



The South Wolds Academy & Sixth Form
Celebrating 50 Years 1967 - 2017

Newsletter

Summer 2017

Design and Technology Week

On Thursday 22nd June we invited parents, carers and grandparents of students in Years 7 and 8 the opportunity to attend a D&T lesson of their choice as part of Design Week! We wanted to show parents that D&T is about solving problems, working together and learning new skills which are all transferrable and extremely relevant to almost any career you can think of pursuing!

The workshops on offer were: Food (making fresh pasta and microwave meranges); Product Design (making a laser cut USB light); and Textiles (making a cotton tote bag with Photoshop graphic transfer print).

Students got to work alongside their parents and show off the skills they have already learned in D&T lessons or got to learn new skills together!

The evening was a real success and we had really positive feedback from everyone involved in this event! We will be doing it again next year, so look out for further information next summer!

Susan Aston, Art, Design & Technology Performance Leader



Photos:
Groups working on CAD in Product Design, Textiles pattern cutting, examples of final bags made, an example USB laser cut lamp, parents and students working in food with example of finished ravioli to take away!

**The South Wolds App is now live!
Full details on how to download
it are available on the website.**



A Note from The Head



It may be raining outside but inside the sun is shining as we celebrate the end of another fantastic year at the academy. I am delighted on a daily basis by the incredible feats of our students and their amazing endeavours. For example, I had the pleasure of hearing all about Maya Todd-McIntyre's 4th place achievement in the 800m at the English Schools Athletics Championships held on 7th and 8th July in Birmingham. As Miss Smith said: 'Making it to an English Schools Championships is quite an achievement in itself. But qualifying for a final and coming 4th is phenomenal!' A superb accomplishment.

Also, Theo Smart has been raising money for the Little Princess Trust which will go towards helping to continue to provide real-hair wigs to boys and girls across the UK and Ireland that have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other illnesses. He has grown his hair over the year and then had it chopped off this week to donate to the charity. This is such a wonderful example of the kindness that we love to celebrate at South Wolds. Well done Theo!

As I mentioned, these are just a couple of examples of the ways in which South Wolds' students are kind, hardworking and aspirational. I know that many of you will be feeling the build up of anticipation regarding results days in August and I share your excitement. The examinations this year have changed a great deal from last year, especially with the new grading system in place and so it will be interesting to see such changes in education come to fruition.

Thank you for all of your support for the academy over the past year: it really is a great place to learn and thrive and we could not do this without you. See you in September and until then, have a restful holiday and enjoy some quality family time.

Halina Angus, Head Teacher



Year 11 Prom

The Prom was again held at The Nottinghamshire Golf and Country Club and was a truly enjoyable evening. Mrs Vitel and Gail spent time at the venue to make sure everything was in order and decorated the room and tables with fairy lights and balloons. The tutors of Year 11 joined them along with members of SLT to meet and greet the students as they arrived in style!

The students arrived full of excitement and collected their arrival drinks before inspecting their party venue for the evening. They were photographed by Hayley at Captcha who was really impressed with how polite and well mannered our students are.

With 117 students looking absolutely stunning we enjoyed a two course meal and soaked up the atmosphere. Once the meal was over the students swiftly took to the dance floor and began to dance the night away, joined by the occasional member of staff. The disco was provided again by Jason at Dream Entertainment and he really does know how to get the students on their feet!

At the end of the evening so many students thanked the staff for their wonderful evening and continued on to their after prom parties. Needless to say the staff made their way home to recover with a cup of tea.

We are very proud of our Year 11 students and wish them the best of luck with their results in August !

Gemma Vitel, Year 11 Performance Leader

Go4Set Club 2017

On Thursday 22nd June, the South Wolds Go4Set students, Dr Cliff and Mr Murphy travelled to the Ricoh Arena in Coventry to present their final reports to the Go4Set judges.

Four teams represented the school, delivering projects around eco-friendly sporting venues, hotels and an ambitious project to redesign our school as an island!

All of the groups were assigned a business mentor from Rolls Royce, Xylem Inc. and Nottingham Trent University to help them shape their projects over 10 weeks. The day was a celebration of the students' teamwork and research skills, with entry to the Big Bang Fair West Midlands and demonstrations by the Atomic Scientists. All groups progressed well in their categories and have been awarded a CREST Award for their efforts.

Dr Cliff, Chemistry Teacher & Jacob Murphy, Teaching Assistant



News from the Music Department

Our partnership with the Nottinghamshire Music Hub and the National Youth Choir of Great Britain culminated in a fantastic day at the Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham on May 17th. Taking along 23 of our talented musicians from Years 7 through to 10, we took part in an inspirational workshop with Dominic Peckham. As deputy conductor for the NYCGB, Dominic runs similar events around the world and the students were privileged to work him.

Directing students from The South Wolds Academy as well as from Tuxford, National, Outwood Portland, Brunts, Elizabethan and Holgate it was amazing to see the performances take shape in such a relatively short amount of time.

