

Sir Robert Woodard Academy

Summer 2016 Newsletter

'Time flies when you are having fun' is an idiom that is often said. For the Academy this year has indeed flown by. As reported in previous Newsletters the year has been full of many positive events and the academy has benefited from so

many opportunities to work with other stakeholders in a concerted push for further academy improvements. The contents of our Newsletters over the year have celebrated and illustrated many of those activities. This edition, our last of the year, is no different. The content reflects the tremendous amount of dedicated work by all the staff and the fantastic contributions and achievements of our students.



As we come to the end of the academic year it is a time to say farewell to certain staff and wish them all the very best as they move on to a new chapter in their lives. Miss Barr leaves us to pursue other exciting opportunities through travelling and delivering education to children in other areas of the world. Her work in developing the education of the 'whole child' is to be applauded and many of the activities and events that she has initiated will continue as testament to her creativity. Mr Williams will remain in education and will continue to provide both moral and educational support to the students he encounters in his new school. His former role of Director of Performing Arts ensured that he was able to contribute to the establishing of a highly successful area which is the envy of many other schools. However, his most recent role as Director of Internationalism, has been highly innovative and successful as he has established global links with schools and organisations in several counties which have ensured that our students' horizons are extended. The Rev. Hadge Hughes departs having been instrumental in further embedding the role of Chaplain within SRWA and enhancing the contact we have with our local clergy. He must also be recognized for establishing, the highly regarded, annual 'Holocaust Memorial' event. These colleagues are accompanied by several other staff departing for new posts and experiences both in Britain and abroad. They include; Chloe Francis (English), Hannah Rootham, (English), Sam Wild (Geography) and two teachers who will be returning to Canada having contributed a great deal to the life of the Academy during their time here; Genna Kusch (Art/English) and Alex Robbins (Science). Another member of staff who is departing is one of our key support staff, Mrs Walker. She has led a team that has endeavored to provide our students with the pastoral support and care to ensure that they are successful. I am sure you will join with me in wishing them all the very best for the future!

I would like to inform you that the Academy **re-opens in the autumn for new Year 7 and Year 12/13 students on Wednesday 7th September 2016. On Thursday 8th September ALL students should arrive at 8.50am and report directly to their Mentor Rooms.**

Finally, I would like to offer special thanks to our committed team of staff, who have all in their own way made this year such a success. They have demonstrated that they are truly professional and have embraced the many changes they have encountered; the challenge of meeting the needs of an Ofsted Inspection; and the numerous demands of their students with care, energy and determination. As this newsletter demonstrates, there is a great deal happening. I would also like to thank all of our community for their support and encouragement over the year, wish you all an enjoyable summer, and look forward to working with you in the new academic year.

Peter Midwinter
Principal

SRWA Staff Bake-off

The SRWA Staff Bake-off before the May half-term holiday with the theme of 'Summer' was a success. There were many entries and staff calorie intake was on the rise as tasting and judging commenced at breaktime. Following voting and counting, the winners were announced the following day, 1st prize went to the 'Fab Ice Lolly' by Miss Fletcher, 2nd prize to the 'Pimms Cake' by Mrs Pike and 3rd prize to the 'Molecule' cake by Mrs Furlong. The £152.79 raised from the tasting went to the charity, St Barnabas House. Thank you to those that baked such wonderful cakes and to those that donated to a good cause.



Key Dates

Thursday 14th July - Whole School South Downs Walk
Friday 15th July - Inset Day
Monday 18th-Thursday 21st July - Activities Week
Friday 22nd July - End of School Year Assembly (Students Dismissed at 12:50)
Monday 25th July - Summer Holidays Commence
Thursday 18th August - A Level Results Day
Thursday 25th August - GCSE Results Day
Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th September - Inset Days
Wednesday 7th September - School Commences for Year 7, 12 and 13
Thursday 8th September - School Commences for all students



Travel Plan

Making Us All Safer

For the last nine months, the Community Action Group (CAG) has been working quietly behind the scenes creating a plan to make the roads around the Academy safer. In December they ran assemblies for all the Chapters and got across the message that walking to school is good for everyone – the students, the staff, the community and the planet.

This year, the plan takes on greater significance. The CAG has started working with The Globe Primary Academy to co-ordinate an approach to address the fact that our roads are becoming very congested and unsafe, particularly at school pick-up and drop-off times.

The Globe Primary Academy and the Sir Robert Woodard Academy are working very closely together to make the roads around our schools safer for our children and our residents. A number of proposals have been developed that we believe will improve the environment for all road-users with the exception of those who wish to use them as a race track! A survey went out to all those who live in the immediate area, hand-delivered by the CAG team. The results of the survey will be with you soon.

Although the impact won't be immediate, we are delighted to announce that a School Safety Zone will be established in Upper Boundstone Lane in 2017. This will include vertical flashing amber lights advising of a 20mph speed limit at certain times of the day. It is early days but we believe these are big steps in the right direction towards having roads on which everyone feels safe.

Mr Williams

Community Notices

SRWA Community Cinema

We are delighted that this continues to be a big success with the community. This spring, we had the popular screenings of *Minions* and *Pan*. As always, the aim of the family cinema is to screen recent releases at affordable prices with a tuck shop that won't break the bank. You can bring the whole family for a fraction of the cost of the multiplexes and what's more, it's on your doorstep.

This season has included so far - *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* and *The Good Dinosaur*. The final film of the season will be *Zootropolis* on 16th July.

Come along and find out what the fuss is all about.

We would like to pay tribute to Keith Smith who was a central part of the success of the family cinema. He provided endless support to the team of students who run the events. He initiated the introduction of subtitled films for the hearing impaired. He produced all the posters and flyers that advertised the event and he was always willing to solve problems on the day and provide his considerable technical knowledge. His cheerful, smiling face is sadly missed.

Mr Williams

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

A week of Musical Extravaganza!

'Maestro – let the music play!' was the call at The Sir Robert Woodard Academy recently.

The Academy celebrated two significant events towards the end of January involving several hundred students, parents, staff and distinguished guests.

