

Silverdale*news*

Updates for parents and carers of students at Silverdale School

Issue Two: 9 May 2017



Artwork created by our A-level students who used spray painting techniques.
The students were kitted out in protective jumpsuits and all given squad names!

Exceptional closure day on 5 June

The school will be closed on **Monday 5 June**, which is the first day after the half term break.

The Trustees agreed that this day is needed for additional staff training, particularly around the changes in

how we work as a Trust and a Teaching School.

Parents are reminded that there is also a regular Inset closure day on **Monday 19 June**. ■



Welcome from the Headteacher...

Welcome to the second issue of our newsletter for parents and carers, which I hope you find informative.

School is busy at the moment as students take mock exams and we build up to GCSEs next week and A-levels in the coming weeks. Revision sessions are taking place too, so

staff have been working hard to ensure that students feel prepared and supported during this important time.

As ever, we want to ensure our students do their best but don't feel overwhelmed by the pressures they face. If anyone has concerns please do contact the relevant form tutor or key stage office, via the school contact details on the back page.

Thank you for your continued support. It really does count in every way—from helping us reinforce our usual routines and policies (such as uniform, attendance and behaviour), to turning up to PTA events (such as the Silverdale Stampede this coming Sunday) or just raising the issue of school funding during the election. Your support is always appreciated.

Roisin Paul, Headteacher

Non-school uniform day this Friday!

In our final fundraising non-school uniform event of the year we wanted to maximise funds raised by having this event before students leave for exams.

So this Friday 12 May even the sixth formers are taking part—by paying to actually wear school uniform!

All monies raised will go to the PTA but a significant donation will be made to support the Y11 and Y13 proms.

All students should pay at least £1 on the day. We will also be encouraging students to participate in the Silverdale Market in the school hall at lunchtime on Friday. Students can bring items to sell (such as goods and cakes). We have a target of £1500! ■

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In the last issue...

- Changes to school uniform.
- School funding: what it means for Silverdale.
- Growing Silverdale Trust for the future.

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



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NEWS

School funding as an election issue

In the last issue we explained how all schools are facing extremely challenging finances. Our school, for instance, will receive roughly £545 per pupil less in 2017-18 than we did in 2013-14.

With the General Election only weeks away we focus on some of the issues you could raise with Parliamentary Candidates during the election campaign.

- Schools have been on 'flat cash' for several years with no prospect of any increase whereas cost pressures continue to rise.
- Pay rises and general inflation—unfunded.
- For academies: impact of reduction of Education Support Grant (ESG) from £140 to £87 per pupil and now removed completely.
- The only reason the government can say the funding for education

Signing success



Congratulations to Nidah Saleh, who is a student in our Integrated Resource for Deaf and Hearing Impaired students and received her British Sign Language level 2 certificate recently. This is a real achievement for Nidal, as it is her third language. She uses both English and Arabic at home, and at school uses English and BSL. ■

has gone up is because there are more pupils in the system; the per pupil amount has not gone up.

Questions to ask

- What would you do to guarantee sufficient funding for my child?
- What would your party do to recruit more teachers?
- How are you going to ensure that all education policy decisions are based on evidence?

Further information

'Fair Funding for all Schools' is a national campaign group set up by a network of parents.

They are campaigning for increased investment in all schools and provide campaign tools and materials you can use at:

www.fairfundingforallschools.org

Science revision resources for Y9 & Y10

Our science department has bought access to some excellent online revision resources—at a much discounted price for our students.

Students in both Year 9 and 10 can access the 'myGCSEscience' website to support independent study for tests and exams. The site is also useful if lessons are missed or a topic is particularly challenging.

The site would usually cost £49.90 for triple science and £24.95 for combined science. But we are able to offer them for only £12.70 and £9.65 respectively.

More information can be found [here](#) or by contacting the school. ■

Changes to student toilets being trialled

Many new schools are now built with open-plan toilets to allow for staff passive supervision. This results in reduced pupil incidents in toilets and less damage to school property, both of which make school a safer, happier place. The design means that toilet areas have individual cubicles with locked doors for privacy, but no outer door to the corridor. They are in effect open plan.

We are letting parents, pupils and staff know that after the May half term holiday, Silverdale School is running a trial period where we are removing the doors from the corridors to the toilets on the lower floor dining area. This is in direct response to unacceptable levels of damage and pupil behaviour in the toilets.

Please be assured that this has been fully risk assessed and we are confident that pupil privacy is maintained along with supervision and security. If the trial is successful we will roll out the removal of the outer doors to each toilet area and possible remodelling works over the next academic year. ■

Students get to taste the food of the fair

This Wednesday our catering company, Taylor Shaw, are running a 'Fair Day' with a menu featuring food linked to the fair. ■

Uniform change reminder

As featured in our previous issue, parents and carers are reminded that from September our uniform policy changes so that skirts must be knee length or longer. ■

FOCUS ON...Maths 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.

