



NEWSLETTER



20 March 2020 Term 4: Week 4

Weekly Message from the Headteacher: Mr Ellis

Last week we hosted our annual science fair and, as is always the case, our students confidently and eloquently described their projects. The time and effort students put into these projects is immediately apparent but it's their oral communication that always impresses me. These "employability" skills are so important and it's fantastic to see our students developing the confidence that will help them to thrive in their future careers. It was also great to see so many family members of our students supporting the event and engaging with the presentations. I did not envy Mrs Barnes and the rest of the Science team who had the impossible task of deciding who to present the prizes to.



On Monday, members of Seaford Rotary were in school to host the Seaford Young Writer competition. Our students benefit greatly from the competitions organized by the Rotary but on this occasion it was students from the Seaford primary schools whose efforts were being recognised, with our very own Mr Messer sitting on the judges panel. Seaford Rotary also left the prizes for the young musician of the year to be presented at our next assembly. With their input into the Maths and English curriculum, Seaford Rotary really are a fantastic support for the school. Sadly, due to the restrictions placed on members of our community by the coronavirus, they have had to temporarily withdraw from their usual activities. We wish them well and look forward to welcoming them back into the school as soon as possible.

It has been a typically busy week in school and I would like to congratulate our Year 9 students for the fantastic way they have responded to the challenge of sitting GCSE style examinations. Their response has been extremely conscientious and I am sure that they can look forward to some excellent results. Our Year 10s have also been involved in some great activities this week. On Monday, Mr Stitson organized a forensic science day which resulted in our students firmly establishing who shot President Kennedy. On Thursday we had every member of the group working with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors as they took on roles linked to project development; everyone wanted to be the manager! The skills that our students develop through these activities is a critical part of our careers provision.

It has been another challenging week in terms of the coronavirus; communication relating to this issue will be organised outside of this newsletter but I would like to take this opportunity to send all members of our community our very best wishes. There has never been a more important time for us to be kind and to look after each other.

Headteacher's Stars of the Week

Jack Hobson and Willow Fish – Mandela House – positive contribution key

I just had to recognise the fantastic efforts of students who excelled at last week's Science fair where everyone really was a winner. Not only was the event well supported by families, it was also great to see students who weren't directly involved in attendance and supporting their peers. Willow was our overall winner for a project that focussed on different areas of the brain and how it effects our perception of the world. Mr Quanstrom explained the science behind their project: "The semitone problem showed how our brain focusses on specific musical notes when played a semitone apart and allows us to hear different notes to someone standing next to us. Charpentier's boxes show how our brain tricks us into thinking that 3 boxes can actually be lighter than 1 box despite all common sense – it has to be seen to be believed! The Stroop effect demonstrates how different parts of our brain battle to say something, the colour of the word or the word itself. Willow and Jack fluently spoke to both layman and expert alike on their project and managed to confound and amaze both!"

Director of Learning Star of the Week!

Year Group	Name	For
Year 7	All Year 7	For being resilient and amazing!
Year 8	All Year 8	For being resilient and amazing!
Year 9	All Year 9	For being resilient and amazing!
Year 10	All Year 10	For being resilient and amazing!
Year 11	All Year 11	For being resilient and amazing!

Word of the Week Word of the Week

Key stage 3

KS3: contradictory (adj)

This **adjective** is used to describe something as being mutually opposed.

Key Stage 4

KS4: anomalous (adj)

This **adjective** is used to describe something as deviating from what is standard, normal, or expected.