The first event was the production of The Lion King involving some 500 students from eight of the Academy's feeder primary schools. The production, which was performed in front of a capacity audience, was facilitated by Mr Lelean the Academy's Director of Performance who brought together numerous other staff, the students from both the primaries and the Academy in a seamless interpretation of the acclaimed musical. The continuity of the production was facilitated by Mrs Waton, LRC Manager as the narrator who ensured that the moments of anger, love, tension and elation were not lost upon all those involved. The production was the culmination of a project which has involved Mr Lelean working with the primary schools on a regular outreach basis since September. The production arts students at the Academy constructed and provided all the staging, lighting, costume design and scenery which contributed to not only their assessments but also their experiences.

Later in the week it was a chance to become a 'Pop Picker' as the Academy went back to the '60's and 70's! This event, held over two nights, was again a capacity event and confirmed the need for the additional evening. The performance, involving 85 students and supported by an orchestra comprising of both students and professional musicians, encapsulated the energy and joy for life of the era. The tunes ranged from 'Aquarius/Let the sunshine in' to 'Don't Sleep in the Subway' delivered by both soloists and the SRWA Ensemble. There were several stand out performances including 'Bridge over Troubled Water' performed by Shaun

Williams and 'Georgy Girl' performed by Connie Franks. The presentation transported and captivated all those in the audience through the clever use of a catwalk which ensured the wonderful dancing, contemporary costumes and general love of life of the young people involved was not missed.



Mr Midwinter

Annual Dance Showcase 2016

Prior to the Easter break 100 students from the Academy took part in the Annual Dance Showcase. Every year the dance department works with students to build towards a showcase celebrating dance. This platform offers a unique opportunity to present performances and choreography by students across the Academy from years 7-13. The varied programme of dances, from Jazz to Contemporary, was produced both in lessons and through extra-curricular clubs and activities.

Energetic performances were given by the dance club members, as well as the SRWA Dance Company, who are a group of gifted and talented students from across the different year groups. Technical and backstage support was provided by Year 12 and 13 Production Arts students overseen by Mr Reynolds and Mrs Prendergast. The showcase was particularly important for our Year 12 students as their

performances were assessed for their level 3 BTEC qualification. It was equally important for our Year 11 students as it was the last time they will perform all together at the Academy.

The performances sold out very quickly and were attended by friends, family, Academy staff and VIP guests from the Academy Council and Woodard Trust. The feedback from the audience was extremely complimentary with many wanting to come back to watch the show next year. The exciting array of talent demonstrated by the students here at SRWA never ceases to amaze us. It was a real joy to stand back and watch the students perform.

The Dance Department would like to take this opportunity to thank you for coming and supporting dance here at the Academy and we look forward to the Annual Dance Showcase 2017!

Miss Lawlor



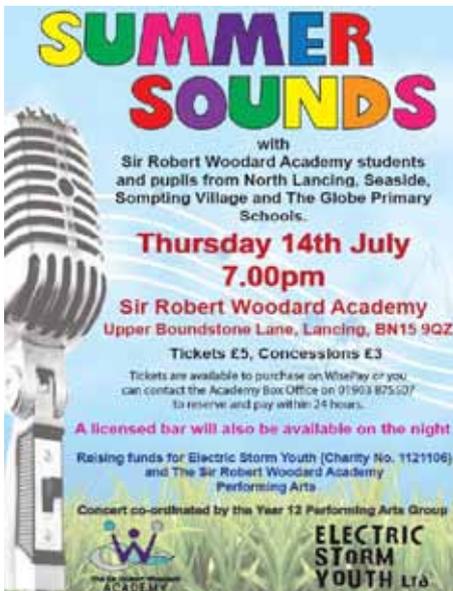
Performing Arts (cont)

Making Live Television

In September last year, the Year 12 performing arts students made such an impression at Brighton University that they were invited back to make a full, live television programme in their professional studios.

Returning on 23rd March, the team were accompanied by the two winners of Woodard's Got Talent 2016 – Billy and 'One Beat Silence'. Their task was to make a live television programme in a chat show format. The hosts 'Zac and Fe' (Zac Lelean and Felix Barrett) interviewed the acts who reprised their winning performances live on TV.

The rest of the team ran the studio – cameras, sound, mixing, directing,



live editing and managing the floor. It was an absolute delight to be in the presence of such an enthusiastic and professional group of young people who were a real credit to the Academy.

Special thanks must go to Mrs Morley who works tirelessly to provide these wonderful University experiences for our students – opening their eyes to life beyond the Academy and broadening their horizons through the widening participation programme.

Mr Williams



Our Students

Student Mentors

Our Year 10 prefects have now finished their training as Student Mentors. They will be pairing with students who have asked for help with homework, literacy, numeracy, friendship issues and organising themselves for school.

Although teachers are there to provide help, research has found that students feel more at ease talking to someone nearer their own age, who understands school life from a student's perspective. The project has involved our prefects undertaking 10 hours of external training so that they are competent to undertake their new roles. Students have volunteered to take part as mentees, after hearing about the scheme and providing feedback on what they thought would be useful.

Mentors and their mentees will be meeting once a week during registration time and we are pleased to add this element to our pastoral provision in the Academy.

Ms Barr



Internationalism

Introduction

We function in a world that is interconnected and diverse. People need to understand this interconnectedness and their relationship to it in order to both make their way in it and shape its future. At the Academy we are committed to developing an internationalist perspective that pervades all of our work and meets the needs of three interconnected communities: the young people and adults of the school; the people of Lancing and Sompting; and the people of the world. The developing vision for this aspect of our work, is leading students to be asking themselves: What can I do? How can I make a difference? How can I make sure that the mark I leave behind is a positive one?

SRWA Ski Trip 2016

The first ever SRWA ski trip set off during the February half term holiday and spirits were high as we started the 15 hour journey to Lofer Unken in Austria.



As the group were all complete beginners, the first morning proved to be entertaining as students learnt to move, fall and get up with skis attached to their feet. By the end of the first day all students were up the mountain and attacking the nursery slopes with confidence. It soon became clear we had some speed demons, namely Sam Ryder, Edmond Chan and Noah Simmonds, all Year 10, who provided us with some spectacular falls.

