



SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

2024-2025
Issue 2



SCIENCE CLUB INVESTIGATES

We set our gardening club members the task of interviewing our Science teachers to find out a bit more about them!

Isabelle and Jack interviewed Mrs Dobie

What is your favourite topic in the Spring term?

Genetics because it is very interesting

What made you pick science?

It is a fascinating topic and shapes all of our lives.

What is your favourite major and why?

Biology because it has a lot to do with us and it links to health and social care which I also teach.

Mia and Sophia interviewed Miss Mason

What is your favourite topic to teach?

I love teaching chemical reactions, specifically acids and alkalis.

What is your favourite practical investigation?

I love the red cabbage indicator practical!

Who knew everyday food could be so interesting?

Runiha and Abigail interviewed Miss Ferguson and Mrs Edusei

Do you teach biology, chemistry or physics?

Miss Ferguson: I teach a mixture but mainly Chemistry

Mrs Edusei: I mainly teach physics to year 9, 10 and 11.

Do you ever regret becoming a science teacher?

Miss Ferguson: No - I love how things work and find science fun and really enjoy teaching lessons.

Mrs Edusei: Never - I absolutely love my job!

Hadyn and Isobel interviewed Miss Jenkins

What is your favourite summer plant?

Sunflowers

What is your favourite animal adaptation?

Camouflage and mimicry.

What is your favourite practical?

In the summer term, definitely population sampling!



THE BITS WE'VE ENJOYED THE MOST!

We asked our pupils what they've enjoyed most about Science this term. Here's what they had to say!

I really enjoyed doing the assessments and I want to thank the teachers for helping me get good scores!

when we did an experiment with lava lamps Miss Ferguson

When we had a visitor from St John's Ambulance who taught us how to do CPR and how to stop an injury from bleeding.

Lessons with miss ferguson. The conversations are always entertaining

I really enjoyed doing the assessments and I want to thank the teachers for helping me get good scores!

Movie night

I've really liked doing practicals :)

When we started the new environment topic

I liked doing the chromatography experiment with pens and seeing how many different colours were in the pens when you put the solvent on the ink.

My best memory is science week and how we did lots of fun lessons and my favourite was making a balloon car and we raced and I won in my class.

I enjoyed the price of homework when we had to build the structure of the Earth

My best memory has been when in Science, we had a Science Week lesson where we made butterflies put of paper to make camouflaged. I did mine by using a ruler and a pencil and it was actually really good! I loved that lesson because we got creative, and I love being creative! :D

I enjoyed the camouflage lesson during science week

I enjoyed learning about electricity and series circuits

Science week lessons

Stem designing and making my own rocket to get it to space

My favourite science lesson was making a balloon car



ADVICE FROM YEAR 11

This will be the last full term our Year 11 pupils are with us, and so we asked them what science advice they would give to our younger year groups!

'The mocks are hard but you learn from them and use it to help you improve next time!'

'Science is really fun! Enjoy learning about the world you live in!'

'Pay attention to key things and practicals' From Amy

'Lock in. Concentrate from year 10 especially as this is when you start your GCSE course' By Quinn

'Slay science, don't let it slay you!'
From Harvey

'Start revising before year 11!' By Sean

'Year 10's pay attention! It's important!' By Josh

'Science tuition really helps! Attend as many as you can and don't stress!' By Sophie

'Enjoy your time in science - it goes very quick!' By Josh

'Try your hardest and don't give up!'

'Take notice in year 9, big mistake when you get to year 10 and 11 and you have no idea what the teacher is talking about' From Harley



WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO INSPIRE US IN SCIENCE

This term we celebrated International Day of Women and Girls in Science! So we thought we'd ask our female science teachers what inspired them!

