season and have performed at a high level throughout. Their attitude, commitment and behaviour have shown them to be a credit to the school.

The group were invited to umpire and score the primary school tournament which they did brilliantly and with professionalism - well done team!



Year 9 artists

Year 9 art students have been sampling a range of materials for their Natural Forms project this term. They have been enjoying exploring pencil, pen and



charcoal and will be going on to create some mixed media drawings before the summer. Well done Year 9!



Goodbye Year 11!

We said a fond farewell to our Year 11 students this term. After all their hard work and resilience through the exam period, we said goodbye and good luck to a fantastic year group. Leavers' Day meant only one thing... the countdown to prom! The night was full of glitz, glamour and FUN! Check out some of the photos below.





























