



MORELIFE



St Thomas More RC Academy, North Shields
12th MAY 2020



**LOCKDOWN
ARTWORK**
by Madeleine Sarin, Year 8

UPDATE FROM NE29

Welcome to this second Community Update edition of More Life, now 8 weeks into Lockdown.

Life for some has been tough, while others are settling into this new 'normal' very nicely. Here at St Thomas More we are doing our best to support students wherever we can, from key worker children who continue to attend school daily, to online lessons and work set on various platforms, to regular phone and email contact with staff. As ever, please feel free to contact the school if you have any concerns over the current situation, or if you feel there is something we can do to further support you.

Students in school continue to work well, completing online work set as well as various other activities, from Mr Murray's exercise classes to Mrs Gammack's cookery.

At home, students have been equally, if not more busy. We have had many students contacting us to tell us how they are using their exercise time, from Matthew Collins riding his bike round North Tyneside, completing a huge number of miles, to a Year 10 boy who was nominated through Instagram to 'Run for Heroes', where he had to run 5 miles, donate £5 then nominate 5 people to do the same.

Many of our Sixth Form students have also been using their time wisely, from Jack, a District Youth Commissioner with the Scouts, who has been running virtual scavenger hunts with his explorer section and hopes to roll this out across the whole district, to Charlotte Rea, who has volunteered to support the local community by having a weekly phone conversation with a 94 year old lady who is shielding.

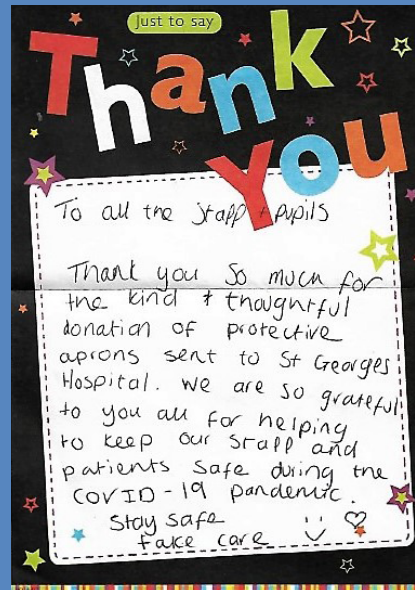
Well done and thank you to everyone for the hard work they are doing to stay safe and to help others during this difficult time.

You may also have read the article on our website about Sebastian Hudson, Year 9, who has put his own 3D printer to good use, also printing facemasks for the NHS. Good work Sebastian!



NHS update

We saw in the last Community Update that the school had been involved in donating PPE to the NHS. You will be pleased to hear that the whole school community has continued to answer the call for help where it can.

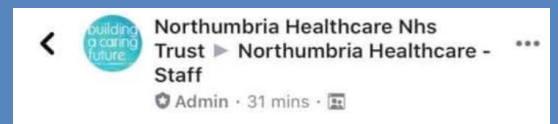


St Thomas More have made a further donation to the NHS of 300 disposable plastic aprons from the Science Department. These have gone direct to the treatment centre at St Georges Park Hospital in Morpeth, a Mental Health hospital who are having to deal with their patients' physical as well as mental illnesses while still adhering to the same nursing PPE guidelines as any other hospital.

OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The school was also immensely proud to hear about the work of ex-pupil Laura Brown (2008-2015). After achieving full marks in

her A Level Textiles coursework, Laura left us to pursue a degree in Costume Design. She has put her talents to good use to produce a pattern and prototype for a surgical gown and scrubs that are being produced for the NHS in the North East.



Our NHS Family - helping us protect staff

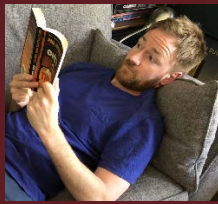
Meet Laura Brown – Laura usually works on bank admin. However, having recently completed a degree in costume design, she is utilising her talents and is working on a pattern and prototype for some PPE surgical gowns and scrubs. Soon these will be in production using waterproof materials. Laura's mam is an ED nurse, her dad is a medical records porter, and her twin sister is also on the bank. We're proud of her and her NHS family. Well done Laura!

If you have worked as a sewing machine operative in the past and can help us with this project please email Helen.cusack@nhct.nhs.uk.



ENGLISH DEPARTMENT READING CHALLENGES

Monday saw the launch of the KS3 Reading challenge, where students have been invited to have a go at as many of the twelve challenges as they can (further details on Google Classroom and Class Charts). Submit your successes to your English teacher for a chance to win a prize. Challenges include reading to a pet, taking a 'Lockdown Reading Photograph', watching or listening to your favourite author read their book, or even reading a comic / magazine. Teachers have already started taking their photographs:



YEAR 7 POEMS

Before the Easter break, some Year 7 students spent their English lessons writing poetry. Check out Simon Mole's YouTube video 'How to write a poem in under ten minutes'