"I love that science is able to answer so many of life's questions and solve so many of the problems we have faced and continue to face. Our lives have been positively affected because of science, the sacrifices made by and ingenuity of scientists.' By Mrs Bradley

"The thing that encouraged me to get into science was a TV show by Dr Robert Winston (my scientific hero) on newborn babies being able to hold their breath and swim underwater!' By Mrs Heseltine

'I've always liked science, particularly chemistry so I decided to do a degree in it so that I enjoyed studying. It wasn't always easy but when you study something you enjoy, it makes it a little easier.' By Mrs Armstrong

'The reason I got into science was because of the teachers. They were very enthusiastic and engaging when it came to teaching science and their passion helped to guide mine.' By Miss Jenkins

"I like knowing how things work, at times, science can seem like magic, until we understand what is going on. From making a bulb light up, to lightening in the sky, to looking up at the night sky and seeing a tiny part of the universe. I know that our lifestyles would be so different without scientific advances.' By Mrs Edusei

"The part I like most about science is the history of science and the people involved. Great stories like Marie Curie - the story of radioactivity. Henrettia Lacks - the immortal HeLa cells. These are things that changed the world. Science will always be part of that.' By Miss Hook

'When I was younger, I really enjoyed visiting museums like the Centre for Life in Newcastle where I could find out more about the human body and the world around us. I used to love going to the Science Maze in the Discovery Museum too! Places like this made learning about difficult scientific concepts, fun and engaging! We once went to the Glasgow Science Centre which was amazing too! I think this was a big help in sparking my passion for science! By Miss Dawson

"I enjoy science because it can explain the world around you. My teachers inspired me to do science (and now they are my work colleagues!) In school I enjoyed learning about the atom, electronic structure and bonding.' By Miss Ferguson



CAREERS SPOTLIGHT

We asked our teachers to tell us all about the people they know with science careers!

You might even come across some of these in your lessons next year and find out more about what they do on a day to day basis!

Miss P Bradley's partner who is a data scientist!

Mrs Dobie's Husband who is a hairdresser using chemicals each day in hair dye!

Miss Dawson's friend Niamh who is an obstetrician and gynecologist!

Miss Dawson's friend Alex who is a personal trainer and nutritionist

Mrs Love's sister who is a paediatric nurse!

Mrs Mills' friend who works in the coroners office!

Mrs Edusei's husband who is a pharmacist!

Miss Richie's friend Dylan who works for ispace as a flight dynamics engineer!

Miss Parkin's friend Hannah who is a biomedical scientist.

Mrs Love's Mam who has worked for the NHS and pharmaceutical companies developing medicines!

Miss Dawson's friend Hassan who is a pharmacist



CAREERS SPOTLIGHT

We recently asked the family members of our pupils to get in touch about their careers in Science.

Melissa got in touch to tell us about her role as an Associate Director of Quality Assurance.

What is the name of your role?

Associate Director Quality Assurance

What subjects did you enjoy at school?

Science

What was your favourite thing to learn about in science at school?

I really enjoyed the practical side and performing experiments.

What parts of science did you struggle with the most and how did you overcome this?

I found it really hard when it involved a lot of Maths, but I would break the calculations into smaller chunks and complete them as simpler pieces.

What led you to the career you have today?

I've always enjoyed my job roles, and moved for new challenges. I love being in an industry that changes people's lives for the better.

What do you do on a daily basis?

