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PRIDE

ISSUE 89

SEAHAM REMEMBERS

Next week the nation will honour a silence as we mark Remembrance, with events taking place on Sunday and the anniversary of Armistice Day, on the 11th of November. The usually bustling classrooms and corridors of Seaham High School will fall still, and silent, for a few moments of reflection - an act marking the end of our memorial efforts over the past week.

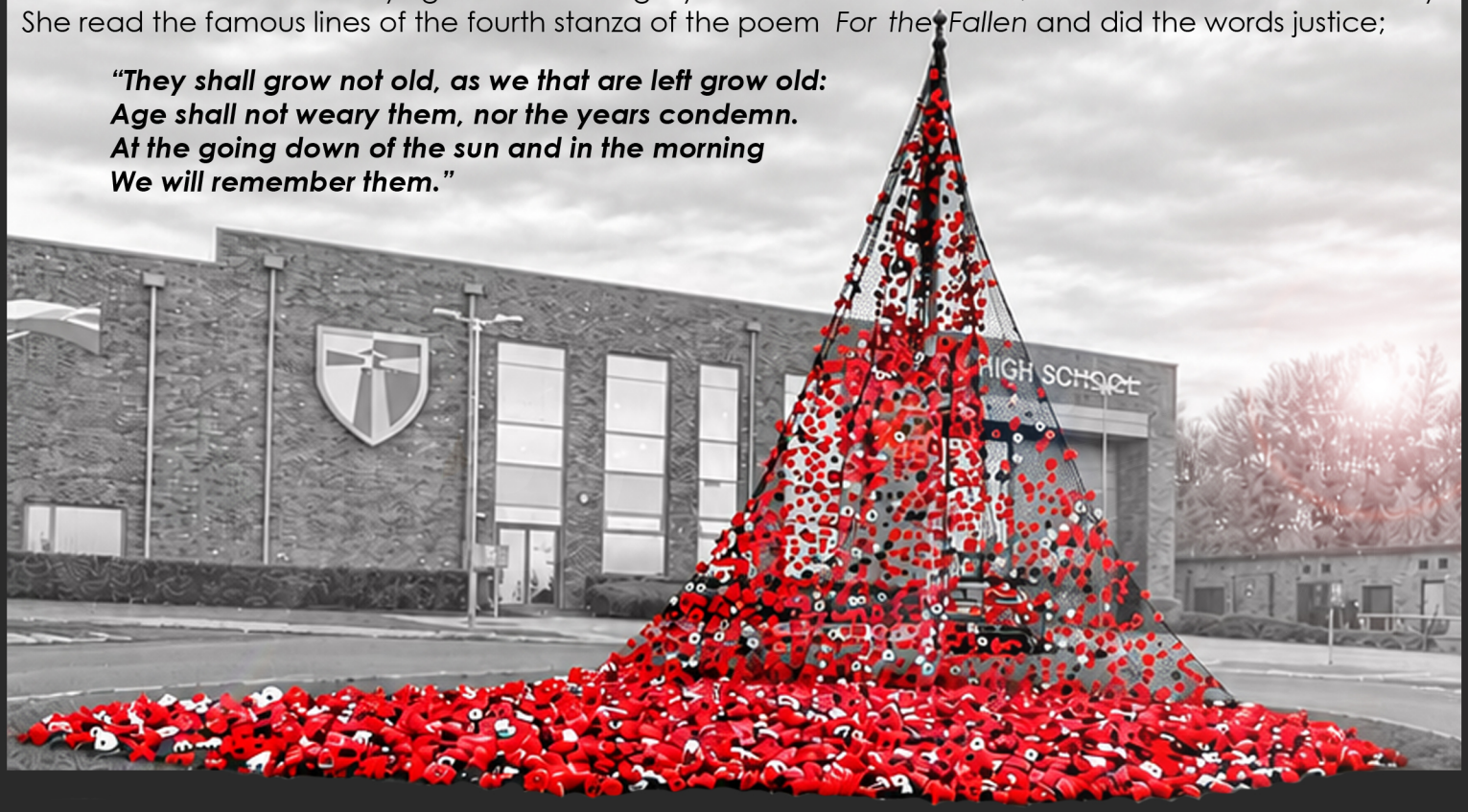
Students have learned about the reasons we pay our respects and the conflicts that led to the introduction of the poppy as a symbol of those who gave their lives for a better world. We've had assemblies for each of our year groups, and discussion in tutor time and lessons. It has been especially poignant as many of the young people who went to serve their country were not much older than our current Year 11s and many of the names immortalised on the two war memorials in town are ancestors of families who still reside in Seaham today.

