

Silverdale *news*

Updates for parents and carers of students at Silverdale School

Issue three: June 2017



Support our school lottery and win £25K!

Silverdale PTA has organised a lottery for our school, to help us raise vital funds.

From as little as £1 a week you have the chance every week to win £25,000 from the national draw.

There is also another chance to win with a weekly draw just for our school community, that has a guaranteed prize that increases as we sell more tickets. Plus this term you can win one of four Kindles!

When you start supporting you will get your own unique 6 digit ticket number. The draw is made every Saturday and the winning money is transferred straight into your bank account. All you need is to be aged 16 or over and to have a bank account.

Sign up at: www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/play and search for 'Silverdale' ■



Welcome from the Headteacher...

This newsletter arrives with you after an interesting General Election. It's too early to tell what the result will mean for education but I hope we see some changes to school funding. As mentioned in previous issues we, like other schools, have seen our funding far outstripped by our costs.

So I hope you will understand why we are encouraging parents, carers and supporters of our school to sign up to our new School Lottery. It's a really simple way to support the school, particularly if you don't have the time to join in with our other fundraising activities.

If the majority of parents bought just one weekly ticket, it would have a substantial effect on our finances, meaning we can invest in much needed facilities for our students - such as updated ICT equipment, rewards, classroom resources and access to wider, enriching opportunities.

Thank you for the support you show our school in so many different ways. Having such a supportive community really does make a huge difference.

Roisin Paul, Headteacher

Do you want to book a pitch for our car boot sale?

Is it time to sell off old toys and clothes? But you can't face using EBay? Why not book a pitch at our Car Boot Sale, which takes place on **Sunday 9 July**. Pitches cost only £10. Contact the PTA for details on: SilverdalePTA@silverdaletrust.org or call the school on 0114 236 9991. Deadline for bookings is 10 July. ■

Uniform reminder

Please ensure that students turn up to exams in appropriate school uniform.

And don't forget that uniform rules change in September, with all skirts having to be knee length or longer. ■

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In the last issue...

- School funding as an election issue.
- Changes to toilets.
- Changes to GCSEs.

You can find all issues of Silverdale News and Silverdale Bulletin on our website at: www.silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk/newsletters

Follow the school online: www.silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk



NEWS

Head of School appointments

As reported in *Silverdale Bulletin* before half term, we have been recruiting for a new Head of School for Silverdale. At the same time Silverdale Trust was also recruiting for the same position for Westfield School, which is looking to join our Trust in the coming months.

Applicants were put through a rigorous selection process which involved both staff and students over several days.

We are pleased to announce that Westfield School have appointed Mr Joe Birkbeck as their Head of School from 1 September 2017. Mr Birkbeck was previously an Assistant Head at Silverdale School. In Silverdale Mr Ponsford and Mrs



Mrs Sims and Mr Ponsford

Sims, our current Deputy Heads, have agreed to take on the Head of School role as a job-share from 1 September 2017 for one year.

This means that Mr Ponsford will delay his full retirement by a year.

All the appointees will work under the Executive Headship of our current Headteacher, Mrs Paul. ■

Students compete to clear school of litter



Students across all years have been working hard to rid the school of litter, as part of a wider project to raise awareness of their impact on the environment.

Over the past term we have been

running a scheme that rewards students with raffle tickets every time they dispose of litter.

Students who collected the most raffle tickets received a prize. Pictured here is the Year 8 winner, Eliza, receiving her cash prize from headteacher, Roisin Paul.

The project is sponsored by Paradigm, the company who run the PFI scheme for our school building. They are keen to work with the school to help students learn about the importance of respecting the school environment and how their actions have consequences on both their local and wider environment.

Further initiatives are planned over the coming year. ■

Art Exhibition & Sale: Thursday 15 June



Once again we will be hosting our annual Art Exhibition and Sale, featuring fantastic artwork from both GCSE and A-level students.

The event takes place on **Thursday 15 June, from 5pm to 7pm** in school. Everyone is welcome.

It's a great chance to pick up some inspiring, original artwork, as well as see first-hand what our students have been creating this past year. ■

Ramadan Club

Ramadan Club started on Tuesday 6 June and is held at lunchtime.

