

Sir Robert Woodard Academy

February 2015 Newsletter



I write this whilst seated in my warm office but outside it is below freezing; the sky is clear and there is not a cloud in sight. Indeed, our weather is fickle, as this time last year we were encountering cloudy skies accompanied by torrential rain. Such variables may create confusion in so many ways. Yet as I drove to school this morning, I noticed what may be described as a focussed and well organised Magpie carrying a large twig for nest building. This, despite the current temperature, indicates to me that spring is on its way. Indeed, once 2nd February is passed, a date celebrated as Groundhog Day in America, then spring is definitely getting closer. There is light at the end of the tunnel. However, in the film 'Groundhog Day' the main character gets to repeat each day until everything is 'right'. In the Academy community we do not have that luxury. We therefore look to ensure that issues are dealt with quickly and efficiently so that all those involved are able to thrive in an environment that is, as with the Magpie, both focussed and well organised.



To achieve this requires teamwork which is both necessary and crucial if we are to ensure that the learning environment remains stable whilst changes and challenges occur. This was evident in the embedding of our new timetable. A difficult task was successfully completed through the cooperation of all those involved and none more so than the tireless Mr Edwards. We have also been working closely with all of our Year 11 students in preparing them for their summer exams. Staff, students and family have all pulled together so as to ensure that masterclasses, interventions and the numerous subject clinics achieve their goal. The Saturday sessions have been very well attended and that is a testament to the determination of the students and the professionalism and 'going the extra mile' of the teachers.

The whole school community is made up of parts that all contribute to the team's effort. Sir Robert Woodard's culture is firmly rooted in the importance of cooperation. Indeed, in recent weeks as evidenced within this newsletter, we have had numerous examples of cooperation and innovation ranging from the All Schools' Music Workshop to trips to one of our Higher Education partners - Sussex University. We need to continue to work together, support and collaborate so that when spring does arrive, the culture of growth and improvement that has been evidenced over recent years may continue so that we are able to celebrate a bumper harvest of results and achievements in the autumn, that truly represent the talents and skills of all of our students.

Peter Midwinter
Principal



Milvus milvus

Over the weekend of 24th-25th January 2015 the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds held, as is customary, its annual 'Big Garden Birdwatch'. I would anticipate that these findings will be very close to those of previous years:

1. House Sparrow
2. Blue Tit
3. Starling
4. Blackbird
5. Wood Pigeon

If our site is our 'garden' then I have no doubt that our Nature Group (*see enrichment section*) would find numerous species of bird. However, there is one bird that based on previous sightings, I am personally very excited about seeing for the first time either on or over our site. That bird is the Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*). This majestic and acrobatic bird of prey was on the verge of extinction in Britain some 100 years ago. Due to the endeavours of many individuals and organisations in Wales, it has been able to thrive again. Following its reintroduction, the Red Kite is spreading throughout England and has bred recently in West Sussex. The successful reintroduction of *Milvus milvus* is a clear demonstration of what may be achieved through planning and cooperation.

Peter Midwinter



Key Dates

Key Dates for Next Half Term

Monday 23rd February - Inset Day
Wednesday 25th February - Year 11 Parents' Evening
Thursday 5th March - World Book Day
Friday 6th March - Friday 13th March - Book Fair
Saturday 7th March - Family Cinema 'Hop'
Tuesday 10th March - Year 9 Options Evening
Tuesday 17th March - Thursday 19th March - Annual Dance Showcase
Tuesday 24th March - Sixth Form Parents' Evening
Friday 27th March - Whole School Assembly
Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April - Easter Holidays

Community Notices

The Family Cinema

The family cinema is now well established as we enter our second year. In total have now shown nine films. The most recent, 'How To Train Your Dragon 2', 'Maleficent' and by popular demand a special Christmas showing of 'Frozen', all demonstrate that this is a facility that the community really values, and at affordable prices.

Our next showing will be 'Hop' on Saturday 7th March.

Community Use of Resource

The Academy is delighted to be able to let out some of our wonderful modern facilities, such as the sports hall (pictured left). We have a very wide range of facilities to offer from drama and dance studios to a lecture theatre and a fitness suite, teaching classrooms are also available.



For any lettings enquiries, please contact:-

Darren West, Facilities Manager
dwest@srwa.woodard.co.uk

John Miller, Lettings Supervisor
lettings@srwa.woodard.co.uk



Parent View



We would like to ask you to take part in a **confidential** online survey with Ofsted, to check how you feel we are meeting the needs of your child at the Academy.

We are constantly striving to improve and would really welcome your participation in this important exercise. Parent View asks for your opinion on twelve things about the Academy - it is designed to help us improve your child's overall experience with us. Please log on and complete the questions at: www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk



Parent View
Your Child's School

**Give Ofsted your view
on your child's school**

Performing Arts Specialism



TARGET Schools Dance Festival: Bodies in Motion

On Saturday 10th January the SRWA Dance Department took an excited but slightly apprehensive group of 18 dancers to perform at the Congress Theatre in Eastbourne. For most this was their first experience of performing in a large scale public theatre to a 'live' audience.

