



Please note we return to school on Monday 5th January.

Latest School News

As we approach the end of another busy term, I am writing to inform you that we will be closing on Friday 19th December at 2.00pm for the Christmas break. We will reopen on Monday 5th January 2015 at the usual time of 8.55am.

The last half term has been yet another busy time in school and we have seen many exciting events take place, some of which you can see in this newsletter.

This half term we invited the local authority school improvement team into school to carry out a 'health check' to see how we are currently performing and to look at how we are doing in terms of the targets set during our last inspection. I am delighted to inform you that the outcome of this was incredibly positive. I have included a summary of the findings with this newsletter for your information. It came as no surprise to us that the team that visited us were particularly complimentary of our students and about the extremely positive relationships between students and staff. You will see from the summary that the continued hard work and commitment of staff to work with our young people, coupled with the increasing ambition and drive of the students themselves, is having a tangible impact and is providing them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to achieve success. However, without your support this would not be possible.

May I therefore take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support during what has so far been a fantastic academic year. On behalf of all the staff and students here at Monkseaton, we wish you a peaceful and relaxing Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Mrs Tracy Crowder
Headteacher

Charities we've been supporting:



Some important dates ...

- 19th December—Christmas jumper Day
- 5th January—Students return to school
- 14th January—6th Form Courses evening
- 10th February—Year 9 Options evening
- 13th February—Break up for half term
- 23rd February—Return to school/Start of year 11/12/13 Trial Exams

Supporting Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day

Each year 6.3 million children never reach their 5th birthday. Save the Children work tirelessly to reduce this number, ensuring that children survive the most precious and fragile years of their lives. It would be great if students wore a Christmas jumper to show their support, but more importantly, we'd like them to donate £1 on Friday 19th December.



Thank you to all the members of the student council who have been working hard on this newsletter.

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Newcastle University Science Trip



The mini medical school was a fantastic experience and helped me get a feel for what career I want to do in medicine I attended it at Newcastle University which in itself is rated as one of the best university's to study medicine at in the UK. I was in lecture theatre with doctors and lecturers who are leads in their fields. We only covered a few topics due to the fact the medicine is a huge field with many different jobs and areas but we were told what each area is and what they do then we got the chance to participate in the lecture with an interactive question PowerPoint the whole experience is great and was really fun, I am going to the next one which is in next year and I am looking forward to it as I hope it is a good as this years. (Darryl Hall, Year 12 student)

We are pleased to announce that our year 9 girls won the STEM (Science, technology, engineering and maths) final beating all the other competing schools in North Tyneside making a super capacitor car. (Then winning against WBHS in last final car race at the end of the day!)

Furthermore, they completed this challenge entirely independently so they deserve a great deal of credit. The successful team were Mya Markham, jasmine Henderson, Olivia Cordes and Olivia Milburn.

North Tyneside Champions



Think Physics



At the end of the summer term, some of our Year 9 students took part in a competition to design a logo for Think Physics which is a science project running at Northumbria University. The competition was open to all students across Gateshead, Newcastle, North Tyneside and Durham. The judging panel were impressed with all our entries but one particular design stood out, that of Thomas Longstaff. Thomas was the outright winner in the KS3 category for his excellent, vibrant design which "captured the essence of the Think Physics project" and earned himself a day pass for the Centre of Life, as well as a prize for the school. Congratulations to him!

Maths News



Well done to everyone who "donned a digit" and raised almost £100 for the NSPCC on Number Day. Bradley Jolly, Chloe Gill and Taylor Gillyon won the 'Number Hunt Challenge' whilst Shaunna Jolly excelled at the 'Guess the Student' email competition.

Senior Maths Challenge:

Pupils at Monkseaton High School achieved 3 Silvers and 5 Bronzes in this year's UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. Over 81,000 pupils from across the UK entered with the top 20% achieving Silver and next 10% achieving Bronze. The winners were:

Silver - Jake Adamson, Tufayl Hannan and Jack Moody (all Year 12)

Bronze - Rebecca Chadwick and Jordan Summerly (Year 13) and Sam Davidson, Mark Spowart and Dominic Mason (Year 12)

Congratulation to all involved.



As part of the annual Holocaust Educational Trust programme for schools, Hannah Denholm and Daniel McLeod in Year 13 undertook a visit in late October to Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland. These two A Level History students left Newcastle at 7 a.m. on a flight to Krakow and spent the day with other students from the North-East touring the city with expert guides. They then went on to investigate the memorial and museum to victims of the Holocaust before flying home the same day. Hannah and Daniel had already undertaken an orientation seminar in Newcastle to meet a Holocaust survivor and prepare for their journey. Both students are now preparing to go into Year 11 History classes to share their experience and observations.

History news

World War One Battlefields

Two Year 10 students have been selected to represent Monkseaton High School in March 2015 as part of the government's World War One Centenary Battlefield Tour Programme. Hannah Bywater and Kane Herriott both wrote poignant letters to explain why they wished to undertake the visit and they will accompany Mrs. Thompson on the four day visit to Belgium and France. Once their students will visit sites in Ypres and the Somme in France.