It was an absolute privilege to see the students progress each day with some naturals standing out from the start. Max Slater, Louise Tugnut and Talia Van Houghton, Year 11 and Bryony Johnson, Year 12 took to the slopes particularly well but particular recognition must go to Roonie Ramshaw, Year 8, he may have been the youngest on the trip but he led the top group from day one.

We had several awards that we gave out every day including the 'airborn legend' and 'most improved' and the not so glamorous 'pants' award for students who may have spent more time on their bottoms than on their skis.

The week flew by and ended with a ski race where students and teachers had to follow a course against the clock. This was also our fancy dress day with many students opting to race in their onesies, particular highlights were Matthew Thurgar, Year 10 as Thor and Jamie Mcnie, Year 10 as super woman. This was a great event with students showing their competitive sides as well as the excellent carving skills they had learnt. The overall winners were Max Slater and Jamie Frankling, Year 11 and Sam Ryder, Year 10 and of course Miss Pigg in the teacher's race.

It was a pleasure to accompany such a great group of students, their behaviour and demeanour was

commented on from the hotel staff, our rep and even our coach drivers, which is a real testament to how great the students were.

Miss Pigg

Ethiopia

On 21st October, an intrepid group of twelve SRWA students will be flying from Gatwick to Addis Ababa in Ethiopia at the start of an amazing new adventure. They will be working with disabled children who are being integrated into mainstream schools in a country where disability is viewed very differently from here. It is a huge challenge and one to which our students are already rising. Led by the ever enthusiastic and caring Miss Peach (who also led the team to Uganda in 2014) and Miss English, the team have organised countless fundraisers such as cake sales, raffles, Quiz Night, craft fairs and a sponsored walk. In fact, they are already a tight-knit group.

Please give generously when you get the opportunity.



Palestinian Friends



On 7th June, the Academy opened its arms to five special people from Gaza, Palestine.

Mohanad, Farouk, Mohammed, Najlaa and their teacher, Ismail had a difficult journey in getting here having had their visa applications turned down by the British, the Jordanians and the Israelis. They arrived five days late on the Friday, they performed in the Brighton Festival on the Saturday and then spent the Tuesday at the Academy, sharing classrooms with Mr Lelean and Ms Fauvel and performing in the Courtyard at lunchtime. Our own students, Ielyaa and Yousef accompanied them and translated for them all day and became good friends.

On Friday 10th June, the group performed alongside the SRWA Community Band at Offington Park Methodist Church and we presented them with gifts, including a new guitar for birthday boy, Mohammed (who didn't have an instrument of his own).

Something profound happened while they were with us – they touched all who met them and heard them perform. When one of our students asked them what inspired them to play music they replied "We want to express ourselves and music is more powerful than weapons."

Mr Williams

Lapper Chapter News



Student Fundraising

A music concert showcasing talent, young and old, has raised enough money to send one hundred chickens to Uganda and to send a missionary to help in the orphanage. The evening was led by Lapper student, Luke Cambridge on the piano and flute who has also been raising funds to buy impregnated cows and slides for the orphans in Uganda.



The website for donations to the charity, Living Hope Ministries, is:- <http://www.livhope.org.uk/>.

During the Easter holidays, Luke also played his flute during a tea/coffee session at church to raise enough money to buy a little girl a new violin. Little Charlie Rosseter and her brother Leo made cakes to sell whilst Luke played a number of pieces for people to enjoy. Charlie was also able to join in by playing "Jesus loves me" on her old violin. The new violin was collected from Ackerman's music shop in Hove.



Race for Life

On Friday 13th May, 120 students ran, walked, jumped and skipped five kilometres to raise money for the charity, Cancer Research UK. It was a beautiful sunny day and all the students, along with members of staff wore pink and pledged their run to someone who has been affected by cancer. The students had acquired sponsors and the money raised is currently £1345.98 and is still climbing.



We would like to thank everyone involved for their energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the cause, especially Missy-Lynne Graham, Year 7, who has raised a staggering £156.20 for this worthwhile charity.

Woodard's Got Talent

On 9th February, the theatre was packed with staff, students and parents in anticipation of the performances and to vote for their favourite Woodard's Got Talent finalists.



Eleven finalists chosen previously from the 27 acts who auditioned, were now performing to compete for the trophy, vouchers and the chance to have their act professionally recorded at the University of Brighton. The production, run by Mr Williams and his Sixth Form BTEC Performing Arts students was outstanding and Felix Barratt and Zac Lelean who were dressed sharply, kept the show running with their charm and chat. Judges; Rachel Harrocks and Connie Franks were joined by Judge Dread (Ms Barr) and Simon Scowl (Mr Fox) who gave their feedback to the acts, once they had performed.

The Finalists; Ellie Steer, Jaime-Leigh Gilbert, Claudia Moulton, Taya Gilbert, Kyle Short, Kalina Mancheva, William Walker aka 'The Human Bagpipes', Dominic Lelean and Dawood and Mustafa Sulaiman demonstrated the talent and confidence of people well at ease with the stage, many of whom hadn't performed in front of others before, let alone a full audience.

The 'Audience Winner' Billy, Year 9, did a tribute dance to Michael Jackson's smooth criminal, perfectly timed to the video and received a huge reaction from everyone, it was highly impressive!

The 'Judges Winner' the band 'One Minute Silence' consisting of Taz, Liam and Reuben all Year 11 who played songs they had composed and rehearsed in their own time and blew the judges away with their musicianship, professionalism and talent; both acts have since had their performances recorded.

I congratulate all the acts who performed throughout the auditions as well as all the staff and students who were involved in the running and organisation of the event. I look forward to what will be in store next year.



Mrs Heery

Lapper Chapter News (cont)



Graduation Assembly

On 6th May, Year 11 students along with staff celebrated all the successes, experiences and relationships from the past five years to mark their graduation from the Academy. This included awards and stories about the students. They were also some tips for the future from staff.

Students watched videos and a slide show of images from their time in the Academy which many of them had contributed to by donating photographs. The slides showed sports teams trips, chapter days, performing arts and pictures of the students and their friends, many of which made for much laughter. Entertainment was provided by the winners of Woodard's Got Talent - Taz Moyo, Reuben Champion-Weeks and Liam Smith who performed two songs from their repertoire.