In October last year we were honoured to be invited to perform in the University of Brighton's annual Schools Dance Festival, which is also part of 'U. Dance' (an initiative run by Youth Dance England). With the aid of funding from the University of Brighton's Widening Participation scheme our students were presented with the opportunity to take part in an exciting, high profile performance.

Our Year 10 GCSE dance students have been rehearsing extremely hard under the direction of Miss Lawlor and Mrs Askew to create an ensemble piece titled 'Rocka My Soul'. Alvin Ailey's iconic work 'Revelations', served as the inspiration for this group dance. The dancers are studying the work as part of their GCSE Dance course and have used a range of starting points for their creativity: movement motifs, structure and choreographic themes.

The group successfully performed to an audience of over 800 people. It was a fantastic day and the dancers relished the chance to share their performances with a large number of other schools whilst taking the time to be inspired by the work of others. They certainly raised the level of their performance to meet the occasion and the feedback we received was extremely positive.

*Miss J Lawlor
Director of
Performing Arts/
Subject leader -
Dance*



**SIR ROBERT WOODARD ACADEMY
PRESENTS
DANCE SHOWCASE
17TH - 19TH MARCH at 7PM**

A CELEBRATION OF **DANCE**,
FROM **JAZZ** TO
CONTEMPORARY,
SHOWCASING
PERFORMANCE AND
CHOREOGRAPHY BY SRWA
STUDENTS

THE ALAN STRONG THEATRE
SIR ROBERT WOODARD ACADEMY
UPPER BOUNDSTONE LANE
SCMPTING LANCING
WEST SUSSEX
BN15 9QZ

TICKETS
ADULTS £5 & CONCESSIONS £3
BOX OFFICE: 01903 767434

Performing Arts Specialism cont.

Drama Production of *Under Milk Wood* 2nd–4th December 2014

Some sixty years ago, Dylan Thomas sat down to write a radio play about his homeland of Wales. In the fictional fishing village of Llareggub, the audience is invited to listen to the dreams and innermost thoughts of its inhabitants and then as the town awakens we watch them go about their daily business, aware of what is in their hearts. The Sir Robert Woodard Academy was given special permission to perform the play in this 100 anniversary year of Dylan Thomas' birth.

Had we bitten off more than we could chew in bringing this epic poem to life? Of course not! Ms Venn knew her actors and her production team, she knew their capacity to rise to a challenge. No one should be under any illusions, this was a challenge. How could it possibly be achieved? The answer lies in the utter professionalism and attention to detail of the SRWA Youth Theatre. It starts with the beautiful poster designed for us by Kenads Printers; the tasty Welsh morsels on offer as the audience stepped into the courtyard; the beguilingly hypnotic soundtrack specially composed by Aurnyn Jones; the deceptively simple period costumes; to the deeply impressive set that the audience stepped through transporting them to the cobbled streets and the fishermen's cottages. This was a performance of intelligence and wit, from the youngest Year 7s, barely three months into their life at the Academy, to the Year 13s with all of their guile and experience. We saw a piece of theatre that set the bar even higher than it has ever been. What next? Shakespeare? Watch this space!



All Schools' Music Workshop Wednesday 21st January

The Academy hosted its second music workshop, bringing together 379 students and staff from primary and secondary schools from across Sussex.

Students aged eight to 18 spent the day rehearsing, learning techniques and instruments at the workshop, before performing alongside the Academy's 100 strong orchestra. An astonishing 500 people packed into the main hall to watch the students perform material from Jeff Wayne's *War of the Worlds*, the *Adiemus Suite* by Karl Jenkins and Pharrell Williams' ever popular *Happy*.

This opportunity gave the students the chance to join and share in the experience of performing with a full orchestra, as well as having a lot of fun and networking with other musical students.

As well as the Academy, the following schools took part in the event:-

St Andrews CE High School for Boys
Chatsmore Catholic High School
The Globe Primary Academy
Seaside Primary School
Sompting Village Primary School
North Lancing Primary School
Shoreham Beach Primary School
St Andrews CofE Primary School
Summerlea Community Primary School.



Brunel Chapter News



Competition Time

To celebrate Christmas, the Brunel students elected to compete once again and decorate the doors of their tutor bases. The competition got fierce between students and staff and everyone really pulled out all the stops! No one could beat B1 however, for the second time in a row, whose door the Year 12 photography students voted in first place. Second place went to B5 and third place went to B11.

I would like to thank the staff and students of Brunel for their creativity and enthusiasm.



Charity Committee

During the autumn term, Brunel's Charity Committee organised two activities to raise money for Rockinghorse.

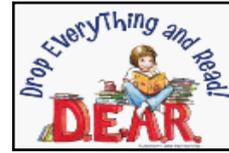
They ran a steady-hand toy competition at lunchtimes for two weeks, and to participate you were required to donate to charity. If you succeeded to get the hand piece to the end of the wire without the buzzer going off, you were entered into a prize draw. The winner of the competition was Callum Ayling who won a big tub of Quality Streets.