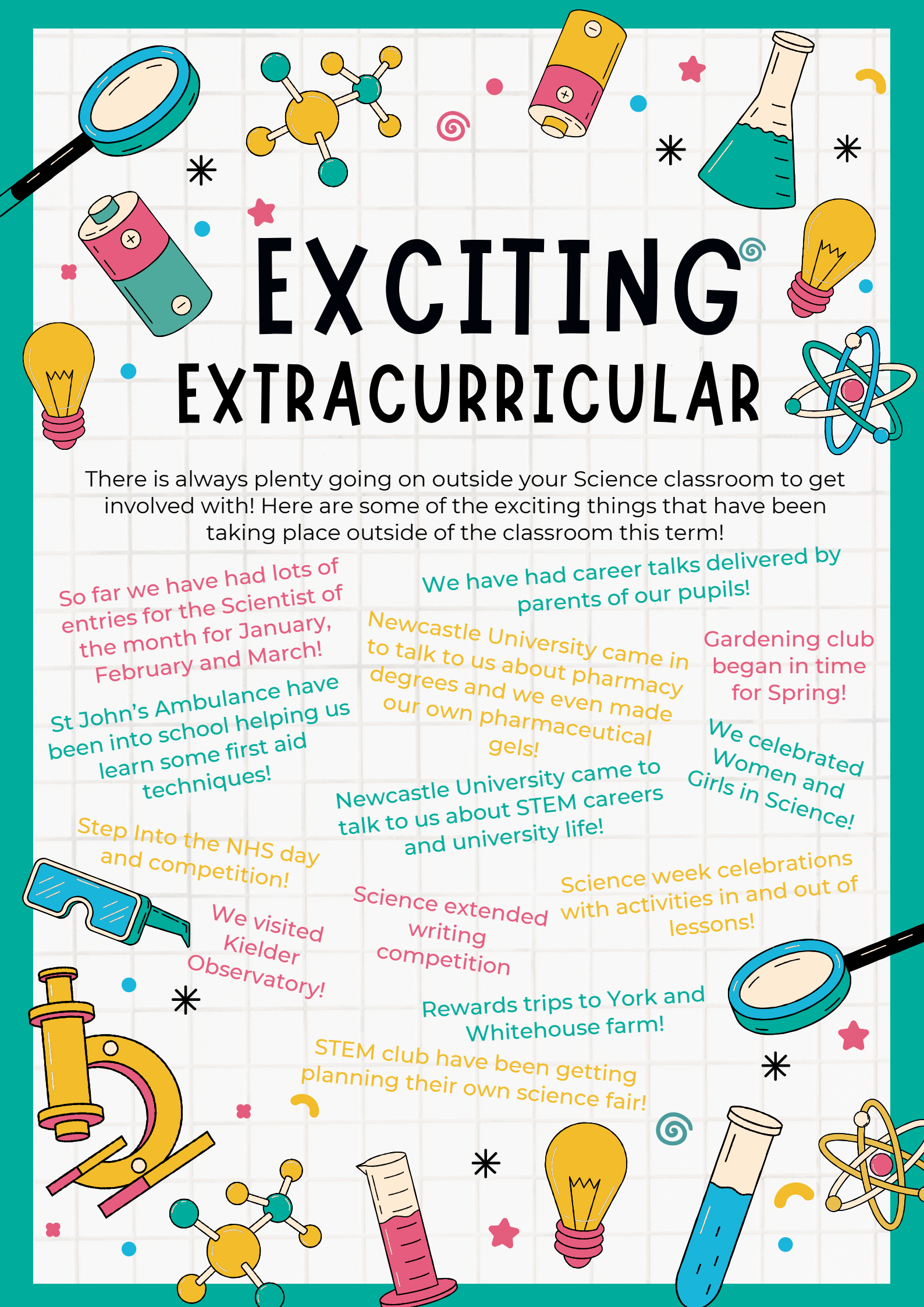
I ensure that the products we make are safe for patients to take and make sure they will perform exactly as expected.

What is your favourite thing about your job?

Seeing and hearing about the difference we make to patients who may have a life-changing condition. Helping them manage day to day with drugs we produce is amazing.

What advice would you give to a student who might consider your career in future?

Always follow a path that leads towards something you enjoy. If you love your job then the day goes so faster. Take time to learn your basic skills and develop a good foundation of knowledge. There is nothing wrong with starting at the bottom, it can only go up from there.



EXCITING EXTRACURRICULAR

There is always plenty going on outside your Science classroom to get involved with! Here are some of the exciting things that have been taking place outside of the classroom this term!

So far we have had lots of entries for the Scientist of the month for January, February and March!

St John's Ambulance have been into school helping us learn some first aid techniques!

Step Into the NHS day and competition!

We visited Kielder Observatory!

Science extended writing competition

STEM club have been getting planning their own science fair!

Rewards trips to York and Whitehouse farm!

We have had career talks delivered by parents of our pupils!

Newcastle University came in to talk to us about pharmacy degrees and we even made our own pharmaceutical gels!

Newcastle University came to talk to us about STEM careers and university life!

Gardening club began in time for Spring!

We celebrated Women and Girls in Science!

Science week celebrations with activities in and out of lessons!



SCIENCE IN THE NEWS

As spring is now very much upon us, we thought we would focus this terms news story around flowers and wildlife!