The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) is a charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics. The UKMT organises national mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old students.

As a school, pupils compete in various mathematical challenges throughout the year. Most recently our Y7 Set 1 pupils took part in the Junior Maths Challenge by completing a one-hour paper of multiple choice questions based on logic and problem-solving skills. They eagerly await the results.

How would you answer this question?...

In the window of Bradley's Bicycle Bazaar there are some unicycles, some bicycles and some tricycles.

Laura sees that there are seven saddles in total, thirteen wheels in total and more bicycles than tricycles.

How many unicycles are in the window?

A:1 B:2 C:3 D:4 E:5

If you think you know the answer why not Tweet us @SilverdaleSch? You could even screenshot it to show your working out!

There are weekly puzzles of this nature in the Maths Department and students can try to solve the "Puzzle of the Week" by dropping their solutions into the boxes in every maths room.

Exam season—do you have everything you need?

We sell a number of resources at school to aid with revision. A price list can be found below. If you wish to purchase anything, please send your child to the Maths office or their Maths teacher with the money. Year 11 students need to have their own calculator

by now and bring it to every lesson; it is important that they are totally familiar with how their own device works.

Price list:

Calculators, £7.

Revision guides GCSE, £3.

GCSE workbook + answers, £3.50.

A Level/AS revision guides, £7.50.

GCSE new exam paper packs, £3 for 9 papers.

New grade 9 targeted exam practice workbook, £3.

AS and A Level exam packs, £1 per module.

Recommended (free) resources

We subscribe to the online service **Mathswatch**. Pupils should access www.mathswatchvle.com and use their personal log in details to access hundreds of videos and worksheets. This website caters for GCSE and AS Level Maths.

Pupils have access to www.mymaths.co.uk another brilliant website where pupils will find online lessons for every topic all the way from KS3 to Y13. Alongside tutorials there are homework tasks that they can work through to boost their progress.

The best online GCSE revision guide can be found at <https://mrbarton-maths.com/resources/keystage3/the-maths-ebook.pdf>

Each topic is hyperlinked from the contents page and can be easily viewed on all types of devices.



Meet the Maths Department.

Back row (from left to right): Mr Christopher, Mr Appleford (Head of Maths), Mr Hylan, Mr Frazer.

Front row (from left to right): Mrs Manning (Deputy Head of Maths), Mrs Naylor, Miss Hassan, Mrs Dhimar, Ms Damms. Not featured in photograph: Mrs Taylor, Miss Robertshaw, Mrs Chatterton.

Revision Help

Years 11, 12 and 13 have very important exams coming up soon. We have been and will continue to offer revision sessions with teachers. Below is the timetable for revision sessions for sixth formers:

- C1 revision day on Tuesday 16 May to help you prepare for the C1 exam on Wednesday 17 May.
- C2 revision day on Tuesday 23 May to help you prepare for the C2 exam on Wednesday 24 May.
- C3 revision day on Friday 16 June to help you prepare for the C3 exam on Tuesday 20 June.
- C4 revision day on Wednesday 21 June to help you prepare for the C4 exam on Friday 23 June.

Sessions start at 9.15am and will run all morning. Please meet in the maths breakout space.

We will also be offering revision sessions for Year 11 students. These will be advertised to students over the next fortnight. ■

DID YOU KNOW?

Every issue we will be shining the spotlight on aspects of the school that you may not know much about. This issue we focus on changes to GCSEs. We will also be focusing on some of the A-level subjects that you may not be aware are taught in the sixth form.

What do changes to GCSEs mean?

Since September 2015 new GCSEs in English language, English literature and maths have been taught in schools in England. The first results will be issued in August this year.

Further subjects will see new GCSEs introduced over the following two years.

The main features of the new GCSEs are:

- A new grading scale of 9 to 1 will be used, with 9 being the top grade. This will allow greater differentiation between students and will help distinguish the new GCSEs from previous versions.
- Assessment will be mainly by exam, with other types of assessment used only where they are needed to test essential skills.
- There will be new, more demanding content, which has been developed by government and the exam boards.
- Courses will be designed for two years of study—they will no longer be divided into different modules and students will take all their exams in one period at the end of their course.
- Exams can only be split into 'foundation tier' and 'higher tier' if one exam paper does not give all students the opportunity to show their knowledge and abilities.
- Resit opportunities will only be available each November in English language and maths.

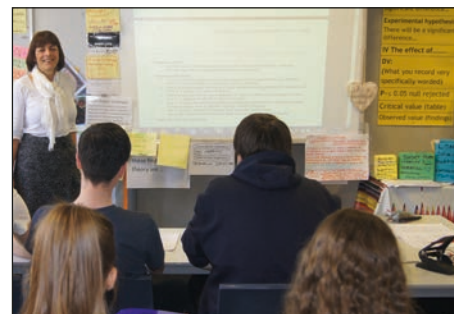
Grading new GCSEs from 2017

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	
8	A*
7	A
6	B
5	
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

What impact will these changes have?