It will run until the end of Ramadan in room B204 with Ms Zafar and Miss Hassan.

The club is for students who are fasting and is a quiet room where students can come and relax and play board games. ■

NEWS

Year 7s explore Porter Valley



This term our Year 7 students have visited the Porter Valley for a Geography and Biology fieldwork day.

The mornings involved following the River Porter from its source at Brown Edge Quarries, to the west of Ringinglow to Forge Dam café.

The students stopped at three different points along the course of the river to investigate how the

landscape changes from the moorland, down into the steep sided v-shaped valley of Porter Clough, past the waterfall, before a lunch stop at the café.

They investigated rates of erosion, recorded changes in the landscape and the ever popular geosquishing!

Mr Hamshaw, head of Geography, commented that his highlight was seeing the, usually lively, Year 7s sitting in silence for a minute, just listening to the sounds of the countryside!

In the afternoon they carried out two ecology investigations looking at how invertebrates use camouflage to evade their prey.

The final activity was the scavenger hunt which produced some unusual musical instruments!

It must be said that the students who got wet were fantastic: no complaints and still lots of *thank yous* at the end of the day! ■

Students undergo two-day camping challenge for D of E bronze award



35 Year 9 pupils completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award practice expedition weekend in May. They walked for two days carrying camping and eating equipment and spent the night at North Lees campsite. The pupils developed their navigation and camp craft and are now prepared for their qualifying weekend in June. They were resourceful, motivated and good team players even when they had to get up at 8am, cook their own breakfast on Trangia stoves and pack their tents away!

The Bronze D of E programme is open to 35 Y9 pupils each year so if your son or daughter is in Y8, watch out for sign up opportunities in September 2017. ■

Language leaders stage Masterchef competition



Our Language Leaders in Years 9 and 10 organised a European Masterchef competition for a group of year 7 students.

In small groups the Year 7 students cooked dishes from Spain, Germany and France, helped by the Language Leaders.

Pupils had to use their foreign language skills to read the recipes and to ask for ingredients.

Well done to all pupils involved; they created some delicious dishes! ■

Buy uniform labels via us to help raise funds

With so many children in school it's vital that all uniform is clearly labelled with students' names.

So why not consider buying your name labels via a company that gives a percentage of its profits back to the school?

Easy2name have a wide range of labels, including iron-on, sew-in and stick-on versions.

Go to: www.easy2name.com and choose 'Silverdale' from the list of schools when placing your order. ■

FOCUS ON...the Science Department

Every issue we will be focusing on a different department within the school—to help you get to know them but also so they can pass on news and advice to help you support the students.

Science is a core part of the curriculum, with all students expected to take either double or triple science at GCSE level.

We have the highest uptake of science A-levels in Sheffield, with over half of our sixth formers taking at least one science subject.

It helps then that there is such a resourceful team in the Science Department who regularly go that extra mile to try and engage all students with their subject.

Trips, clubs and comps!

The science team use trips, clubs and competitions as an excellent way to engage students of all abilities.

Just this term there have been field trips for Year 7 students in Porter Valley. These were organised jointly with Geography, with more planned this term for Year 8 students. Year 12 students have a Biology residential trip at the end of June in Malham Tarn.

The Eco Club has been leading the way in improving our local environment with activities including a litter pick. All students are welcome to join in. There is also a Year 7 Science club and a sixth form Science Review club, run by students with an interest in scientific discoveries reported in the media and journals.

Students in Years 7 to 9 have the chance to be part of the Royal Society Science Writing Competition, where they join the judging panel, reading shortlisted books and interacting with authors.

Anna Cocklat in Year 10 won a gold certificate and year's subscription to a national Biology organisation, following her success in a national competition. This follows the success of sixth former, Mark Wither, who

reached the final of the National Biology Olympiad earlier this year.

STEM Challenge days

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Challenge Days are the focus of much activity in the department, who use them to really engage students with science.

Earlier in the year a range of hands-on activities took place and, from that, four Year 9 students were chosen to experience a STEM residential at Sheffield Hallam University in July.

There is another day coming up on 17 July in activities week, focusing on HS2. There will be an engineering challenge, with 60 Year 9 students taking part in school.