Staff have been nominating students for awards and included student 'most likely to be Prime Minister' awarded to Danushka Dooraree and 'Class Clown' awarded to Elliot Phillips and Jay Penfold. Leah Ingall spoke passionately on behalf of her year group expressing her excitement for the future and how much they can all achieve.

Students and staff retired to the plaza where the celebrations continued. Students received their yearbooks, were given leavers' t-shirts and spent time with staff and their friends getting them signed and chatting.

I wish all the year 11 students the very best of luck with all that their future holds, it has truly been a pleasure to work with them over the past 5 years.

Mrs Heery



Nightingale Chapter News



Big Bang at Butlins, Bognor

This Spring, Mr Harman and Mrs Pike took a group of budding scientists from year 7 and 8, who have shown dedication and made good progress in science, to the Big Bang Science Fair, held at Butlins in Bognor. Lots of businesses and organisations in the field of science and technology were there – each had an exciting or fascinating activity for us to participate in, from deep sea diving to film animation and virtual reality. We were even treated to a live show from the Science Museum that showed us the disgusting truth about our digestive system (it was indeed really yukky!) Some of our group even got to sample the new source of protein that is going to feed the world in the future – yes, we ate bugs!!!

The Big Bang project is part of a number of science-based events held across our region. If you are a budding scientist, and you work hard in your lessons, talk to your Science Teacher about possibly getting an invitation next time...

Mrs Pike and Mr Harman



Nightingale Students Lend their Lenses to the 3D Model

Some of our students in N9 tutor group had the opportunity to trial run the VR BOX TS-3D02 Virtual Reality 3D Glasses. This allows you to view film or pictures from your android or IOS phone in 3D. This picture taken from the sales page indicates how images are presented in the viewer.

All of the students who tried it agreed that it was really cool.

*Mrs Ramshaw
N9 Tutor*



Mandela Chapter News



Reflection Diaries

This year in RE students have been completing 'Reflection Diaries' at home as their RE homework.

Many of them have used their diaries to directly reflect upon and revise the material we have been studying in class which has been an invaluable way of consolidating their learning. However, other students have used their diaries to reflect on philosophical and ethical issues from the news and everyday life here in Lancing. Some have even created their own moral dilemmas and commented on the ethics of the choices they have laid out.

It has been fascinating seeing just how insightful our students really are on issues, as far ranging as the ethics of the government's latest budget, the terrorist threat posed by ISIS, the EU referendum and the possibility of life after death. One Year 8 student even typed up one of her entries about the state of UK politics in the 21st Century and sent it to David Cameron. She is yet to hear back from him, but that shows the level of dedication to this home learning that some students have shown.

Here are some student 'Reflections' on the use of the diaries this year: "I like my Reflection Diary as it helps me remember what I've done in lessons" *Ellie, Year 7*, "My Reflection Diary allows me to reflect on what we've learnt or discuss issues that I find interesting" *Ella, Year 8*, "I like using Reflection Diaries as I can write about relevant things in the news" *Katie, Year 9*

Keep up the top efforts you legends!

Mr Lawson

Takeaway Homework

History Students Amaze their Teachers

The link between achievement and homework has long been clear, and the history department has tried to make students at SRWA value that as much as possible this year. We have given students

independence over their homework by allowing them to demonstrate their learning by researching topics further and finding



out about their family history in anyway that they see fit. The results have been incredible, with trenches made out of cakes, Dealey Plaza (location of the assassination of John F Kennedy) crafted to exact proportions and stories of family relatives who fought in the battle of the Somme 100 years ago today.



It has also had the added bonus of encouraging parents and students to work together to learn more about history, another big factor in improving the love of history. Hopefully we will continue to see bigger and better homework from all students. Feel free to follow us on Twitter @srwa_history for fun facts and more examples of incredible work.

Mr Andain

Mini Dan the Albion Fan

In 2013 Daniel Morley won a competition to be a young Match Reporter for Juice Radio, commentating on Brighton and Hove Albion home football matches.

Daniel and his family are keen supporters of Brighton and Hove Albion and love the new AMEX stadium. Daniel says the stadium has a feel good factor and the atmosphere is electric now that so many more fans can attend games.

Daniel is a natural at reporting, retaining match information and picking out what he wants to focus on. Juice Radio also endorse his reporting skills as he has been signed up again as a Match Reporter for next year and there is talk he will be contributing to match analysis on the England games at the European Championships. This will be useful experience for Daniel who has ambitions to follow a career as a Sports Commentator, for both football and cricket. Besides football, Daniel is also a keen cricketer, playing for Portslade and also the Academy team.



In his opinion, Daniel says the best game this season was Brighton v Charlton, where Brighton were 2-0 down then came back to win 3-2.

We are really proud of Daniel's achievements and will be recruiting him as a presenter for our own Academy Radio

Station, once it is up and running.

Dickens Chapter News



Day Trip to Boulogne

At 5.00am on 1st March we embarked on a fun filled day with 60 students to Boulogne.

We took the ferry from Dover to Calais where students had time to explore the ferry, some of whom had never been on one before. Ferry staff complimented us on the behaviour of our students on both routes stating "they are the best group of students they have ever had on the ferry".



Our first stop was at Bec à Suc, a traditional sweet factory in the heart of Boulogne where students saw how traditional French sweets were made. They also observed the demonstration entirely in target language and were able to operate the machinery for themselves and sample the sweets that they made. Students again were complimented on their maturity and behaviour.

Our next stop was the Pain Show, a traditional Creperie where our students got to experience lunch in an authentic French restaurant. The owners did a pancake making demonstration and we mixed the ingredients and created the batter. Students were then invited into the kitchen where they flipped their pancake and garnished it to their taste. The owner then created, in front of us, a beautiful decoration out of marzipan with the school's name on it.

Students then explored the old town, took pictures and visited a French market where they bought souvenirs for their families. We then headed back to Calais, stopping off at a traditional French bakery where students saw how they make their traditional bread in an old fashioned oven of stone and

we then rolled the dough into loaves. They then had to chant in French, the ingredients of a croissant with the owner who kept banging his rolling pin on the table if they forgot the ingredients, which made them laugh and scared at the same time! Students then rolled the dough to make croissants with varying success.