The Charity Committee also baked gingerbread people and sold them at lunchtime and after school to raise money for charity. Over £50 was raised for Rockinghorse and I would like to thank Kelly Rose, Millie Adcock, Zakary Sharpe and Bethany Hilton for their hard work and commitment and Matthew Jukes for his baking expertise.

Mr Edwards and Mrs Heery



Dickens Chapter News



The Dickens' Charity

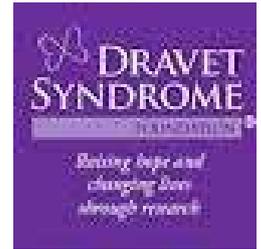
The Charity Committee have worked together on finding a new charity for the Chapter to support. They researched charities that were of interest to them and found out about causes that made a difference on a local scale - they knew lots of big charities receive support from across the country, so they wanted to find something that worked on a smaller scale that they could contribute to.

The team presented their ideas to each tutor group and asked them to vote on the charity they felt was most appropriate for the Chapter.

The votes were counted and we are proud to say that the new charity for Dickens is Dravet Syndrome UK. This charity aim to raise awareness and fund research into a life limiting form of epilepsy that affects children. There are numerous sad stories about those affected and how it has impacted on their families.

If you would like more information, their website is:- dravet.org.uk.

Our next task now is to come up with amazing ideas to raise money within the Academy to support this organisation's work.



Proposed French Trip

Trip to Boulogne, France – Wednesday 4 March 2015

We are offering an exciting opportunity for students in Years 8 and 9 to visit Boulogne in France on Wednesday 4th March 2015, which will put their language learning into good practice.

The students will get the opportunity to visit the 'Bec á Suc' sweet factory in Boulogne, watch a pancake making demonstration which will be followed by lunch, consisting of one savoury crepe and one sweet crepe, follow a town trail of old Boulogne and then finally visit a bakery.

Year 10 Students Investigate Local Business

Year 10 students investigate local business: itagged, which is a subsidiary of Fine Cut Graphic Imaging Ltd based at Lancing Business Park.

The Year 10 business students got the opportunity to get up close and personal with the creatively styled car which they learned has been a strong element of their marketing campaign. The students were armed with probing questions, which they had carefully prepared and gained some terrific insight into the approaches taken by a real-life business to their promotional campaigns and pricing.



Mr Monahan and Miss Venn



Lapper Chapter News



The Opening of the International Photography Exhibition 26th November 2014

The wonders of modern technology once again brought together our two schools: The Sir Robert Woodard Academy and Kursk Secondary School 27, Russia, where via Skype the latest two exhibitions of students' work were simultaneously opened. This time the work that we shared was photographic and on the theme of 'Places of Interest'.



We were honoured to have a number of special guests: Bob Smytherman, Town Crier and former Mayor of Worthing; Rob and Liz Campling (Rob Campling was Mayor of Chichester who signed the first agreement for civic cooperation in 2006); Alison Lapper, Internationally renowned Artist and friend of the Academy; David Chapman, FSFOR Publicity and Promotion Officer; Natalya Zheleznyakova, the Russian teacher who started the first link back in 2000; and Chris Holgate who has brokered the building of educational links across the continent for us. It was, however, down to Amanda Jupp, Chair of West Sussex County Council on her first visit to the Academy to officially open the exhibitions. She was overwhelmed by the experience and offered her support for future ventures and expressed an interest in joining us in future collaborations.

This was also a moment for the Academy students, as Il Voci performed a powerful version of 'I Believe' while our Year 13 actors shared a new piece of physical theatre created especially for the occasion. The students in Kursk treated us to an amazing piece of song and fashion theatre, modelling costumes that they had created themselves. Sixth Form student, Edgars from the Academy spoke in Russian to his peers. Edgars opened the way for their friendship to become concrete and tangible. He said: "Like artists and photographers around the world, we try to capture our world and in doing so, we try to understand it better but the best way of understanding someone is by shaking their hand and entering their world. Perhaps one day this will be possible - we hope so."



We are delighted to announce that as a result of this, our friends in Russia have invited us over to Kursk. Ms Pigg and Mr Williams will be working over the coming months to ensure that we can accept the invitation.

Mr Williams

Youth Theatre

Chichester Festival Youth Theatre (CFYT) is one of the most celebrated and successful youth theatres in the UK. Each week, over 30 groups of young people aged 10-19 come together to develop their performance skills in acting, improvisation, comedy, puppetry, stage-combat, text, physical theatre, mask and lots more...

At both The Capitol, Horsham and the Chichester Festival Theatre, sessions are led by experienced practitioners. Members benefit from performance opportunities, such as, specialist workshops and training events, theatre trips and tours, the opportunity to audition for CFYT's Christmas productions and the Capitol's pantomime, and the option of gaining an Arts Award qualification.



Our group at the Sir Robert Woodard Academy, Lancing, will be recruiting new members. The cost is £60 per term (bursaries available) if you'd like to try it out contact: jonty.bousted@cft.org.uk or call 07969 044765.

