

# SFX NEWSLETTER

*Love of God. Love of Neighbour*

*School reopens on Tuesday 17th April*

## HEADTEACHER MESSAGE

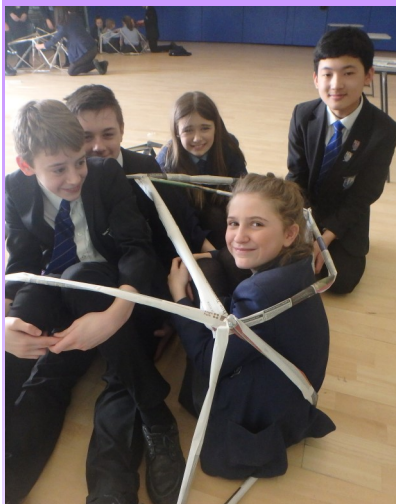
Dear parents, carers and pupils. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a joyful and holy Easter and thank our young people for their hard work and enthusiasm over the last half term. As you will read in this latest newsletter, there has been a lot happening in school. I was fortunate enough to spend the weekend with the chaplaincy team, together with Mrs Ross Russell and Miss Smith. It was a brilliant experience to spend time with young people who showed such love and respect for each other and something that I will never for-

get. Our year 11 students have been working hard preparing for their GCSE exams and staff have given up a lot of time to support them. They will be re-



vising over the Easter holidays and some will be in school, please keep them in your thoughts and prayers over this stressful time. Thank you to those parents who have responded about the uniform proposals. I will answer any

queries after the Easter holidays, once we have a better idea of parental views. Finally we are saying goodbye to some staff including Miss Buckingham (Head of History) who is leaving the school after seven years and who is taking on a leadership position at a school in Stockton, Miss Haase our data manager has also left to take up a significant promotion. Mrs Smith (technology technician) and Mr Jessop (technician and caretaker) will also leave at the end of the holidays. I would like to thank these staff for the great contribution they have made to the school and wish them every success in their new roles.



## SCIENCE & ENGINEERING WEEK

A number of special events were organised by the Science department to celebrate Science and Engineering Week. One such event was the opportunity for year 7 students to get close to some exotic animals, such as lizards, scorpions and meerkats. Thank you to Jay's Animals for bringing such an interesting range of creatures in, even the giant snake!

Year 8 employed their logic and teamwork to design structures using newspaper and paperclips.



## ECO UPDATE

The energy position to the end of February shows that we have continued to reduce our electricity consumption at school. During February we reduced our consumption by almost 18% compared with the same month last year and a staggering 28% compared with our base year – 2014/15.



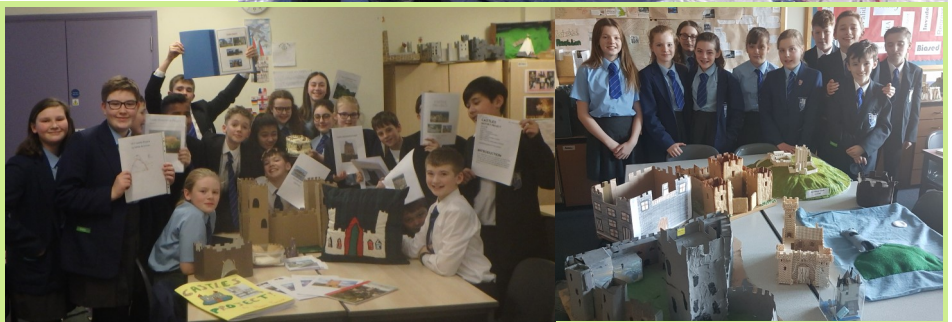
The Eco group has been busy raising awareness through assemblies and actively changing the environment with their dedication to reducing litter and lunchtime waste.

The school has recently received the Eco Schools Bronze Award in recognition of our journey so far to becoming a truly eco school.



## HISTORY PROJECT

Year 7 students used the castle project as an opportunity to use their varying talents. They created a wide range of items including cakes, cushions and cardboard castles.



## GOING CASHLESS

The school will be cashless from 1st April meaning there will no longer be a cash machine for lunch payments in the school. Payments for lunches, trip and equipment should be paid via ParentPay. A pay point will also be available. For more details please speak to the school accounts department.