We then headed back to Calais to catch the ferry home.

Everyone had a fabulous time with the favourite quote of the day being "This was the best day of my whole life".

Mrs Ncube



Jazz, Year 8

Two boys' wish for a skate park in Lancing is a reality after planning permission and funding was secured. Jazz (Dickens) and Charlie (Nightingale), spent months campaigning for the facility, which will be delivered by Lancing Parish Council on Beach Green. The duo dreamed up the idea last year and Jazz asked his mum, if they could contact the council.

Jazz said: "I am really happy that it is actually happening. It is weird how a little idea has gone all this way. It is really exciting and I can't wait for it to be built."



Jazz also received the Young Person of Sussex Award in recognition of his efforts.

Stephanie Bunt

Hi I am Stephanie and I am in Year 7. I decided to raise money for the British Heart Foundation because four members of my

family have been affected. One has a hole in their heart, two have had heart attacks and the fourth had to have a pacemaker.

I decided to give up chocolate because I fancied doing some charity work that linked to my family. I gave up chocolate for the whole month of March and got people to sponsor me – that meant no Easter eggs! Two of my friends helped me, Shayla and Natasha. They helped me to raise money by collecting the names of sponsors and their money.

In total I raised £169.11 and the students and staff at the Academy helped me to raise £28.27 of this total. I would love to do more charity work in the future.

Stephanie Bunt

LitFest 2016

Students in years 9 and 10 with a passion for reading, were invited to the University of Chichester to take part in their annual Literature Festival.

The day was typically British with a barbeque in the rain but students had a brilliant time. We attended four sessions. First we heard Eve Ainsworth, Author of *7 Days*. She told us why she became an Author, why you should always keep writing, and most importantly, how to get past rejection from publishers. We then moved on to a section entitled 'Flash Fiction'. A University Lecturer taught us how to write short stories and got us started writing our own! The penultimate talk was from renowned Author, Matt Dickinson. Although the students had heard him speak before, he had added new content to his discussion of Mount Everest. Finally, as part of a careers panel, students were able to see that what you do at school and university does not define you in later life and that people from many walks of life become authors and publishers. A good day was had by all.

Miss Goodwin

Ricardo Aerodynamics Workshop

On 1st and 3rd March, SRWA hosted the annual Ricardo Aerodynamics session. Mike Cranfield and his Ricardo colleagues visited the Academy to introduce the Year



7 cohort to the work that takes place at Ricardo Engineering and to looking into aerodynamics.

The engineers demonstrated how they use wind tunnels to measure wind resistance and help develop design concepts for the motor industry. They then set the Year 7 groups a design challenge, to see which class could create the most aerodynamic model car. The students put into practice the knowledge they had learnt and developed a series of plasticine models which were tested for drag in the mini wind tunnels before turning their attention to the larger Ricardo block car and wind tunnel.

Both sessions were extremely successful and gave the students some valuable hands-on experience of engineering and aerodynamics. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike and Ricardo for giving up time in their busy schedules to come in and work with our students and for their continued support.

KS3 DT Club

Students are working on ideas to submit to the Shell 'Bright Ideas Challenge'. The competition challenges the students to develop ideas around possible technologies, approaches and innovations which could provide a solution for cities of the future. Through a series of mini challenges, students are preparing themselves for submitting their ideas in a report to the Shell judging panel.



It is a national competition and one team will be crowned the national winner, receiving £5000 to help super-size STEM lessons.

Bowers and Wilkins, Worthing

On 13th May, the 3D Design Sixth Form students visited Bowers

and Wilkins in Worthing to take part in a tour of the manufacturing plant and experience some of the acoustic products they produce. The tour introduced students to real-life manufacturing techniques and the rigorous quality assurance that ensures such high standards.

We were welcomed by staff who went out of their way to answer our questions and provide a very unique and valuable experience for the students. After the tour, students had a brief talk regarding apprenticeships and possible careers within the company, before heading over to the media centre for a listening session. During the session students were spoilt by the hospitality and the sound quality. They enjoyed various tracks and video clips that demonstrated the high-end results of the extensive design, testing and manufacturing techniques.



We would like to extend our thanks to B&W for giving up their valuable time for our students, it was a truly awe-inspiring visit and highlighted many potential careers paths available to our students.

UK Maths Challenge

The UK Maths Challenge took place in May with 26 of our budding mathematicians in years

7 and 8 participating. This is a prestigious national event with schools all across the country taking part.

We are pleased that two of our students Joe Woods, Year 7 and AJ Holmes, Year 8, are through to the next round to take place mid-July. Well done boys and best of luck in the upcoming challenge!

Degree Show



On 8th June the Year 12 3D Design and Art students attended a trip to the 2016 University of Brighton Degree Show. The students were given a real insight into the work produced on the many creative courses available at the University. We were privileged to a private tour by current 2nd year students who welcomed questions about the work on show, the courses available and university life. We were all impressed with the diversity and quality of the work and the trip highlighted the many creative pathways available. We would like to express our thanks to Jo Tolley for organising the tours and to the University of Brighton for welcoming our students.

Art Competition

Our art clubbers took part in the Body Shop "Enrich not Exploit" art competition where they had to design a poster to promote environmental wellbeing and responsible consumerism. The students designed some great posters and we had great success - Amelia Bannister, Chelsey Watson and Shannon Hearsey all winning runner-up prizes and Emma Shuttleworth winning the regional first prize which included an all expenses weekend trip to London including a hotel stay, tickets to a West End show as well as £1000 for the Academy.

Winning Entry by Emma Shuttleworth



Careers

Be The Change

Sessions were held at the Amex Stadium and Year 9 students took part in a variety of activities, including: Qualities and Qualifications, Role Models, Communication, Body Language and Life Skills. The students had a session on mentoring, half an hour later they were working with Year 6 students and were able to speak to the students and discuss with them their concerns and fears regarding the myths of starting secondary school.

As part of the 'Be the Change' programme students had the opportunity to visit their mentor's work place. Fortunately for our students their mentor works for Porsche and students were able to have a tour of the Porsche facilities at Burgess Hill; they were shown round the salesroom, showroom and the main workshop.