For more information you can visit:
<http://www.cft.org.uk/cfyf-west-sussex.Youth>

Mr Fox and Mr Spinner

Mandela Chapter News



Christmas Card Competition



Our first Academy-wide Christmas card competition for Christmas 2014.

The original idea for this came from the Mandela Charity Committee but it was Mr Midwinter who decided that it should involve the whole Academy and that the winning entry would be adopted as our official Christmas card.

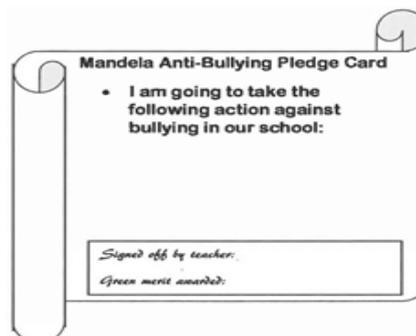
Over the following two weeks a lot of students responded to the challenge and produced 150 entries. There was a wide range of styles submitted. Some were elaborately hand-made and crafted, others used technology creatively and a few demonstrated excellent drawing and painting skills.

Mr Midwinter had the extremely difficult task of judging which designs should be the prize winners. Eventually Amy Gravestock was chosen as the overall winner (*winning card below*) with Vicky Bellinger and Sophie Woolgar in second and third place. Other prizes for best in their Chapter went to Luis Garcia Martinez, Joshua Parker and Rosie Brooks.

Well done to everyone who took part and to the Mandela team of students who organised the event and who are pictured with the display of entries.

The Chapter's Anti-Bullying Pledge

This term Mandela students are taking a pledge to take individual action against bullying. During a Mandela assembly, staff and students reminded themselves of the different types of bullying that can take place, especially online. There was time to reflect on the consequences of bullying and the danger of excusing this behaviour as 'banter'. Although bullying is not a particular issue in Mandela, students have asked that they are seen to be taking action, as an example to everyone in the Academy, that they have a duty to intervene when they see bullying taking place.



All Mandela students have a pledge card, where they detail what action they will take to become an anti-bullying

champion. Once their pledge is fulfilled, they share this with the rest of the students in their tutor group.

Newsflash

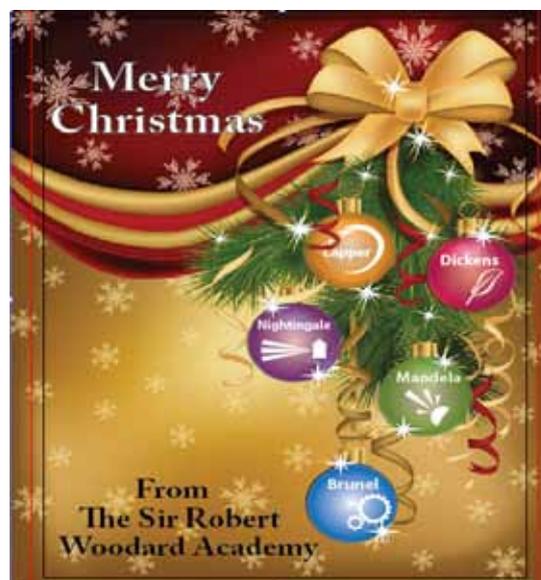
Mandela is the best chapter for green merits and the best behaved! At the end of last term Mandela gained the most green merits of any chapter and the least behaviour points. It is no coincidence that our chapter colour is green!

We also have the greenest teachers in the school – meaning that Mandela subject teachers give out more green merits to students in their classes than any other faculty!

Keep it up Mandela and a great big well done to staff and students.

Christmas Breakfast

On the last day of term, Mandela tutor groups gathered together for a Christmas Breakfast. As well as juice, pastries and other snacks, students had the chance to mix with other tutor groups in their Chapter and play some Christmas games! All students joined in and the fact that we have vertical tutor groups with a variety of year groups made it even merrier!



Ms Barr and Ms Davies-Arnold

Nightingale Chapter News



Student News

Max Slater, in tutor group N6 has recently achieved the title of top bowler (10 pin) for the under 16s in Sussex and he is currently ranked as 3rd in the under 18s. This achievement means that he is now going to be competing in the UK tournament in February.

Chapter Christmas Toy Appeal

Nightingale students took part in the Toy Appeal which aimed to give young people across the south coast presents for Christmas. Each tutor group put forward a toy and Miss Roberts collected them all and took them to Sainsbury's supermarket where they were collected by the 'Wave 105 fm' charity and delivered to young people on Christmas day.

Well done Nightingale!



Sussex University



Thomas and Vladimir defusing a 'bomb'!

Year 10 and Sixth Form Science students from the Academy visited Sussex University to sample a taste of academic life and research.

Students were treated to a tour around some of the state-of-the-art facilities within the Physics and Chemistry departments at the University, listened to presentations of new groundbreaking research, and got a chance to 'play' in their labs, exploring topics relevant to their current GCSE or A level studies.