## YOUTH VOICE

*By the House Captains*

On the 16<sup>th</sup> March, the House Captains went to the Youth Voice Conference in Harrogate. At this event, we got to choose from various workshops to complete throughout the day. Some examples are: Refugee workshops, UK Parliament, working with unaccompanied minors etc. A number of different schools attended. After we signed up for our workshops, we were called to the main hall where all the schools gathered and were welcomed by the CYPS (Children and Young People's Services!) including Young & Yorkshire, North Yorkshire Youth Executive, Flying High and Young Peoples Council. These are different organisations who work with young people and support them. Each of these have different attributes e.g. Flying High works with disabled people and are trying to improve public transport for people with needs or disabilities.

Firstly, most of us attended the Refugee Voices where we heard the tragic story of one refugee who now lives in Harrogate. Another course many of us attended was UK Parliament, in this course we learnt about how Parliament works, how laws are made and what we can do to try

and change the law! We also learned about the different parties and how they are represented and also about the challenges met when attempting to change the law.

One of the workshops we attended was how to deal with mental health issues. We met a woman who had arthritis whilst she was in school. She had to stay in the hospital for 8 months and we heard her depressing story. She lost her social life because of this and her treatment.

Working with unaccompanied, asylum seeking minors/children (UASC) we learned about the challenges children face when first entering a different country e.g. the cultural and religious differences. We learned how to make them feel more at home and less out of place.

Our final workshop was song writing where we had to split into groups and make up our own song lyrics based on: voice, working together and making a difference. The musical director put together a song on his guitar based on the lyrics of everyone on the course and we made a song which he recorded.

Finally we gathered back in the hall and we listened to the different organisations' finishing speeches and we headed back to school.



## CHAPLAINCY NEWS

On the Chaplaincy Retreat, we did lots of fun activities and reflections. We stayed at the Youth Hostel in Buttermere and we had a beautiful walk around the lake there, the walk lasted about 2 ½ hours and there were some cold snowy flurries as we walked. When we got to the half way point we sopped for a snack to keep going for the second half of the walk. Luckily the sun was shining on us for the second half, which was better!

For our meals, a team would help with the cooking, lay the tables, and wash up afterwards. The food was great and we all enjoyed sitting together and talking as we ate our meals.

On the last day we did a prayer session where you could go round the different prayer stations and complete tasks, such as washing your hands, planting flowers and lighting a candle. After the prayer stations, we walked down to the village chapel and had our own Service and Chloe played the ukulele for the hymns.

We had to take a different route home on the bus because the A66 was closed with the snow. The driver took us back through the Dales, we got back to school at about 4.30 on Sunday afternoon, it had been a great weekend away.

Parents prayer meeting met on Thursday 22nd March and the next **Parents Prayer meeting will be on Tuesday 8th May, 2 - 3.30pm in the Chapel. All welcome.**

## SPORTS UPDATE

### Netball

8th February year 9 and year 10/11 visited Richmond for a friendly.

Year 9 won 15-8- Team included: Lucy Christie, Maddie Rowan, Bella Watson, Alana Gee, Rosie Jolly, Ellie Hayes, Caitlin Gill, Lillie Sharpe, Hattie Bell, Lizzie Edson, Grace Beaumont, Anna Torbett.

Year 10/11 won 14-10- Team included: Channa Tuckett, Emily Harris, Katie Cromarty, Grace Partridge, Lauren Christie, Leanne Burton, Lizzie Morrison, Lara Webster, Megan Stanley, Tiar Mackenzie, Naomi Cooper.

On 22nd February year 7 SFX entered a Netball Rally. We finished 5th out of 9 teams from 7 schools, beating Easingwold, Thirsk and Richmond. Team included- Hollie Wilkinson, Savanna Coe, Emily Todd, Kesa Qarau, Alex Knapp, Chloe Mackenzie, Emily Worsdale, Maddie Haw, Emma Vasey.



### Football

Congratulations to the year 7 boys football team who scored a dramatic last minute winner to become area cup champions.

### Equestrian

Congratulations to the Equestrian team for their recent performance. Full details in the next edition.



## OUTWARD BOUND

### TOUR DE YORKSHIRE

Staff and students were excited to have a visit from the custodian of two trophies for the Tour De Yorkshire. This year the men's tour will be including Richmond, the starting point for the 3rd stage on Saturday 5th May, finishing after a gruelling 184km ride in Scarborough.

Stage 1 starts from Thursday 3rd May in Beverley; stage 2 is from Barnsley on Friday 4th May; stage 4 starts from Halifax on Sunday 6th May. Good luck to all the riders.