To mark the completion of this programme, students have been invited to attend an award ceremony at the Amex Stadium in recognition of their hard work and to celebrate their achievements.



University of Sussex

We have been very fortunate this year, as we have been able to access a variety of Taster Sessions at the University of Sussex, they have included:

Year 9 First Generation Scholars

Students taking part in the programme, spent a day at the University; they attended two workshops, one of which was in a lecture theatre. The students were accompanied by student ambassadors who gave them a full campus tour and they were able to visit some student accommodation and the ambassadors were able to share their own university experiences. At lunchtime our students ate in the main refectory with university students and academics. The day enabled students to acquire a clearer understanding of life on a university campus and they had an insight as to what student life is like.

Year 10 Taster Days

- **Psychology** - This session covered some of the key concepts, such as scientific research and its impact on the social and cultural world we live in.
- **Politics** - Students gained an understanding of the EU Referendum with regard to its structure and policy making procedures and the implications for individual countries. They considered the benefits and costs of continued membership and looked at some of the key political issues. At the end of the day the students put forward their own referendum of whether to remain or leave.
- **English: Making Great Speeches** - Students were taught by a university academic how to analyse and talk about language 'rhetoric' in speeches. They looked at great speakers, such as Nelson Mandela and Hitler. Students learnt how to recognise the structure of a captivating speech. "I found it both educational and enjoyable. I learnt a lot about what it might be like to take English at university. I learnt how to successfully write a speech, and it was fun too! This has also made me decide that I definitely want to go to university and pursue my own dreams of becoming a teacher!" *Chloe Bassett*
- **History: D Day Landings** - Students worked with a Historian and a university academic. The Historian has interviewed many servicemen over the years and students were able to watch one of his recordings. Afterwards they were able to ask questions relating to the D Day Landings.

Summer School

Four Year 10 students will be attending a Summer School at the University of Sussex, the subjects are science based and students will be staying on campus for three nights. They will attend lectures and workshops and will be taught by academics.

Year 12

Students attended a UCAS fair at the University of Chichester and also attended the University of Sussex for a post UCAS workshop and had a tour of the campus.

NHS Apprenticeships

A member of the NHS Apprenticeship Team came in and spoke of the opportunities throughout the NHS, that are available to students. I am pleased to say that Monica Cremer, who is in Year 13, was successful in applying for a pharmaceutical apprenticeship and she commences her new role in September.

Mrs Morley

Sport Round-up

U13 Girls' Cricket

The girls have had a fantastic season. After making the county indoor finals and finishing 3rd, the girls were looking forward to their summer league. They got off to a fantastic start beating Angmering 154-66 with some great batting performances from Rosanna and Jessica. The girls then faced PACA and again beat them comfortably, the winning streak continued against Worthing High. Then they faced a strong Oakmeeds team, but with a fantastic fielding and bowling performance, they beat them 122-86. Special mention to Billie, Millie and Freya for their constant determination with the bat and ball.



The team have now progressed into the county semi-finals and will face Downlands. The whole team have worked very hard this year and been committed to training at 7.30am on a Friday morning! They have improved not only as a team but as individuals throughout the year, I could not be prouder.

Team: Billie, Millie, Freya, Hannah, Rosanna, Amelia, Faithful, Jessica, Alice, and Emma.



Miss Gill

Worthing District Athletics

On 4th May we took a 32 strong student team to the District Athletics at Worthing Leisure Centre, to compete against all the other schools in the Adur area. There were many stand out performances across the events, with many SRWA students qualifying for the finals in their respective disciplines.

Mr Bromley

Steyping Novices

On 8th June we took selected Year 7, 8 and 9 students to Steyping for their Annual Athletics Competition. It was an incredible day and the students represented the school in a fantastic manner. All the students were brilliant however, highlight performances on the day were Alfie, who won the Javelin and qualified for both the 100m and 200m finals, Summer who won the discus, Sean who came 3rd in both the 800m and 1,500m finals and Grace who qualified for the 100m and 200m finals. Well done!



Mr Matanle

Year 8 Boys' Cricket

The season begun for the Year 8 boys with a trip away to Steyping although the result did not go our way. The boys have learnt a lot from the game and captain Roonie Ramshaw is very optimistic for the rest of the season.

The boys have been training extremely hard and been facing some quick deliveries from the bowling machine, I am sure this hard work will pay off in our up and coming fixtures.

Mr Matanle

Year 7 Boys' Cricket

The boys have only played one game so far this season and for their first game they faced a strong Worthing High. The game was very close and there were some superb performances by everyone. Notable performances came from Dan with bat and ball, Rosanna with the ball and Billie and Millie with the bat. The final score ended up with an SRWA win. The boys and girls who play in the Year 7 team have all been dedicated to training this year, coming in at 7.30am on a Tuesday morning without fail. The team still has two games left and we hope to continue with their success.

Team: Dan, Billie, Millie, Amelia, Rosanna, Tom, Jack, Aiden, Ryan, Jack and Callum.



Miss Gill

U15 Girls' Cricket

The girls got their season off to a flying start by making the county indoor finals; they continued their success straight into the summer league beating Worthing High 140-61. A great batting performance from Faye and Jessica set them up, the team performance was completed by Isabel and Jasmine with the ball. After winning their next two matches they had reached the semi-final. They were drawn against a very strong Hurstpierpoint College who had three Sussex players; however this did not phase them. With early wickets from Faye and Isabel, the visiting team found themselves 15-4, however after a great batting performance from their number 4 to score 88, the visiting team closed their innings on 160. The girls put up a good fight but only managed to reach 84.

The girls have been a pleasure to coach and the progress they have made since we started in Year 7 is enormous. I hope they can take the positives from this season and come back fighting next year.

Team : Isabel, Jasmine, Jessica, Grace, Faye, Ellie-Mae, Jade-Ella, Freya and Tate.

