

Allendale Arrow

Our direct line from School to Home

CONTRIBUTORS

STAFF:

Mary Potsig
Neil Waters
Richard Sadler
Gillian Underdown

PUPILS:

Jasper Green
Callum Gilholm

MATHS TEAM CHALLENGE

Hannah Bryson-Jones, Michael Robson, Crispin Agar and Sam Hawkin made up the Allendale Middle School team at the popular team challenge at Heddon. For the first three rounds, it was interesting to hear students from all over the North east whispering with near panic as to what our score was!

Whilst we fell away slightly at the end, the team still managed to finish in a very respectable 7th place (out of 24 teams!).

Andrew Sadler, Dan MacMillan and Josh Brown joined with a South Tynedale (now Haltwhistle Campus Upper School) pupil to make the Haydon Bridge Team. They managed to finish in 8th place and help demonstrate that gifted mathematicians in our partnership compare favourably to those from different sectors and authorities all over the North East.

STOP PRESS!!

20 Key Stage 3 pupils entered the individual junior maths challenge and unconfirmed results give our pupils some outstanding scores!

North East Primary Gifted and Talented Pupils

A group of Key Stage 2 pupils have benefited from a number of activities that have been run on various Saturdays throughout this year.

Science, through the study of 'snot' might not appeal to the sensitive adults amongst us but it is surprising how children are fascinated! Whilst parents have to transport their children to various venues in the North East, the cost of the events are small and the results/outcomes produced by the pupils in terms of confidence, raising aspirations and teamwork with strangers are huge!

Diary Dates

Friday 22nd May 09
Half term starts

Monday 1st June 09
School reopens

Monday 1st June 09
Y8 Trip to Nenthead Mines



Tuesday 2nd June 09
School Team Photos

Wednesday 24th June 09
Y7 Trip to North East Youth Engineering Show

Friday 26th June 09 - Sunday 28th June 09
Y8 Trip to London

Monday 29th June 09
CPD Day - School closed to pupils

Wednesday 1st July 09
Transfer day (Y8 to HBHS)

Tuesday 7th July 09
School Sports Day

Friday 24th July 09
School closes for Summer



TECHNOLOGY ROUND-UP

Mr N Waters

Chess Club News

MEGAFINAL

Five pupils from Allendale Middle School took part in the Mega Final of the British Land Chess Challenge at Sunderland University on Saturday 9th May 09.

Molly Agar, Max Harrison, Robert Pringle, David Davey and Owen Baxter all had a great day competing against pupils from schools across the North East.

Several pupils came close to gaining the elusive four points needed to get to the Giga Final in Manchester.

WELL DONE EVERYONE!



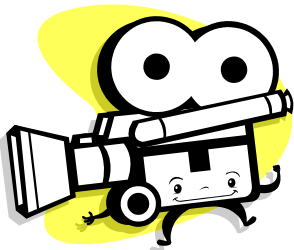
FOOD TECHNOLOGY NEWS

We are trialling a new food technology scheme called 'Licence to Cook' in school at present. Pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 have been making recipes this term which have included 'Dippy Divers' (a humus dip with crudités), 'Fruit Fusion' (fresh fruit salad) and 'Croque Monsieur'. New skills are learnt and built upon from previous experiences.

NORTH EAST ENGINEERING SHOW

On the 24th June 09, 53 pupils from Year 7 will see the most advanced humanoid robot at the North East engineering Show and have the chance to be inspired by the latest developments in engineering. A report on this visit will be included in the next newsletter.

FILM BID



Watch out budding film makers and their families!

We hope to make a film with 'Arpeggio Films' after a successful bid for funding.

Further information to follow!

LIGHTS, CAMERA, SHAKESPEARE!

During English, Year 8 are studying Shakespeare. I have decided to do a slide show of 'The Tempest'. During breaktimes, I've been making scenes from the play and I have made characters from plasticine. I made this project with Christopher - he made the ship wreck. Once the play was finished, I asked Mr Waters for his camera and I took photos of the scenes I have planned out.

Jasper Green

FOAM

FOAM

CAKE, PLANT & PRODUCE SALE

A HUGE thank you to all parents, pupils, staff, families and friends of Allendale Middle School for all the support on Saturday 16th May. We had a delicious array of home-made goodies and generous donations of plants, especially from Jill Robinson at 'Down to Earth', Hexham, Ivan Robson and Sheena Harrison.