Revision guides

The department buys discounted subscriptions to GCSE revision guides. The letters about these can be found at: www.silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk/page/?title=Parents+Letters&pid=12

Committed staff with specialist knowledge

The department puts its success down to the skills, knowledge and commitment of its team.

Teachers are specialists in their area of biology, physics or chemistry, which is in contrast to other schools where staff are expected to teach all



Meet the Science Department.

Back row (from left to right): Mr Stew, Science Technician; Mr Prestwich, Physics Teacher; Dr Stead, Physics Teacher; Dr Noble, Physics Teacher; Mrs Brown, Acting Head of Biology; Mr Walsh, Head of Physics. Front row (from left to right): Mr Barrett, Science Technician; Mrs Hall, Head of Science; Ms Armstrong, Chemistry Teacher; Mrs Borrill – Science Technician.

three subjects. This means our staff can really focus in on their subject and draw on their specialist knowledge, mapping out clear pathways to further study at higher levels. This led Mr Walsh, a physics teacher, to train via our Teaching School to support science colleagues in other schools who want to retrain in Physics.

Our excellent reputation externally allows us to offer lots of opportunities to students, particularly with local universities.

The unsung heroes of the department are the technicians, who are a pivotal part of team and highly resourceful. Our thanks go to Mrs Drury, who is retiring this year after being with the school for over 30 years.

Life after school science

Our science students have gone on to study medicine, engineering, veterinary science, pharmacy and a whole range of other subjects. Science is definitely a good preparation for both work and further academic study. ■

NEWS

Years 10s 'GRIT' days offer range of skills and experiences for life

Year 10 GRIT days provide students with skills and experiences beyond the traditional curriculum.

Pictured right is a session from earlier this term which looked at student wellbeing. The day also included training in mindfulness and relaxation techniques.

On Monday and Tuesday next week our Year 10 students have the chance to visit the University of Sheffield as part of their 'Philosophy in the city' outreach programme.

The day will be based on the work of leading academics at the university's Philosophy Department (see: www.shef.ac.uk/philosophy/staff/faculty), followed by a series of related seminars led by trained undergraduates currently enrolled on the Philosophy of Education course at the university.

The Year 10 forms will be split across the two days, with the other day based in school when they will explore media literacy, including how to spot fake news.

Full details can be found on the letters sent to parents which are available [on the school website](#). ■

Event to support parents of teenagers

Parents are invited to attend a free event held in school about '**Coping with teenagers'** emotions'. The event is organised by the Triple P Parenting Program, in conjunction with the school, and takes place on **Wednesday 14 June from 4pm to 6pm**. For bookings or further information contact Ms Lee at Silverdale school on 0114 236 9991 or email: slee@silverdaletrust.org ■



Dates for your diary

- **Tues 6—Fri 9 June:** Y8 field trips to Castleton.
- **Fri 9—Sun 11 June:** Y10 trip to Thornbridge.
- **Mon 12—Tues 14 June:** Y10 Examined Life trip.
- **Wed 14 June:** PTA meeting, 6pm at school.
- **Thurs 15 June:** sixth form higher ed parents' evening, 6—7pm at school.
- **Thurs 15 June:** Year 6 SEN induction morning.
- **Thurs 15 June:** Art Exhibition & Sale.
- **Fri 16 June:** 6th form UCAS convention at Sheffield Arena, 1.30—3.30pm.
- **Mon 19 June:** Inset Day—school closed for staff training.
- **Thurs 22 June:** Year 6 induction evening, 6—8pm.
- **Sun 24—Mon 26 June:** Duke of Edinburgh bronze assessed expedition.
- **Tues 27 June:** Drama club theatre production.
- **Wed 28—Thurs 29 June:** Y6 transition days.
- **Wed 28 June:** Y11 prom.
- **Mon 3 July:** Stan Lee Book awards.
- **Mon 3 July:** Y12 independence day.
- **Thurs 6—Fri 7 July:** Y12 induction day.

Further dates are available on the school [website's calendar](#), where you can filter events by type and year group.