Thomas, Vladimir, Dumile and Edgars touring the research facilities with a postgraduate (picture on right)



Dumile and Edgars trying to make water flow backwards!

Year 11 Rocket Scientists!

A group of Year 11 students were joined by experts in the physics of roller coasters and rockets from Sussex University. Students spent the day studying as Rocket Scientists, having to construct their own rockets using solid fuel motors and launched them successfully into orbit (well, to a few hundred metres at least).

Year 9 Trip to the Natural History Museum

The science team are very excited about the upcoming trip in March to The Natural History Museum which is being offered to all Year 9 students. We will be travelling to London by coach to have a fun filled day guaranteed to support class learning!

Mrs Pike and Miss Roberts



Sixth Form News



Tour of London

On 15th December a group of humanities Sixth Form students had a cultural whirlwind day tour of London.

This trip combined cultural and historical elements, where the students visited famous landmarks, museums and galleries. They also viewed old and new iconic buildings in the centre of London – for example, St Paul's Cathedral and the Houses of Parliament compared to The Shard and the Tate Modern Art Gallery.

A tiring but enjoyable day, energised by a Chinese meal in China Town for lunch. Students ended the day on the South Bank, just as dusk was falling, so they could see the Thames riverside lit up in all its Christmas glory.



Cambridge University Shadowing

Two of our Sixth Formers have been successful in gaining a place on the Cambridge University undergraduate scheme in January. This is an amazing opportunity where they follow a current undergraduate and attend lectures, classes and social activities.

Student Charity Work

Christmas Jumpers - Sixth Formers raised money for the charity Freddysmile by wearing a Christmas jumper for the day.

Sixth Former, Megan (*pictured below*) set herself a bold challenge and cut off her long locks to support a charity that provides wigs for children who have lost their hair due to illness. Megan's hair has been donated to American charity 'Locks of Love'.



Megan said "I wanted to help this charity out because I've always wanted to donate something other than money to a charity that I felt really was worth it. Furthermore, the charity itself helps a wide range of young people in two countries. Other charities I looked at only focused on one country. It also catered for a lot of reasons why people lost their hair - whether it be through chemotherapy, Alopecia or Trichotillomania."

Megan raised over £120.00 for the charity, I think you'll agree she looks amazing. Well done Megan!



Mr Langan and Mrs Cole

Sport Round-up



Sport-Acro Gym

Last November saw the annual Sussex Schools' Sport-Acro Gym competition held at the University of Brighton. A team of ten students entered the tournament, with many having never competed in gymnastics before. They all performed with distinction and impressed the judges with their creativity. Preparation for 2015's event will start in September.



Miss Hammersley

Sport Leadership Academy

In December the second of the Sport Leadership Academy sessions took place at The Angmering School. Four students in Year 10 (Danushka Dooraree, Ellie Simmons, Charlotte Stringer and Chynna Mold) took part to learn how to play and officiate the sport of Boccia. Our aim is to lead a primary school Boccia tournament to be run solely by our sport leaders.

Miss Hammersley

Year 7 Girls

Year 7 girls got off to a fantastic start to their sporting careers at the Academy. A total of 28 students turned up to the first netball session fighting for only ten spots on the team. All girls trained extremely hard and developed session on session.

The girls selected to play in the league, narrowly lost their first two games to a very strong 'Towers' team. The girls picked themselves back up and got straight back to training. The dedication that each student showed to training was evident when they beat an unbeaten Steyning side 9-4. The girls moved the ball up and down the court with ease and made some fantastic interceptions.

Notable performances came from Summer Tritton who was an asset to the team with her shooting. Emma Ford and Hannah Appleton provided a strong defensive unit with some key interceptions and blocks. Overall the girls finished 5th in the league and should be very proud of their first netball season at the Academy.

Team: Summer Tritton, Saffron Bloxom, Kiera Short, Jessica Lock, Olivia Fern, Emma Ford, Hannah Appleton, Lucy Ayres, Freya Steward, and Ella Voice.

Miss Gill

Year 11 Football

After a successful season last year, the Year 11 football team have continued to progress in the Sussex Cup. Last year we managed to reach the semi finals (sadly losing to Ardingly College) – this year's target is to go further.

The team came in on Inset Day 7th January to have a training session before travelling to Imberhorne School, East Grinstead for their match.

We had a bright start, and opened the scoring (James Thurgar). They continued to dominate the game, nicely switching play to test the Imberhorne defence. However, Imberhorne gradually settled in to the game, and levelled the game towards the end of the first half. The scores stayed the same until half time.

The second half started in the same vein, before SRWA upped the pace. We had a penalty awarded, which the goalkeeper saved, then an excellent through ball from Jerry Hopkins put James Thurgar through to score a second. Joe Hitchcock added a third with only his third touch of the game, before James extended the lead to 4-1 with a thunderous strike from a distance. Jerry Hopkins sealed the match with a late strike, and a very exuberant celebration.

