



## OUR DATE WITH THE STARS!

Having successfully handed over their care packages for the homeless, the WE group were extremely excited to receive an invitation to WE day on 6<sup>th</sup> March. Miss Staines, Mrs Lindley and 13 pupils travelled down to the prestigious event, here is Miss Staines' report on a memorable day.

WE describe WE Day as "a powerful, life-changing event that combines the energy of a live concert with the inspiration of extraordinary stories of leadership and change. On the day, world-renowned speakers shared their stories and famous stars performed as a thank you to the thousands of invited students who tirelessly supported the project throughout the year.

Getting to Wembley Arena for the 9.30am start meant setting off from school at 1.30am. The WE group had made a pact to chat for 30 minutes and then try to get some sleep. NO-ONE stuck to the pact, as they were all just too excited!

When we arrived at Wembley we found that we had amazing seats, right next to the mini stage in the middle of the arena. When Pixie Lott performed on the little stage we could have touched her bare feet we were so close (if we weren't very star struck and aware that touching a stranger's toes is a very weird thing to do!)

We had an incredible day, some highlights included: performances by Liam Payne, Jack and Jack and Tom Walker; inspiring stories from Isabelle Weall, Julia Gillard and Nikki Christou; and of course the moment when Prince Harry finished his stirring speech and announced that he was going to try to drag his wife on stage!!

Tired but happy, we set off back to Seaton Sluice motivated to get started on our next project and feeling empowered, having seen all of the ways that young people are making a difference to the world around them. It was a long day but we all agreed that it was worth the journey and that we would remember WE Day for many years to come.

Check out what all the fuss is about on Youtube where the full show is now available to view.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed clothes, water and resources for our WE homeless project and a particular huge thank you and well done to Miss Staines and the WE group.



Keep in touch with what is happening in the Summer Term by checking our website calendar - events include Northumberland School Games, Charities afternoon, Singing Spreads Sunshine, ICE finals, Y6 Residential trip to Dukeshouse Wood, Sports Day, End of Year Awards ceremony and Y8 Graduation evening. We look forward to seeing you during the term.

## Mock Trials Result

Mock Trials are over for another year after a rather successful day at court on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019.

It was a bright and early start, especially for a Saturday, but there were no complaints from year 8 (well, maybe a few) who after months of preparing were finally ready for their trial. Each pupil had their own specific role, whether that be a lawyer, witness, magistrate, court staff or even a member of the press, and they were all keen to get on with the competition.

On arrival at court we were met by our local magistrate Bill who informed us that 12 teams were involved in the competition and that we were competing against Duchess High School (a year 9 team) and Chantry Middle – both tough opponents. Regardless of this, we made sure we were smart, quickly refreshed our memories of the case and entered the court with confidence. Despite a tough grilling, mainly for the witnesses, all the pupils performed outstandingly. Miss Curry was pleased Liam was found ‘Not Guilty’ meaning he could return home with the group at the end of the day.

At the end of the competition we were given the chance to ask a group of magistrates some questions about how the court system works. Many questions were asked, mainly from our pupils, resulting in the lead magistrate commenting on the maturity and engagement of those involved. Proud teacher moment!

Although we didn't win this year, all the pupils were a credit to Seaton Sluice Middle School. Mr Barkley, Miss Curry and Mrs Simpson (who came out of retirement for the event) were really impressed with everyone involved. Year 7 have a tough act to follow next year!



**A group of children in Key Stage 3 have been working during lunchtime clubs to complete the Duke of York iDEA Bronze and Silver Award. The iDEA awards help young people develop their digital, enterprise and employability skills through a series of online challenges. The iDEA awards are aspiring to be the digital and enterprise equivalent of the Duke of Edinburgh award which is now an internationally recognised award. Some of the children who have completed the bronze and silver awards are now supporting the running of the lunchtime clubs.**

In February, Y7 and 8 students participated in a fantastic visit to London. We went to see two shows, the fabulous ‘School of Rock’ and the spectacular ‘Aladdin’, as well as visiting the Warner Brothers Studio to see the Harry Potter exhibition. In addition, we went on the London Eye, which gave amazing views across London; an interesting river cruise along the Thames; a very informative tour of Shakespeare’s Globe theatre; and a walking tour to see the sights. At night, we were treated to great food at the Bubba Gump and Planet Hollywood restaurants. The students were a credit to themselves and the school and a pleasure to be with. A good time was had by all!



Graphic Artist Kev Sutherland visited school to deliver a workshop to some Year 7 pupils. For many years, Kev worked for Marvel comics and the

Beano. During the workshop, he worked with the children to produce comic book characters and stories which led to them producing their own comic book. Each child also got their own pen portrait, drawn and signed by him.

To combat the skills shortage within the UK engineering industry, ICE North East have been looking to inspire the next generation of civil engineers and SSMS have risen to the challenge....

Mrs Long put together a group of 6 children with an interest in civil engineering to enter a competition. The children had to answer the question, “How does civil engineering affect you today?” in 500 words or less. They then had to produce a 2-minute video on a civil engineering superhero.

The team was very successful as one of the winners and will go onto the final in May when they will compete as ‘real life civil engineers’ and undertake hands-on construction and engineering activities.

Well done Krish D, Lewis S, Callum W, Calvin M, Charlie W and Jack S. Well done boys, brilliant effort so far, fingers crossed for the final!!