



Issue 24 | October 2022

Welcome to the October edition of our newsletter for Year 7 parents (and Y5 and 6 prospective parents). In this newsletter, you can see our Year 7 students getting creative-sharing stories, writing poems and reflecting on their learning. They have certainly settled into the school and made a fantastic impression over the past 6 weeks! Don't forget that you can find a copy of this newsletter-and previous editions-on our school website: <https://www.ponthigh.org.uk/parents-carers/y6-transition-information/>. For regular updates on our Y7 achievements and successes, follow us on twitter @Y7PontHigh.



BBC Centenary Event



On 18th October, Ponteland High School hosted the 'BBC Centenary Event' with all Year 7, 8 and 9 students invited to attend. The event, presented by Newsround's Shanequa Paris (pictured), was called 'BBC100 - Share Your Story'. In the session, BBC ambassadors, Sian Davies and Natalie Curran, shared their inspirational journey with students in a bid to inspire them through the power of storytelling. Sian and Natalie shared their unique and powerful stories, highlighting to students that no matter your background, you can achieve anything. Students then had the opportunity to ask questions and to find out more about the ambassadors – including their stories and careers. Mr Greenshields, Assistant Headteacher, who organised the event said: 'It was great to welcome BBC staff on the day of their centenary to host a 'share your story' event. The participation of students in Year 7 was superb, the thoughtful questions asked of the speakers showed they were really reflecting on what was shared with them.'

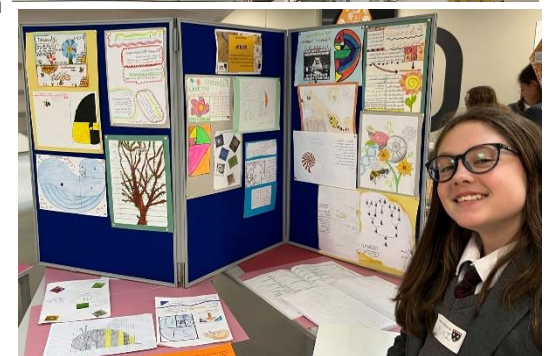
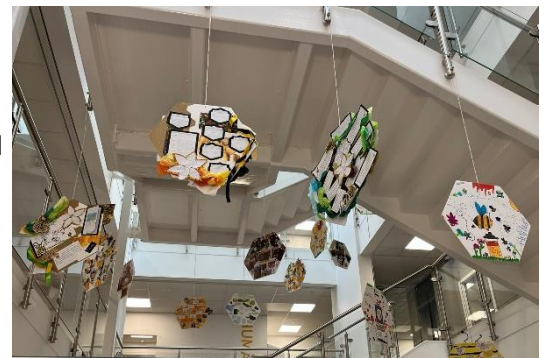


The Bee Showcase

On Tuesday 27th September, Ponteland High School hosted the second 'Bee Showcase' event to share the amazing bee curriculum. More than 100 families arrived along with a number of Pele Trust primary school colleagues to see learning in Year 7 Science, Geography, Art, Technology and Maths and to explore how the students were using their knowledge acquired in Year 6. Year 7 students articulated their experiences from Year 6 in primary school: tasting honey, sampling meadows, working with beekeepers, wearing a bee suit and using a smoker, 'zooming' with beekeepers in the Scilly Isles.

Visitors were able to watch the film premiere of Heddon's collaboration with the 'Haltwhistle Film Festival' and view an installation of collage hexagons which showed how the feeder primary schools all came together to create a united honeycomb. Year 7 students showed visitors how their current learning utilised their Year 6 knowledge in learning about the Fibonacci sequence, the problem of Asian hornets, monoprinting techniques and the viscosity of honey!

One of the visitors commented: "I had such a lovely time on Tuesday night; it was great to see the students and how much they are enjoying their new learning and school! Thank you!"

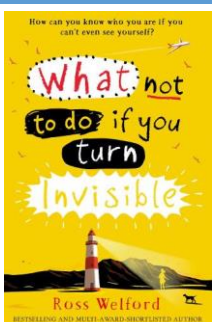


National Poetry Day



To celebrate National Poetry Day, Year 7 got creative by making their own blackout poems. They were given extracts from texts and then had to pick words out to make a poem. They were then given the artistic freedom to decorate their work in the theme of their chosen poem. The official theme was 'environment', and some entries very cleverly managed to incorporate this beautifully into their poems and the design of their work. There was some fantastic work happening in lessons!

KS2-3 Recommended Read



What Not To Do If You Turn Invisible Ross Welford

Turning invisible at will: it's one way of curing your acne. But far more drastic than 13 year-old Ethel Leatherhead intended when she tried a combination of untested medicines and a sunbed. It's fun at first, being invisible. And aided by her friend Boydy, she manages to keep her extraordinary ability secret. Or does she...?

When one day the invisibility fails to wear off, Ethel is thrown into a nightmare of lies and deception as she struggles to keep herself safe, to find the remedy that will make her seen again - and solve the mystery of her own birth...