Excellent performances all round, especially from Liam Reynolds controlling midfield, Kofi Joseph Buadi dropping back to help Liam and his darting runs forward, and Elliot Dollner and Harrison Moulton – who were practically unpassable at the back. Two excellent centre-backs, who both deserved the Man of the Match award.

Team: Will Allen, Sam Benger Wells, Harrison Moulton, Elliot Dollner, Harry Sayers, Jake Harris, Caleb Livous, Liam Reynolds, Callum Kealy, Dillon Nagle, Kofi Joseph Buadi, James Thurgar, Joe Hitchcock and Jerry Hopkins.

Final Score: SRWA 5 – Imberhorne – 1
Scorers: James Thurgar (3), Joe Hitchcock (1), Jerry Hopkins (1)

Mr Bromley

Year 11 Netball

The Year 11 netball team competed in their last ever event on 20th January in the district's Senior Girls' Netball Tournament. On a bitterly cold evening, the team excelled themselves to win 1, draw 1 and lose 2 (by only 2 goals).

I cannot single out a student for 'Player of the Tournament' because they all performed so well and will be missed next season!

Miss Hammersley

Sport Round-up cont.

Shoreham Rugby Club

It's been another fantastic term for the Rugby boys. The attendance is continuously growing and the development of the team is flourishing week on week. The coaches from Shoreham RFC are really impressed by the commitment, attitude and skill of the players. Hopefully, at the start of the season next term, all the training will pay off. Let's hope for a successful campaign for the Year 7, 8 and 9 boys.

Mr Matanle

Under 14s Girls' Basketball

The team started their season with two fantastic wins against TLA and Shoreham.

The girls proved that their hard work at training over the past year was starting to pay off. Grace Kirpal showed fantastic improvement with some very technical lay ups.

The girls continued their winning streak for the next two matches, this left them battling for the winner's spot in the league. Unfortunately in week 3 they came up against a very strong Angmering and Durrington team. The girls showed sheer grit and determination in both matches but lost to Durrington by 10 and narrowly lost to Angmering by 2.

Overall the girls finished 3rd in the league, which considering they were all Year 8s playing against Year 9s is a fantastic achievement.

The effort the girls have put into training and matches shows how the introduction of the new Basketball Academy has really spurred them to strive for success. Hopefully with another year of training we will be finishing 1st in the league.

Team : Grace Kirpal, Isabel Carter, Faye Dowdeswell, Jade-Ella Giles, Maddie Gillman, Jaime-Leigh Gilbert, Lauren Godden, Katherine Lecheminant

Miss Gill

'This Girl Can' Sessions

We have just held our first 'This Girl Can' session where 42 girls turned up along with eight members of staff.

It was a real pleasure to see so many girls enjoying physical activity. The enthusiasm and atmosphere was memorable, and we hope to continue the buzz and get more and more girls attending each week.

A big thank you to the English and Science departments who were out in full force.

Miss Gill

GCSE Club

In the sports hall on a Friday night you will find the GCSE Sports Club. These students, on average 50 of them, play until 5.00pm. Just running this club and watching them is inspirational. You will find:-

- Basketball Academy students acting as Sports Leaders teaching year 11 GCSE basketball students skills and techniques.
- Year 10 GCSE students organising a badminton league.
- Year 10 GCSE students getting themselves into organised badminton games.
- Year 10 and 11 students teaching each other table tennis skills.
- Miss Gill teaching year 10 GCSE students gymnastics/hand springs/vaulting as part of their GCSE performance routines.



Mr Bromley

Cross Country

In December we hosted the District's Cross Country Competition at Lancing Manor Leisure Centre. With ski jackets, gloves and hats in tow, 30 students from the Academy braved the cold and competed in all six events.

Notable results came from Bryony Johnson in Year 11 who came 4th in the senior girls' event and Sean in Year 7 who won the Year 7 boys' event.



Miss Hammersley

Year 7 Girls' Football

The league started with games against Angmering and TLA - the team put in strong performances.

Team: Maisie Standen, Summer Tritton (c), Ellie Steer, Emma Ford, Hannah Appleton, Faithful Shelly, Taylor Chamberlain, Keira Dunk.

Miss Roberts

Careers - Latest News

Career Choices

With the help of local communities, businesses and residents, we are aiming to raise students' aspirations and awareness of different careers. If any parent/carers or local businesses have 20 minutes free in the morning and are able to support at one of our tutor time careers talks, please contact Mrs Morley at, amorley@srwa.woodard.co.uk.

Army

We received an email from the Army asking if any students from Year 10 to Year 12 would be interested in doing a week's work experience with the Army. In order to find out more information about what the week entailed, we contacted the Army and they sent along a member of their team. Duncan Bennett is an MP in the Army, he spoke to the students about his role and his life experiences whilst in the Army.

Duncan spoke to the students regarding the work experience week and the kind of activities they would be involved in, such as:-

- Learn how to do drill
- Cook in the field
- Field craft
- Patrols
- Build a Basha (2 man tent)
- Assault courses

We have been offered fourteen placements and the students will be spending a week in Longmoor in May and July.