NEWS

Saying goodbye to our Year 11s and Year 13 students



It was an emotional time as the school staff said goodbye to both Year 11 and Year 13 students recently. Both years had leavers' assemblies, bringing together photos and memories of their time at Silverdale. Staff gave out awards and even managed to dig out some embarrassing photos from students' early years.

We wish all our students the best as they take their next steps in life and encourage them to stay in touch. Remember to like and follow our Facebook page for Silverdale alumni: www.facebook.com/silverdalealumni



Year 8 students chosen to showcase Geography projects



24 Year 8 students who showed a consistent 'excellent attitude to learning' were chosen to take part in a Geography Reward day in association with the University of Sheffield recently.

The day focused on research of the local area and students were given autonomy to develop their own fieldwork focused around the happiness and wellbeing of Bents Green. The day finished with a showcase for parents and staff which allowed students to exhibit what they had learnt during the day. Both their work and presentation skills were engaging and impressive. ■



Silverdale in the news

Students and teachers from our modern languages department and Teaching School were on BBC Radio Sheffield and BBC Look North recently talking about our National Modern Languages teacher training course. Find out about the course at: www.nationalmodernlanguages.com



PARENTS' & TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Students chase teachers for Silverdale Stampede success!



Thank you to everyone involved in the Silverdale Stampede. The day was great fun, despite a few issues with the route. Feedback from the more experienced runners on the Trail Race was that it's a challenging route that they look forward to repeating next year! Full results can be found at: www.silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk/news/Default.asp?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=84

Thank you to Spencers Estate Agent for sponsoring the event and also Whirlow Hall Farm for their help. And of course all the volunteers who marshalled and helped make it a great success. Combined with the non-uniform day on the Friday, we raised over £1,500! ■

Raise money while you shop!

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online—from your weekly shop to your annual holiday—you could be raising a free donation for Silverdale School PTA? There are nearly 3,000 retailers including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to Silverdale School PTA to say thank you for shopping with them.

It's really simple, and doesn't cost you anything.

All you have to do is:

1. Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sspta
2. Sign up for free.
3. Get shopping—your donations will be collected by easyfundraising and automatically sent to Silverdale School PTA. It couldn't be easier!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Silverdale School PTA will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you for your support. ■

Car Boot Sale

Our next big event will be the car boot sale on **Sunday 9 July from 11am to 1pm.**

Get your pitch booked now, as we always sell out. And put the date in your diary so you can come along and grab those bargains!

To book a space email us on the address below or call the school.

Bookings deadline is Monday 3rd July.

£1 entrance fee for adults. Free entry for children.

Next meeting

We meet again on Wednesday 14 June at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to come along—just come to school reception. Don't worry if you don't know anyone—it's a great way to meet new people and get involved in the school.

Can you help?

We are always looking for more people to get involved. If you could take on a small task, your help would be hugely appreciated!

Email: SilverdalePTA@silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk



Sunday 9th July

11am till 1pm

Car Boot Sale

£1 adults. Free entry for children.

Silverdale PTA would like to invite you to help raise money for school funds. You can grab a bargain **and** help raise money for our Super Silverdale Students!

Come along to **Silverdale School Bents Crescent, Sheffield, S11 9QH**



If you would like to **book a space** at the Car Boot please email

silverdalePTA@silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk

All bookings need to be made by Monday 3rd July.