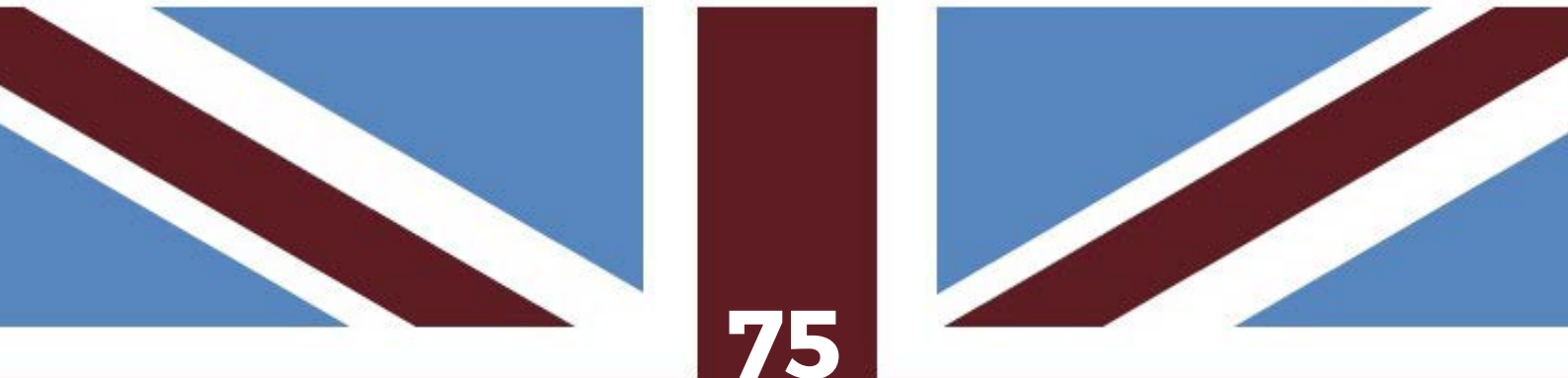
Cat by Erin McQuillan

Cat skinny as a stick, sneaky and mischievous like a mouse.
She is stealthy and fast as if she was a cheetah.
Her soft green eyes could stare into your soul.
Her face could haunt a house.
She has a paw with a hard grip, a nail which can claw.
In a soft vicious whisper she would say, 'cat got ya tongue' and then disappear.



Shadow by Henrik Lindsey

Shadow is high and strong
He has saffron eyes that look kindly at you
He carries a battered shield and a broken sword
He runs fast but he will wait if time is needed
He has a rough touch but a loving heart
People have a hard time making friends with shadow
but once they have it will stand for many centuries
he has little friends but those who are old warriors like him
he will say he is never early or late but he arrives precisely when he means to



75

VE DAY COMMEMORATIONS

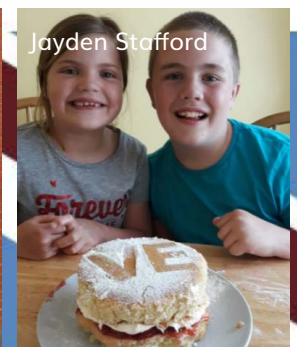
In school, students talked about the significance of VE Day 75, shared stories of family members and made bunting. At home, the History dept encouraged students to send in photos of their own celebrations. Below are a few Year 7 efforts:



Isla Laing



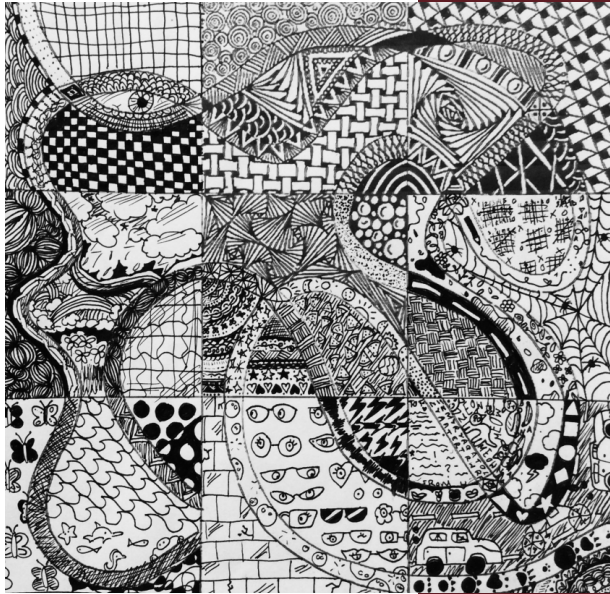
Eva Brown



Jayden Stafford

OUTSTANDING STUDENT WORK

Izzy May, Year 9



Daisy Burns & Abbie Butler, Year 10



debating Social Mobility



Easter egg decorating challenge from the Geography department:
Luise Johnson Year 9, Molly Owens Year 10
and Robert Tindale Year 7 (Yoshi egg)



Jasmine Loxton, Year 9



Evie Erikson, Year 9



Leah Mitchell, Year 7

Further examples of outstanding student work can be found on the Showcase section of our school website at stmacademy.org.uk/student-work-showcase

NEXT ISSUE IS OVER TO YOU...

These updates are a chance to bring together the whole school community through stories of what is going on in people's homes as well as at the school, so the next issue relies on you submitting those stories. Any stories of hope, examples of community spirit or tales of working together in times of difficulty would be very well received.

Email Mr Logie on alogie@stmacademy.org.uk.

Check stmacademy.org.uk/coronavirus-updates for the most up to date information from school on the Coronavirus. This includes all letters to parents, information on work for all yeargroups, plus links to lots of useful websites, and is being updated regularly.

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