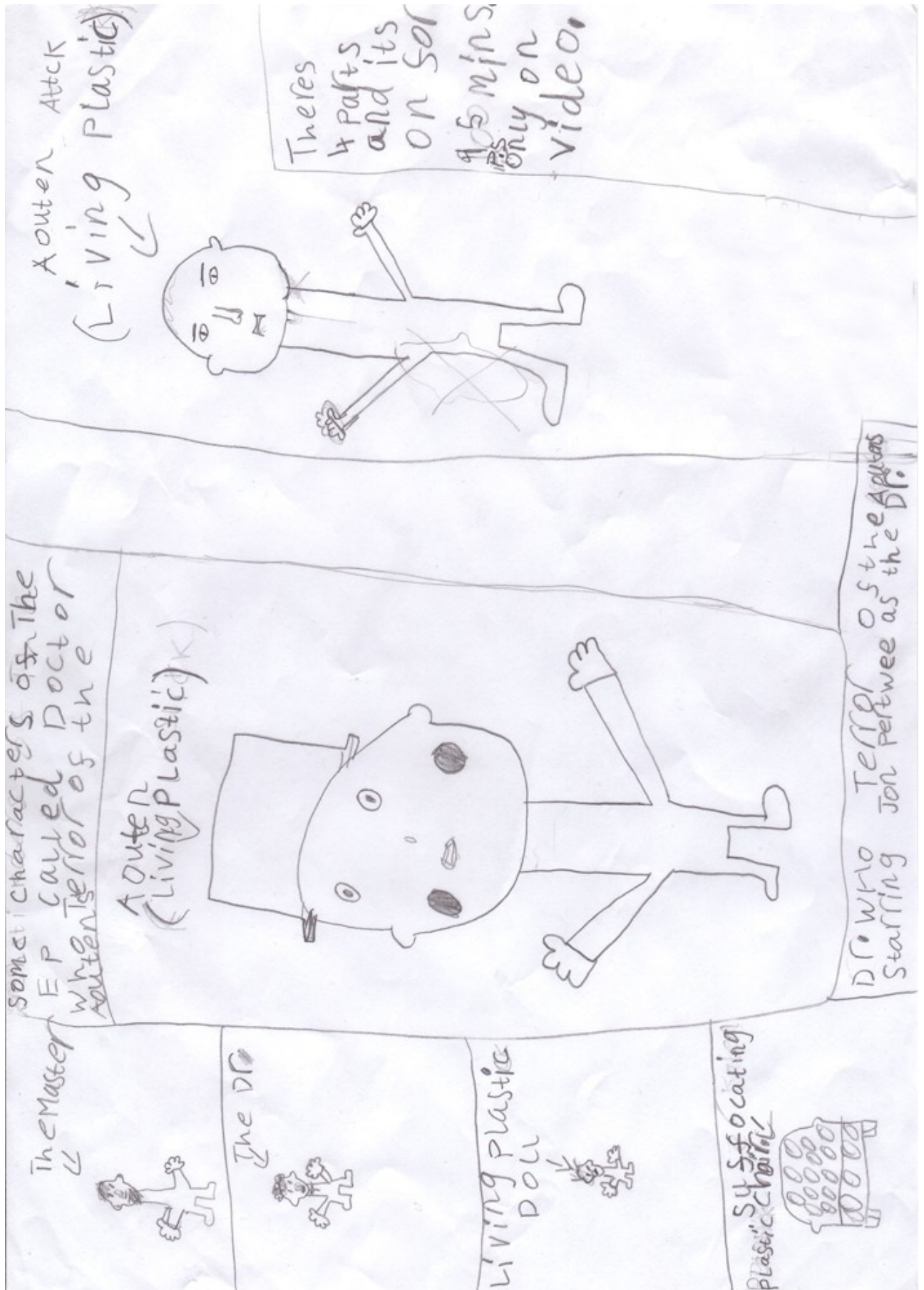
The weather was fairly kind to us (certainly an improvement on the last few stalls where shelter under Cranstons' awning was necessary!) and we had a steady stream of customers throughout the morning. We made a grand total of £186.45 (our best ever) and decisions will be made shortly as to how this will be spent to enhance pupils' experiences at school.

A further thank you to Daisy Hutton, Sally French and Mrs Ashman for their support and serving skills throughout the morning!

Look out for another fabulous raffle later in the Summer Term - some amazing prizes have already been donated!



Creative Illustration of Doctor Who by Callum Gilholm, Year 5



HISTORY UPDATE

MARY POTSIG

It is always very pleasing when a child brings in History resources, facts of information from home to help with their History studies or to share with the class. I would like to say thank you very much to all those parents who have encouraged their children in this way. I thought it might be useful for you to know what History topics are up-and-coming at school over the next half term, so that you can perhaps talk about the subject at home and know what to look out for in terms of information or resources such as library books.

Year 5

We will be looking at how Allendale village has changed over time – the housing, shops, hotels, churches, recreation areas and other aspects of village life. Those of you who live in and around the village and have photos or knowledge of how it looked in the past, it would be interesting to hear about it, and for you to share any information with your children. Those parents who went to school here might want to share some stories of times past at AMS (or maybe not!). It may also be interesting for families who live in or close to another town to discuss how it has changed since they have lived there. We will be looking for clues in buildings that tell us about their previous uses.

Year 6

I really don't think any parents will have first hand knowledge of what it was like to live in Tudor times or to explore the oceans in the 1500s, so perhaps it is best to find other ways to help with this Year 6 topic? Any extra information you can find out together about what everyday life was like for people in Tudor times, or the famous explorers of the age, will be very useful for our research in class.

Year 7

Year 7 are now well into their topic on medieval times. We have already looked at the challenges faced by monarchs of the period, and we are now focusing on everyday life. Each member of Year 7 has been given a medieval character to adopt for the remainder of the summer term, so if your child starts to respond to 'Etheldreda' or 'Osric', please don't be alarmed. However, if they want to use a bucket instead of the toilet, or throw reeds on the floor to use as a carpet, perhaps that would be cause for concern.

Year 8

We are about to move our focus to the period 1750 – 1900 and the industrialisation of Britain. Our main focus area will be a study of the local lead mining industry. On the first day back after half term, Year 8 will be spending the day at Nenthead Heritage Centre, where they will go into the lead mine, see the old mine workings above ground and get the chance to explore the museum. As well as this, they will be introduced to some of the technology used to power the lead mining industry and will hopefully get an overview into how lead mining fit into the general picture of British industrialisation. It is strange to think how many more people used to live in some of our valleys in the nineteenth century as a result of the lead mining industry, but one look at the deserted farm buildings scattered around on the hills is a good reminder. If any parents have the opportunity to talk at home about what they know of this period, I am sure it would be very useful to the Year 8s.

Thank you once again for your support. I hope you all have a relaxing and happy half term.

Paired Reading 2008-09

I would like to say a big THANK YOU to all those who have committed to the Paired Reading project over the past year. It is a wonderful opportunity for children from different year groups to mix together and learn from each other. It has also been a great boost both to the confidence of all involved and the reading skills of the Year 5 and 6 children.

Mrs M Potsig