Find out more
about RHS here!



Avon Wildlife Trust and the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) are now working with people across Bristol and Bath to create a 43 mile "bee-line" for the Pollinator Pathways Project to help pollinator insect populations grow.

Shelly Easton, head of nature's recovery at Avon Wildlife Trust said: "The focus is on hoverflies because they're vital for food security. A third of our food requires pollination.

This includes apples, strawberries, nuts and rapeseed oil."

She explained that over 85% of Britain's insect-pollinated crops, relied on "wild pollinators" such as the hoverfly. They pollinate 52% of the world's crops and protected them by eating aphids.

Avon Wildlife Trust has partnered with the Bug Life charity, encouraging people across Bristol to build hoverfly lagoons and plant more flowers.

When areas of habitat reach a city, it can be a block for insects due to the infrastructure and lack of resources. The bee-line would help by adding "stepping stones" which would make species like the hoverfly less vulnerable when the seasons change as there would be a bigger support network. "It will create a landscape where they can move freely," she said.

RECOMMENDED READS

Here are some of the recommended reading books from the Autumn term! Remember we have copies of these in school if you would like to read them!





A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Our pupils wanted to share their gratitude towards our hard working science teachers!

'Thanks, Mr. Elstob. You're the best science teacher. 😊'
From Honor

'Thank you for helping me understand things when I didn't' From Dylan

Hi Miss, Dawson, I want to say thank you for all the experiments we have done during lesson and all the funny moments we have had in class and thank you for just being there when we didn't understand or misread something, thank you so much for making science more fun' From Kitt

'Thank you to Miss Dawson, Miss Mason and Mr Davies for always helping me' From Pranavi

'Thank you to my amazing science teachers (Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Edusei and Mrs Bradley) for making science as fun as it can be for me and for always pushing me to be at my best every lesson.' From Anna

'Miss Jenkins and thank you for teaching amazingly and help my education with biology grow stronger.' From Lillie

'Dr Hargreaves because shes a good teacher and understands me' From Katelyn

'Miss Ferguson, Mr Davies, Miss Mason and Miss Dawson, thanks for the clubs and then the science lessons.' From Chloe

'Thank you Miss Mason for the buddy reference!' From Abbie

'Mr Elstob, thanks for teaching me all I know and doing it in the best way, not too serious but maybe a little to funny. Seriously, thanks. (You are defiantly top 5 best teachers on my list)' From Nate

'Thank you miss Ferguson I enjoy you science lesson' From Lacie

'Thanks' From Zak

'A thank you to Miss Ferguson, Mr Elstob, Dr Hargreaves and Miss Dawson :)' From Lucy

'Miss Dawson for always making sure STEM club is on every week and for organising the space night' From Leo



OUR BEST SCIENCE JOKES!

We asked our pupils and teachers what their favourite science jokes were!

'What did the limestone say to the Geologist. DON'T TAKE ME FOR GRANITE!' By Nate

Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha

'How do you organise a space party? You planet in advance!' By Emily

'What does blood say when it's trying to be optimistic? B Positive.' By Abbie and Isla

'How much room does fungi need in order to grow? As much mushroom as possible.' By Myah

HoHoHo!

'Why don't ants get sick? Because they have ant-y bodies :)' By Isla

'Why did the biologist break up with the physicist? They had no chemistry' By Frankie



'Why should you never trust an atom. They make up everything' By Lucy, Maisie and Alfie