Once again we displayed our art installation at the front of the school – a huge net draped from our flagpole with hundreds of poppies made by students in our art classes, red for those who gave their lives in service of their country, purple for the animals lost in combat and white for peace. The installation is symbolic of the whole community coming together, as the people of Seaham donated hundreds of plastic bottles which were recycled in its creation, and the efforts of young and old alike in its creation.

Year 7 students have been creating clay poppies for a poppy festival at St Andrews church in Dalton-le-Dale. They join more than six thousand others made by the local community, and will be displayed at the church this Sunday, the 8th November, for visitors to see.

We have had a wreath laying and a reading by school President Zoe A, as head of the student body. She read the famous lines of the fourth stanza of the poem *For the Fallen* and did the words justice;

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."



YEAR 7
MR McCRACKEN

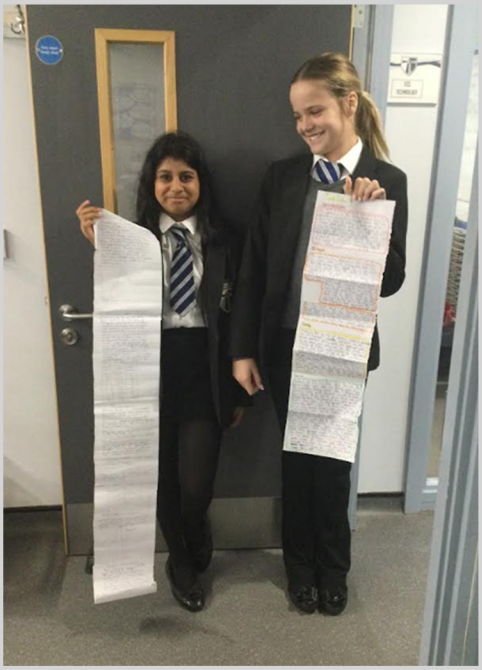


After a full first half term it was a very welcome two week break we all had over the last fortnight, and it was nice to see the students back, refreshed and ready to go for the second half term.

This is always a hard term as the students get used to the new school and routines and I am glad to say they have been coping fantastically well. Especially given the week before the break and this week are revision weeks ahead of next week's **Assessments**. To this end we have looked at flash card revision in form Time as well as having Maths English and Science Virtual exam sessions in Form Time this week. Students have all been given a Revision Folder and Flash cards, as well as completing revision in class and for homework. Previous Exam papers have been made available through *the Knack* and all students have been encouraged to complete their own revision, with Knack tokens and Class Charts points available if they share this with us. So all students should start next week well prepared for a busy five days of Assessment.

Just before half term we had another Year 7 activity day with Maths hosting the **Happy Puzzle Company**. Students were invited to take part in the many challenges set up for them and a great amount of fun was had solving them. This really did put the fun into Maths for the day, and a big thank you to the Maths department for running this activity.

YEAR 8
MRS WARD

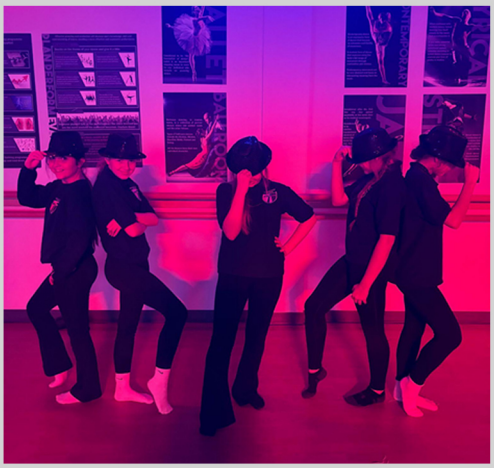


I hope Year 8 have had a wonderful half term break and are feeling refreshed and well rested, ready for the exciting weeks ahead. It has been lovely to welcome everyone back after the October break. Year 8 have made a fantastic start to the new half term, returning with positive attitudes, excellent behaviour and high standards. It is wonderful to see so many students demonstrating our school values and making the most of the opportunities available to them.

For anyone who would benefit from some additional support, **homework club** is available every day in CM5 with Mrs Garside. In addition, Year 8 have a dedicated homework club every Thursday in CM3 with Mrs Ward. These are great opportunities to catch up, ask questions and complete work in a supportive environment.

Finally, I would love to share some fantastic examples of **History homework** with you! It is wonderful to celebrate the creativity, effort and enthusiasm Year 8 have shown. Well done, Year 8 – keep up the excellent work!

YEAR 9
MR SPENCER



Welcome back after the October half term! It has been fantastic to see our Year 9 students return refreshed and ready to get back into the swing of their learning. There has been a real sense of positivity around the year group, with students settling back into their routines and approaching their work with enthusiasm and resilience.