Doctor

Doctor Bani Kahai, who is a junior doctor at Worthing Hospital and who lives in Lancing, came into the Academy to speak to students regarding her career journey. She spoke to the students about her GCSE and A level options. She spoke in detail about the university process, personal statements and life at uni. Bani is now an F1 doctor at Worthing Hospital, she told the students about the different areas of work she is currently working in Colorectal Surgery. She is the youngest junior doctor at the hospital. The feedback from the students was very positive:



- She was young and normal I learnt a lot, including what I would need to follow the job
- It was really interesting to hear her views and what she had to say about medicine
- Well explained and interesting – gave information I needed
- It was made clear how and what a doctor does
- Made university and A level process seem very clear and understandable. Gave examples of process involving medicine
- So informative and was great to hear about all the different routes
- Made me more interested, I think it would be very suited. Also I didn't have chemistry but it has helped me realise that there are other routes

Investors In Careers (IIC)

Investors in Careers is a quality standard for the management of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) and is now the most widely used quality award of its kind recognised across the country. All the Investor in Careers award holders have demonstrated a commitment to provide impartial, independent careers education, information, advice and guidance to all young people.

This really is one of the highest accolades an organisation can receive for excellence in this area of work and is definitely something the award holder can be very proud of. Investor in careers is:

- Raising the standards of CEIAG management and delivery
- Providing a framework for meeting statutory guidance
- Improving outcomes for young people and facilitating a successful transition from learning to work
- Supporting preparation for Ofsted

The Academy has held the award for three years and will be reassessed in March.

Mrs Morley, Careers Mentor

Learning Resource Centre



Southern Schools Book Award Presentation Evening 9th January 2015

On a very windy evening, nine eager students arrived at Roedean School in Brighton for the culmination of a term of tough reading, debating and sharing their enthusiasm for books.

To celebrate ten years of the Southern Schools Book Award and as a tribute to all the young readers and the many authors that have been part of this exciting scheme, the librarians introduced an Extraordinary Award this year. This award went to Helen Watts and her book *One Day in Oradour* which revealed the tragic events that took place in a French village towards the end of the Second World War, seventy years ago. Helen spoke very movingly about her book and read a short extract where the children were ordered to be taken from their school to the fairground in Oradour by the Nazi soldiers.

This year's fantastic novels on the SSBA shortlist were: *Finding Jennifer Jones* by Anne Cassidy, *Heroic* by Phil Earle, *Hostage 3* by Nick Lake, *Split Second* by Sophie McKenzie and *Close Your Pretty Eyes* by Sally Nicholls.

The SSBA presentation evening, hosted by last year's winner Kevin Brooks, was attended by 300 students and staff from 34 state and independent schools in Kent and Sussex. The students, mostly aged 13 to 14, had read and voted for all five titles on the shortlist and were on the edge of their seats, eagerly anticipating the results of the voting.

The authors brought their brilliant books to life by reading extracts and answering questions posed by the students. Unfortunately Nick Lake and Sophie McKenzie were unable to come to Roedean but talked about their books via recorded video clips.

Drawing on the theme of brotherhood in his book, Phil Earle encouraged the audience to stand up, think about someone they cared about very much, ask themselves several questions about them and sit down if the answer was no. The questions included 'Would you be prepared to go to prison for that person, get into a fight or take a bullet for them?' At the end of the questions about 90 percent of the audience were still standing.

Accompanied by exuberant cheers from the audience, the schools received their book tokens and then the tension mounted as Kevin asked the students to do the traditional foot drum roll just before announcing the results. The winner of the 2014 award was Sophie McKenzie with *Split Second*. The Highly Commended category was awarded to *Hostage 3* by Nick Lake.

Students flocked to the back of the stage to buy books and get them signed by the authors. The authors were delighted by the enthusiasm of the students, saying how they valued their comments about their books.



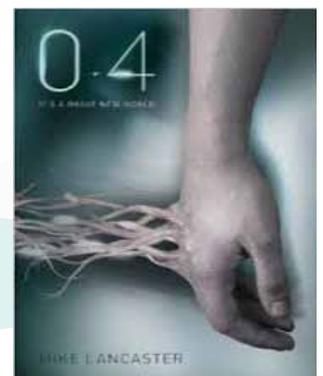
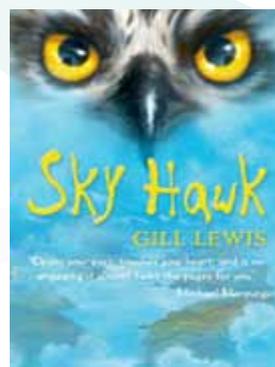
6-Up Book Award

On 6th March, we will be hosting the 6-Up Book Award in the Academy LRC for both Sompting Village and Seaside Primary Schools.

Following the Christmas holiday, the Academy received the following email from Sompting Village Primary School:

"The children are really loving the books that they have read! The first conversation I overheard them having after Christmas wasn't what their favourite present was, but how much they were enjoying the books!"