Miss Gill

Sport Round-up (Cont)

Year 7 Street Cricket

The team travelled to Angmering to compete in the Year 7 street 20 cricket school games competition. The team got off to an unfortunate start, losing by 2 runs to a strong Angmering team who eventually won the whole event. The team however, came back strong to win their other matches apart from one. They worked really well together and encouraged each other throughout the day. Out of all the schools in the area, the team finished in a very respectable 3rd. The development of all players this year has been outstanding and to take on a different format of cricket really shows the whole teams strengths.

Team: Jack, Aiden, Billie, Millie, Amelia, Rosanna and Ryan.



Miss Gill

U14 Girls' County Cup Football

Having not won a football match in their previous two years, the team was committed to training 100% this year. This proved that training really does help when it comes to team performances. The girls finished 2nd in the local area league which was a huge improvement. This was not the end for their season, after being narrowly knocked out in the first round of the County Cup, they were then entered into the shield competition. After a string of wins they faced Varndean in the semi-finals. The team were motivated and this was clear with a fantastic team performance to win 3-1. Off to the Finals!!! The girls faced Durrington in the final and approached it with confidence, knowing they had beaten them in the league, however this did not stop them from training every week to ensure they were the strongest they could be. After a nerve racking first five minutes the girls came into their own and **WON 12-3!!!!**

The team has worked so hard this year to ensure they were prepared and next season brings exciting times. Well done to all the team for being crowned **COUNTY CUP SHIELD WINNERS.**

Team: Cydney, Tyla, Grace, Summer, Faithful, Faye, Poppy, Freya, Jade-Ella, Taylor and Hannah.



Miss Gill



SRWA Bears Basketball Academy

The basketball team had their inaugural season in the acclaimed Academy Basketball League. Even though we went 0-10 for the season it was such an eye opener for them, some of whom previous to this season, had never played in a competitive basketball game, let alone play against some of the better players in the country every Wednesday afternoon. They played hard and kept playing throughout. The boys made a vast improvement as the season went on, however, by the end of the season we were losing games by a margin of eight points instead of 30 point loses.

Under 14 Boys

Under 14s Boys' National League Team finished their season in a respectable 5th place, this was one place out of the play-off position. As this was only their 2nd year in the the National League Competition, this was actually a good place to be. Next year they move up to the Under 16 division and with this past season under their belts, they should be ready for the new season in October. Coach Smith said "When I entered this team into the National League a year ago, I was told that there was not enough players in the county to have two national league teams, we now have five. I guess the point I am trying to make is, if you don't believe in these young people and their ability you cannot expect much in return, you've got to be prepared to develop their skills which is what we have done".

Under 14 Local League

Under 14 Boys' Local League team had a solid season but they weren't able to progress to the playoffs of the Sussex League, all in all it was a valuable experience gained by all involved.

Coach Smith

Congratulations

We would like to congratulate our SRWA Basketball Coach, Gary Smith, for winning the 2016 National League Coach of the Year for his division, awarded by Basketball England. Well done Coach Smith.



Mrs Bull

SRWA Links with the Community

Sponsorship

The Sir Robert Woodard Academy is delighted to maintain strong partnership links with local businesses and organisations.

This year, we have been very lucky to have received two donations for sports kits.

We would like to thank Robert Luff & Co Estate Agents in Lancing for their sponsorship of our new Year 7 football kit, and The Rotary Club of Worthing Steyne, for their donation towards a new kit for our girls' Cricket Academy.



For many years we have hosted a Friends and Business Breakfast at the Academy. Once a term we invite members of our local business community to a breakfast meeting. In the past these have been very successful with good connections, however this year we have taken the Business Breakfast one step further, as we wanted to make them even better.

This academic year we have worked hard to grow and expand our links, both in terms of number and also quality. At our last Business Breakfast in May we received a record number of visitors, with almost 50 businesses represented. This gives our business community an opportunity to find out more about the Academy and also to have a rich networking opportunity to grow their own business links. There were numerous presentations by Academy staff sharing our many successes, trips and extra-curricular programmes and local business people also gave presentations about their businesses. Students also gave a presentation to the community about the upcoming trip to Ethiopia.

The Business Breakfast now attracts businesses from far and wide, including our long-standing links with the Lancing Business Park but also further afield from Worthing, Brighton and up to Crawley. An excellent development this year has been the inception of our Business Mentors scheme which pairs students with business people. Students have a regular meeting with their business mentor who acts as a critical friend and discussing their progress and performance at school. They are able to share their own stories of success and how they dealt with issues in their own lives. We have had a great response from business people and the numbers continue to grow. Our plan is to expand this even more over the year so that more students can benefit from a professional one-to-one link with a business person. As always, we have had some amazing music performances including our Woodard's Got Talent winners and a hearty breakfast served by our catering students.

The feedback from businesses has been overwhelming. Countless have been impressed by the professionalism of the event, the confidence and brilliance of our students and the standard of the business community present. We are grateful to the Lancing Business Park, Parafix, Brighton and Hove LoveLocalJobs.com, Coast to Capital and countless other organisations for their support throughout the year.

If you are in business or know someone who would be interested in joining our business community, please contact us at: businessbreakfast@srwa.woodard.co.uk.

Mr Monahan

Learning Resource Centre



SSBA Award Presentation Evening

The hugely exciting finale of the Southern Schools Book Award was held at Roedean School on 15 January, with eighteen of our most able readers.

We arrived and took our seats in the theatre, the stage was set for the five shortlisted authors; Sara Crowe, Keren David, Juno Dawson, Alan Gibbons and Bali Rai. Sophie McKenzie last year's winner, was hosting the event and she introduced Chris Riddell, our current Children's Laureate who spoke about his award and explained that he would be illustrating the evening. Each author then talked a little about why they had written their book, how the stories developed and how their characters grew throughout the books.

This was Sara Crowe's debut novel and she talked about the land, myth and legends her story, *Bone Jack* was based upon. Keren David explained that she had worked with children in the care system and that she wanted to write a story full of hope that showed how things can improve for a teenager whatever the circumstances of their upbringing, and that *Salvage* had a strong message of the main characters growing through their emotional journey. Juno Dawson enthusiastically told the audience how the school in *Say Her Name* was modelled on Roedean itself, and that she had wanted to write a gothic horror story to scare her readers. Alan Gibbons made a speech, calling for hate crime to be acknowledged in society and referring to the Sophie Lancaster murder on which his book *Hate* was based. Finally Bali Rai talked about *Web of Darkness* which portrays how easily teenagers can be drawn into a predator's web of deceit on social media – sometimes with criminal intent or just for a power rush, but all of which can impact dramatically on a young person's self-esteem.