Of course, not all hard work has been paper-based! We have also seen some fantastic dance routines taking shape, showcasing the creativity, confidence and talents of our students. A massive well done to Amalie N, Daisie M, Daisy H, Sarah C and Olivia E for their fantastic efforts. It has been brilliant to see you demonstrating your skills and getting involved.

As we move further into the academic year, I would also like to remind students of the importance of excellent attendance. Every lesson counts, particularly as we begin to look ahead to the exciting next steps in Year 9, including thinking about GCSE options. Being in school, engaging with learning and making the most of every opportunity will help students make informed choices about their futures.

Finally, a reminder that **Mr Spencer's Homework Club** runs every Tuesday from 3–4pm. This is a great opportunity for students to catch up on work, complete homework or get some extra support.
Let's keep up the fantastic effort, Year 9!

YEAR 10
MR NEALE

There are a number of opportunities available to support students with their learning and preparation for their upcoming assessments.



Our iMedia Pearson Set Assignment (PSA) sessions continue to run on Tuesdays after school. These sessions provide students with additional time and support to complete their set assignments and make progress towards their qualification. Parents and carers will receive a text message if their child is required to attend a session.

A special well done to **Joshua N** and **Kenzi T** for the excellent work they produced during this week's sessions. It is fantastic to see students making the most of these opportunities and showing commitment to their studies.

We are also continuing to build opportunities for students to strengthen their subject knowledge and prepare for their GCSE examinations through our **Getting Exam Ready (GER) sessions**.

- Geography: Thursdays at 3pm with Mr Spencer and Mr Henderson.
- Spanish: Morning GER sessions will also be starting on Thursdays.

These sessions are a valuable opportunity for students to revisit key knowledge, address gaps in their understanding and develop the confidence needed to succeed in their examinations. I would encourage students to make the most of the additional support available.

YEAR 11
MRS McNALLY-GRIFFITHS

Year 11 have made a great start back to this new half term. We were so pleased to see so many parents and students attending our **Year 11 Preparing for Success evening**.

It was a sight to see all the students and families milling about through the different post-16 providers and to hear the conversations about next steps made me proud to hear their maturity!

Going forward this half term we are now in our window for working towards our leavers hoody, therefore students will need to work their way towards 1200 points this half term- to help them on their way we have launched ***'Govember'*** where each piece of homework submitted is worth 10 points for the month of November.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1				Yellow = breakfast revision
English Literature DAE class	Geography Maths X Band / 11 Blue Science Y Band	Spanish Foundation Enterprise Health & Social Care	Spanish Higher History X Band Geography X Band English Y Band / Blue	Triple Science Health & Social Care
Week 2				Yellow = breakfast revision
English Literature DAE class	Geography Science X Band / 11 Blue Maths Y Band	Spanish Foundation Enterprise Health & Social Care	Spanish Higher English X Band History Y Band Geography Y Band English Blue	Triple Science Health & Social Care

We are also beginning the whole school ***GER sessions*** from Tuesday 3rd November and each of these after school sessions will be worth another 10 points and will help students work their way to prom.

Finally I would like to say a massive well done to **11RMM** on winning our attendance cup for last term - I hope you all enjoy your MacDonald's lunch!

READING REWARDS



On the last Friday of term, fifteen students who had shown a spectacular love of literacy were whisked out of lessons for a while and transported to a magical place in celebration of the written word!

Earlier in the week, each of the group had woken to find a mysterious Golden Ticket through their letterbox, which granted them entry to our Literacy Bus for an afternoon of celebration. Our big purple bus was transformed into the Chocolate Factory, and our very own Willy Wonka was on hand to greet the winners and invite them on an afternoon journey into imagination.

The treat was a reward for the students' excellent progress in literacy, which saw their vocabularies increase weekly and had them gobbling up books page by page.

Our well-read winners were;

Lewis C	**Betty C**	**Matthew S**
Joshua W	**Elise N**	**Joe P**
Lily K	**Benjamin H**	**Keir H**
Alice O	**Paige C**	**Lilly-Anne L**
Jacob P	**Jacob Y**	**Nieve D**



Spirits were very high when our photographer dropped by to pay a visit, as our chocolate fuelled children made the most of their reward, and it was well deserved as each showed incredible progress with their literacy over the last term.

Willy Wonka (sounding suspiciously like Mrs Steedman and sporting headwear borrowed from the Mad Hatter) was delighted with the afternoon, telling us:

"We are really proud of the progress that our Reading Superstars have made already since the start of the year and hope they will continue to keep up their hard work. They have demonstrated great resilience and pride and deserve celebrating!"