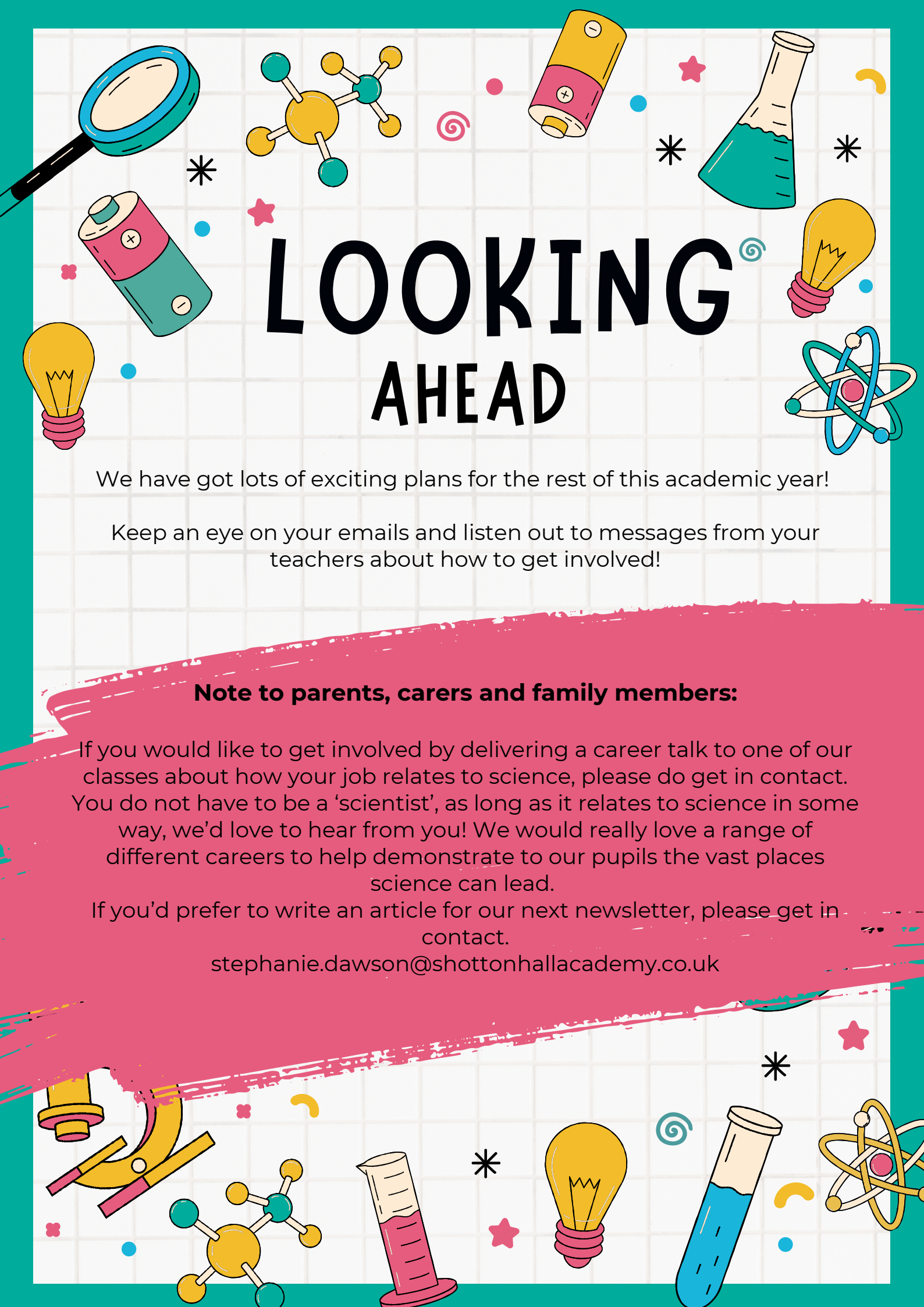
SMILE

'A neutron walks into a bar and asks for a beer, and the Neutron ask how much? The bar keeper says " for you, no charge!". By Isabelle

'Ever heard of Neil Diamond? He was originally called Neil Coal before the pressure got to him.' By Dante



'How do trees go onto the internet? They log on' By Evie



LOOKING AHEAD

We have got lots of exciting plans for the rest of this academic year!

Keep an eye on your emails and listen out to messages from your teachers about how to get involved!

Note to parents, carers and family members:

If you would like to get involved by delivering a career talk to one of our classes about how your job relates to science, please do get in contact. You do not have to be a 'scientist', as long as it relates to science in some way, we'd love to hear from you! We would really love a range of different careers to help demonstrate to our pupils the vast places science can lead.

If you'd prefer to write an article for our next newsletter, please get in contact.

stephanie.dawson@shottonhallacademy.co.uk