SRWA representative Dylan Crockett, went up on stage to collect our book tokens, and

we all joined in the drum roll as the runner-up (Juno Dawson) and then the winner (Bali Rai of course) were announced. There was a quick refreshment break and then we went to get our free copy of a book of our choice before queueing to get the books signed with the authors!



It was a fabulous and exciting evening and the winning author Bali Rai spoke about how really important reading is for all teenagers, and asked them to support and campaign for their libraries and librarians to be appreciated for the difference reading can and does make to our lives.

Matt Dickinson

Matt Dickinson, *Everest* Summiteer, inspirational speaker and author visited the Academy to enthral the entire staff and students with tales of climbing the world's highest mountain and to explain a little about his experiences and how they had influenced his writing.



Matt has written the *Mortal Chaos* series of fast paced action adventure for teens as well as the new crime drama series *The Everest Files*. He also wrote a book based on his climb to the summit of Everest during the storms that killed so many back in 1996, *The Death Zone*

on which the recent cinema blockbuster 'Everest' was based.

Matt talked about what it takes to get to the top, the preparation and practise, the determination and how quickly frostbite can strike at such high altitudes; the difficulties of going to the toilet in such temperatures and the fact that his chocolate bar (200 bars in fact) exploded in the thin atmosphere and so wasn't much use to him as an energy source. He showed some impressive slides of what it is like to walk the final few steps to the top of the world before challenging every student to think about their own 'Everest' challenge – it may not be as grand as climbing the highest mountain in the world, but to achieve something that is out of your comfort zone, will give you a feeling as good as standing on top of the world.

After assembly, Matt stayed and gave two creative writing masterclasses; firstly to the winners of the creative writing competition and secondly to a group of Year 10 students. They were all invited to write a paragraph about what they would miss most if they went to Everest for three months, then a paragraph about who their tent buddy would be and why; this had to be a fictional character! Finally they wrote about what they would do if, on reaching the final 100 feet before the summit, after months of work and effort, they came across an injured climber and had to make a choice. Help the injured person, and lose their chance at the summit, or ignore them, travel to the summit and leave the other climber to a certain death. All three tasks produced deep concentration from the students and some fantastic emotional and descriptive pieces of writing.

All in all a hugely successful visit, and one that will be remembered



for a long time.
Mrs
Watson

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day Celebrations at SRWA

The Academy was full of staff and students in costume for World Book Day, ranging from terrifying zombies (*Pride and Prejudice* and *Zombies*) to the Mad Hatter; characters from GCSE classic texts such as *Of Mice and Men*, *Great Expectations* and *An Inspector Calls*.



ago! In collaboration with maths, whilst half of the year group were in the theatre with Jamie, the other half were in maths telling stories using tangrams and learning about the maths of two dimensional shapes. This was a brilliant opportunity for the

LRC and the maths department to work together, linking themes for World Book Day and highlighting the link maths has with so many other subjects.

In the morning, we welcomed storyteller Jamie Crawford, who told tales of fantasy and morals to the Year 7s, all woven with visual imagery and amazing sound effects. He kept a theatre full of eleven year olds totally enthralled, and afterwards in the LRC, he spoke to older students who remembered the stories he had told them when they were back in Year 7; including some Year 12s who could still re-tell the horror stories he had told them years



The LRC also ran a Crime Novels quiz in the style of 'catchphrase- say what you see', which all tutor groups were encouraged to have a go at.

On 4th March, three of our feeder primary schools brought their keen Year 6 readers to our LRC to join some of our top Year 7 readers to discuss the four shortlisted books in the 6-Up Book Award. All the readers eagerly finished the final

book in the set of four titles, and they moved between tables in the LRC with activities for each book based on the themes and issues raised in the stories. *Itch*, the science based thriller by Simon Mayo dealt with radioactive elements. The *Weight of Water* by Sarah Crossan deals with the experiences of a girl moving from Poland to the UK and adjusting to life in a new language. *Forbidden Island* by Malcolm Rose was a shocking story of teenagers trespassing on a quarantined island and the lengths the government would go to to ensure that none of them returned to the mainland. The final shortlisted title was *Goblins* by Philip Reeve, a twisted take on classic fairy tales with an edge of laugh out loud humour. One by one the schools registered their votes and with a drum roll, the winning book was announced as *Forbidden Island*, with *Weight of Water* a close second.



Thanks go to Sompting Big Local for the grant of £250 which enabled enough copies of the books to be loaned between schools so that each child had a copy.

Mrs Waton

Chaplain's Corner



It is with sadness that I say goodbye to the Sir Robert Woodard Academy at the end of the summer term. I will be moving on to pastures new. The three years I have been Chaplain have been challenging and interesting. I have been privileged to work with some

very dedicated staff and many talented students. I have enjoyed all aspects of the work, especially the opportunity to speak to the students in assemblies, leading the Remembrance Day Silences, the Christmas Celebration Concerts, and Holocaust Memorial Day amongst other things. I have offered support through counselling and mentoring, working with students and often parents. It has been fun getting the students to think about Mindfulness and even a small group of staff have been able to sit with me and meditate once a week in a very busy environment. I shall miss all these

things and more and I'd like to leave you with these words from the great American Poet, Walt Whitman;

*Oh me! Oh life! of the questions of these recurring,
Of the endless trains of the faithless, of cities fill'd with the foolish,
Of myself forever reproaching myself, (for who more foolish than I, and who more faithless?)
Of eyes that vainly crave the light, of the objects mean, of the struggle ever renewed,
Of the poor results of all, of the plodding and sordid crowds I see around me,
Of the empty and useless years of the rest, with the rest me intertwined,
The question, O me! so sad, recurring—What good amid these, O me, O life?*

Answer

That you are here - that life exists and identity, That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse.

Rev Hadge

Academy Information

Follow us and contact us by:-

Telephone: 01903 767434

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