- With exams at the end of each course, and coursework removed from many subjects, there is a real need to consolidate thoroughly and revise the whole course for the end of Y11.
- Increased literacy and numeracy demands mean strengthening these subjects during KS3 and KS4 is increasingly important.
- More demanding content at all levels; in particular our most able students will be challenged to achieve a grade 9 (which is higher than an A*).
- Students taking GCSEs in England this summer will receive a mixture of number and letter grades. English language, English literature and maths are the first subjects to use the new system, with most other subjects adopting numbers by 2019. ■

Psychology A-level



Did you know that we offer A-level psychology at Silverdale—an interesting and challenging subject which offers students a great way of doing a science A-level?

It can help people access many scientific professions including medicine, dentistry, occupational health, physiotherapy, and ophthalmology, to name a few.

We've been teaching Psychology since 2001 at Silverdale and the numbers have grown significantly. Students find it very interesting and enjoyable and we've developed great links with both Sheffield universities.

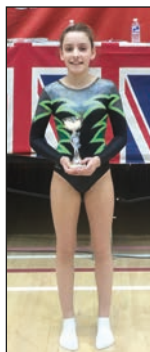
This year we encouraged students to attend a professorial lecture about "Definitions of autism and the impact this label can have on a child".

In the past we have helped the University of Sheffield with research into how to change behaviours with regard to healthier lifestyles.

This year we took our Upper Sixth to an innovations conference at Salford which was very useful and well-received. It provided them with useful new information, exam techniques and research analysis. We are very proud of all of our psychology students and our pass rates and value added are something to be very proud of. ■

SPORTS NEWS

Trampolining Y8 student reaches new heights



Eliza Saxton represents Silverdale as an Elite in trampolining competitions, with impressive results. She recently gained second place in the Regional Schools Trampolining Championships and went through to the next round of the Zonal

Schools Trampolining Championships, gaining first place. This culminated in the National Schools Trampolining Final, held at Gateshead Leisure Centre. Eliza competed with two amazing routines which placed her second in the competition. This is a huge achievement and an outstanding moment for Eliza representing our school. ■

Y10 student races to motorcycle victories

Year 10 student, Matt Bower, is achieving substantial success in motorcycle racing. He recently took part in the Dunlop Tyres Thunderstorm Superteen Challenge at Donington Park and gained podium places in three races. ■

Latest school fixtures

In athletics, Silverdale recently took part in the Relay competition. The Y7 Boys' and Girls' team took fourth place; the Junior (years 8 and 9) Boys' team came second; the Junior Girls' team came sixth; the Inter (Years 10 and 11) Boys' team gained first place; and the Inter Girls' team came second.

All the latest results can be found on the [fixtures page](#) of the school website. ■



Congratulations to the Year 8 and 9 students, Luca Di Bona, Ed Kelly, Matthew Carey, Emily Morris, Jasmine Di Bona and Amelia Walton, who qualified second in the Sheffield Schools Bouldering Competition. They competed against over 130 students from 15 different schools. ■

Dates for your diary

- **Thurs 11 May:** Y7 parents' evening, 4.30—7.30pm.
- **Fri 12 May:** Non-school uniform fundraising day.
- **Sun 14 May:** Silverdale Stampede (see PTA page).
- **Mon 15 May—Mon 5 June:** Y12 study leave.
- **Mon 15—Fri 19 May:** Y7 Porter Valley trip.
- **Tues 23 May:** Y9 Meningitis/TDP jabs.
- **Fri 26 May:** Y13 leave school.
- **Mon 29—Fri 2 June:** half term holiday.
- **Mon 5 June:** Exceptional closure day—school closed for staff training.
- **Tues 6—Fri 9 June:** Y8 field trips to Castleton.
- **Fri 9—Sun 11 June:** Y10 trip to Thornbridge.
- **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.
- **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.

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

PARENTS' & TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

Silverdale Stampede

This Sunday is our first ever Fun Run and Trail Race, the Silverdale Stampede. You can still register [here](#) or just come along on the day. We are also looking for volunteer marshalls who can stand along the route.

Car Boot Sale

Then our next big event will be the car boot sale on Sunday 9 July. 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!

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

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. ■

Silverdale STAMPEDE
SUNDAY 14TH MAY
 10KM Trail race 4KM Fun run
 11:00am start £6* 11:15am start £3*
SPOT PRIZES! Race, run or walk. It's not the winning, it's the taking part!
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 Can you catch the teacher?
 *Pre-entry price. On the day entry £10/£5
ACCELERATE
 Proudly sponsored by
 Silverdale School
 Spencer's
 The Estate Agent
 Whirlow Hall Farm Trust

Silverdale School
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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- More confidence and motivation

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Do you want to advertise to our school community?

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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 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