Mrs Waton
LRC Manager



Chaplain's Corner

Twitter: @SRWachaplaincy
hhughes@srwa.woodard.co.uk
01903 875504



In the run up to Christmas, I used the Chapter assemblies to launch a fundraising initiative for Winston's Wish, a charity that supports young people who have been bereaved.

The idea of the fundraising effort was to invite students to make a wish, it could be for themselves, for a friend or family member or for a situation in the world. I had a bare Christmas tree

in the Chaplaincy Space with blank white stars for the students to write out their wish on. Once they had made their wish they were invited to make a donation of what they could afford up to a pound. After a slowish start by the end of the term the tree was covered in stars and we raised £150 for the charity. I am proud of the response from our students in supporting this charity and I am sure our contributions will be gratefully received.

Many of the wishes made were inspirational and moving, demonstrating the compassion of our young people here at the Academy.

As we begin this new year and new term together, I wish you all a very Happy New Year with exciting opportunities ahead.

Rev Hodge



Enrichment

Donation Requests

In our enrichment sessions at the Academy we run a 'Board Games' enrichment session and our games are starting to diminish due to wear and tear and lost parts and the games cupboard is looking a little sad.

If anyone has any **board games** (in a fair condition) that they don't want anymore, we would be very pleased to receive them. Students are especially missing Monopoly, the whole group have asked for it, so we need a few of them (any version is fine) and packs of cards have also been requested.



Another enrichment session 'The Natural World' are very short on **binoculars and telescopes** for bird watching. If anyone has any that they no longer require, the students would be delighted to receive them.

Any donations can be left at our main reception for the attention of Mrs Brown.

Thanking you in advance for any donations, which will be gratefully received by students and staff.

Canteen

Free School Meal Entitlement

In accordance with the new school food standards, low fat milk will be available free of charge for students eligible for free school meals, in addition to their daily allowance.

Cartons of milk are also available to purchase at the canteen.

Cheryl Bailey
Catering Manager



Parents, are you at your wits' end with your children's behaviour?

Do their tantrums, fussy eating or bad behaviour drive you mad?

In a new series of the successful C4 TV show, Liberty Bell Productions are offering families the chance to work with Kathryn Mewes, a highly experienced parenting expert and author of 'The Three Day Nanny'.

If you'd like to know more, please contact:

nanny@libertybell.tv

or call **020 75987258**

Calling All Parents

Liberty Bell is an independent television production company renowned for producing programmes such as Kids With Cameras: Diary of a Children's Ward (ITV1) and Scrappers (BBC1).

They are currently producing a second series of Channel 4's 'The Three Day Nanny' and are inviting parents to apply to take part in the programme. The Three Day Nanny is a six-part series, offering expert help to parents. The programme is fronted by childcare expert Kathryn Mewes. Kathryn has over 20 years' experience of working with children and families and is a bestselling parenthood book author.

The show follows Kathryn as she offers to help families who are struggling with common parenting challenges. She deals with everything from fussy eating and toddler tantrums through to difficult bed time routines. Whatever the problem, Nanny Kathryn works closely with parents and children to offer bespoke trouble-shooting advice.

If anyone would like to know more about the show then please call 0207 5987258 or email nanny@libertybell.tv

Student Support Notices

Medical

1. Reminder for all students with Asthma or an Allergy to bring in inhalers/epipens. Parents to ensure a spare is brought into school to be held in the medical room.
2. Reminder to parents that students are not permitted to carry around any medication except for inhalers and epipens.
3. If a student needs paracetamol, we will need a completed paracetamol permission form signed by the parent/carer. A form can be collected from Student Support.
4. If a student is on crutches or unable to use the stairs for a medical reason, please ensure they come into Student Support on the first day of their return to school, to enable them to be briefed about emergency and lift procedures.
5. If your child has a cold/sore throat, or other minor ailment, please do send them into school as we expect them to attend. If they need paracetamol at lunchtime and we have a signed form to dispense, we can help with their symptoms. A phone call home at this stage will be made to alert you. Please ensure your child drinks plenty of water.
6. Due to students and staff having reduced levels of immunity and who could become seriously unwell if they contracted measles, mumps, chickenpox or other infectious disease, please contact Student Support immediately, if your child develops these or any other serious infection.

Absence

1. If your child is absent from the Academy for any reason, please remember to ring the absence line on the first and subsequent day(s) of absence. If you are uncertain whether or not you should send in your child, please do ring for advice. ABSENCE LINE: 01903 766177. Please dial carefully.
2. Can all medical appointments please be made for after the Academy day has finished. We appreciate that this is not always possible, so we would therefore ask that appointments be made after 9.10am if a morning appointment, and after 2.00pm for an afternoon appointment. Students are expected to be in the Academy both before and after their appointment. This will help them keep their attendance at an acceptable level.

Academy Information

Follow us and contact us by:-

Telephone: **01903 767434**

Academy Website: www.srwa.woodard.co.uk

Email: enquiries@srwa.woodard.co.uk



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