£10 for all Cars, Vans, & Stalls

MARKETPLACE

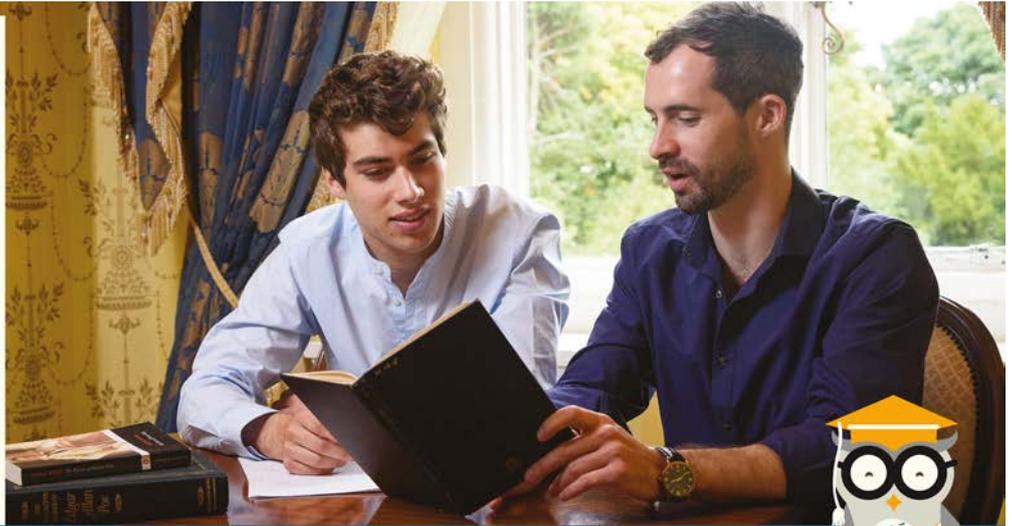
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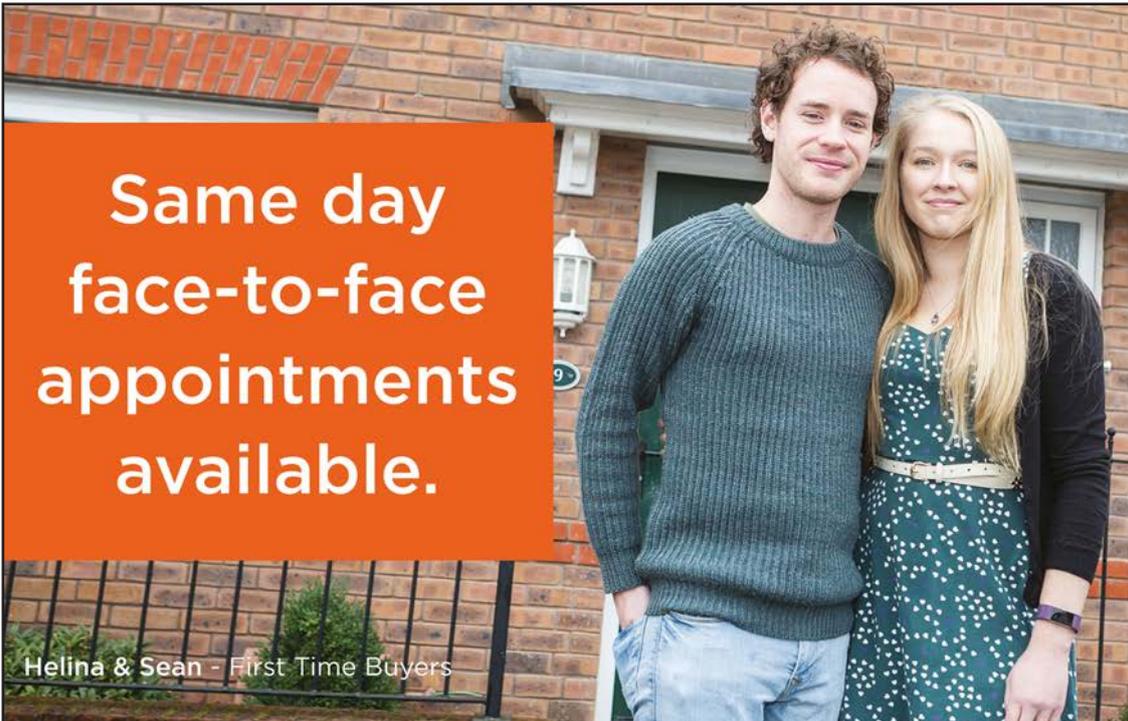
For Tickets / Information Barbara Thornes - 07956 296 860
flamenco.sheffield@yahoo.com - www.flamencoinsheffield.com




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Silverdale News: contact us

Silverdale News is published every three to four weeks. If you have any questions or comments about the publication please contact our PR, Communications & Marketing Manager, Nikki Belfield:
nbelfield@silverdaletrust.org Tel: 0114 235 7982.

If you wish to contact the Headteacher or any other member of staff please email:
enquiries@silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk Or call 0114 236 9991.

All editions of this newsletter are available on the school website: www.silverdale.sheffield.sch.uk/newsletters