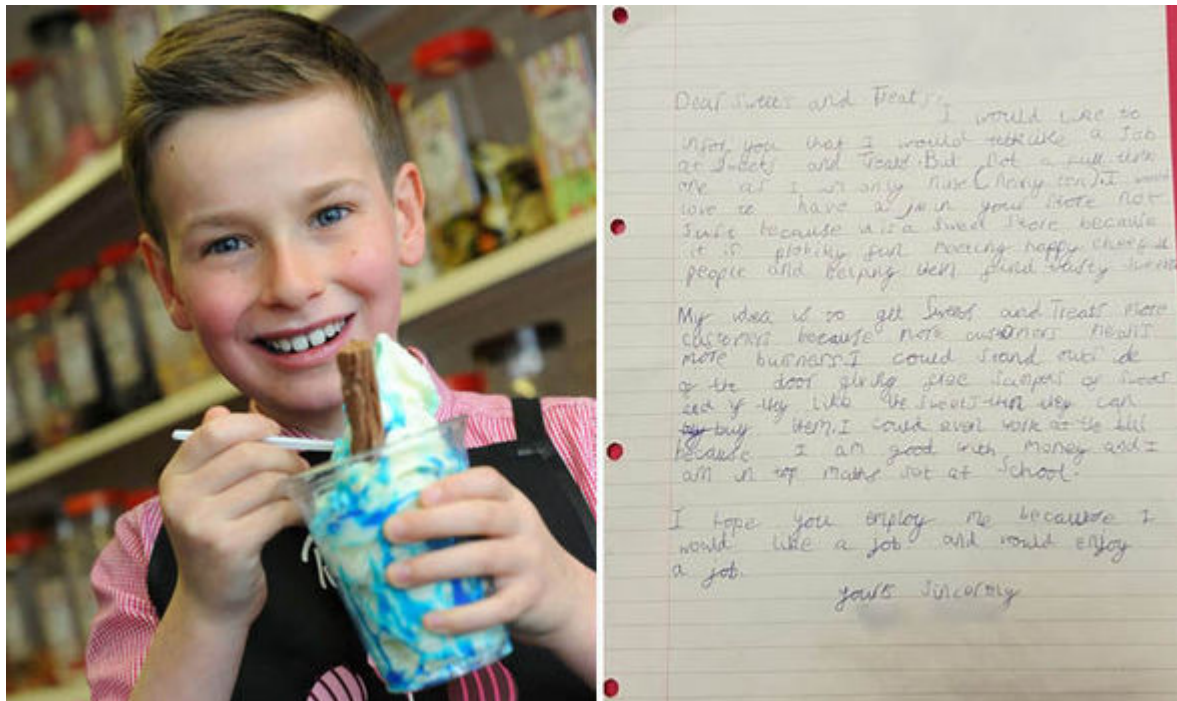


Ryan needed to earn money for the family and applied for a job at the local sweet shop.



Entrepreneurial Ryan Dobson, nine, applied to Sweets and Treats in Harton Village, South Shields.

He wrote in asking for a position after his mum Lea Dobson informed him and big sister Chloe, 13, that school holiday activities cost money.

Ryan took pen to paper in a bid to explain why he would be the perfect employee and even suggested that he would drum up business by standing outside with free samples to lure customers in.

The Mortimer Primary School pupil wrote: "I could even work at the till because I am good with money and I am in top maths at school."

Ryan then dropped the letter off at the shop, much to the delight of owner Danielle Jagers.

She said: "Sadly Ryan is just that little bit too young for us to employ - but we thought had great initiative and he will definitely go far when he grows up.

"However, he will be coming along on Sunday to judge our sundae competition which we have been running.

Mrs Dobson, from Harton Village, is delighted by her son's work ethic - but says for the time being he still has his heart set on being a footballer.

She said: "All of this came about because I was mainly telling his sister that school holiday's don't come cheap and she should think about how she could earn some extra pounds.

"Then the next thing Ryan went off into his bedroom and came back with this application letter.

Dear Sweets and Treats,

I would like to inform you that I would like a job at Sweets and Treats. But not a full time one as I am only nine (nearly ten). I would love to have a job in your store not just because it is a sweet store because it is probably full meeting happy cheerful people and helping them find tasty sweets.

My idea is to get Sweets and Treats more customers because more customers means more business. I could stand outside of the door giving free samples of sweets and if they like the sweets then they can buy them. I could even work at the till because I am good with money and I am in top maths set at school.

I hope you employ me because I would like a job and would enjoy a job.

yours sincerely