The pieces learnt were then performed to an audience of approximately 150. Also on the programme were individual pieces by three school choirs as well as three wonderful pieces performed by the NYCGB Fellowship.

We simply cannot wait to continue our partnership on next year!



James Reid, Music Performance Leader

Summer Concert

On Wednesday 28th of June, many family members and friends arrived at The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form for the annual Summer Concert. Throughout the evening there were many ensemble performances including Steel Pans, Choir, Acapella Vocal Group, Jazz Group and the Concert Band.

We also enjoyed solos and small groups performed by students in Years 8 to 11. Several of these groups could not have sounded as good as they did without the exceptional help of three staff, Mr Dove for organising the entire concert, Miss Parsons for her amazing help and support with the vocal ensembles and Mr Butterworth who played in and supported many ensembles.

Everybody who performed was amazing and everyone took part in a large finale of Queen's *Don't Stop Me Now*. This was a perfect ending to a spectacular evening. Unfortunately this was the last concert for many of our Year 11's. We would like to say that we are very glad of all the contributions that they have made throughout their time here at South Wolds!

Emily T, Year 9 student

Spanish Exchange

In February 2018 up to twenty students from Years 10 - 12 (i.e. current Year 9 - 11) will have the opportunity to go on the Spanish Exchange. This will be the eighth year that we have run it, and we now do it jointly with Rushcliffe School.

We partner with La Estrella, a really nice school close to the Retiro Park in the heart of Madrid. Each student will stay with a Spanish student of their age and their family from February 8th to 15th.

Some time is spent with the whole family, but the Spanish students arrange a lot of activities in the evenings and weekends, and, when they are at school the British students go on day trips. There is a variety of activities to choose from including visits to tourist sites, in Madrid, Segovia and Toledo, shopping, food tasting and a tour of the world famous Real Madrid Stadium. We do a treasure hunt around Madrid and give prizes for the most adventurous food tasting.

Your Spanish partner will visit Nottingham from March 15 to 22. South Wolds students go to school as normal in March so there is no impact on exam revision. We have picked the dates so that students can still participate in the Dance Festival. The Exchange is suitable for everybody studying Spanish. You do not need a spare room, they can share with you. It's fantastic value - about £300 for a week. It's by far the best way to learn to speak Spanish.

David Roberts, MFL Performance Leader

Year 7 Drama Club

Since last term Year 7 have been getting creative and enjoying a lunchtime Drama Club. We started off as a Shakespeare drama club and while he is not everyone's favourite playwright the Year 7 attendees performed Shakespearian scenes with gusto, with some very creative and exciting interpretations which were wonderful to watch. Rachel, a Year 7 student says that this was her favourite part and that she 'really enjoys Shakespeare'.

This term however we have been focussing on fairy tales and have had a go at creating our own humorous adaptation of 'Rumpelstiltskin, Private Eye'! One of the best things about the Drama Club according to Isabelle is 'doing drama with friends'. We have a really friendly and welcoming atmosphere, so that even those who are less confident can have a go.

I have seen some wonderful and creative acting and participation over the course of this term, and with the Drama Club's dedicated members I am sure we have some future actors among them! It has been lovely to watch them work and own their own scenes.

Sarah Tidy, Student Teacher



Reading Group

Reading around the school continues to thrive amongst Year 7, 8 and 9 students and with Sixth Form on board supporting some of our younger readers it has become even more popular. Students from the group are now bringing their own books into school to read with some of the favourite authors being David Walliams and Jeff Kinney. A Year 8 student from the reading group said, 'I chose a really good book during my school trip to Waterstones and for the first time I am really enjoying reading.'



Another Year 8 student added, 'I really enjoyed supporting reading with Year 7 students and have listened to some great stories and made new friends.'

July saw another enjoyable trip to Warhammer World in Nottingham with some of the students buying their own starter kits. The reading group also enjoyed an interesting talk from the RAF who came into school at the beginning of July. Another group of readers attended a team building event at Pizza Express in Newark where they made their own pizzas and learned about the history of Pizza Express. Some lucky students visited The Council House in Old Market Square where they were given a tour and given a talk on the history of the magnificent building. They were shown the impressive ballroom and dining room and taken to the council chambers which takes up the whole of the third floor. West Bridgford library also welcomed some of our Year 7 students from the reading group.



May I take this opportunity to thank all volunteers, staff and students for their hard work and commitment with supporting others with their reading and I hope you all have a lovely summer.

Evelyn Welch, Teaching Assistant

The First World War

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them."

—Laurence Binyon

This year marks the 100 year anniversary of The Battle of Passchendaele, a horrific battle claiming around 500,000 casualties. To commemorate this important battle the Department of Education have organised study visits to Belgium and France to help remember the soldiers and their sacrifices. Two Year 9 students from South Wolds were able to go and Ethan and I were lucky enough to be chosen and to gain such an incredible experience. We did not want to waste it so we started researching immediately: Ethan wanted to know more of his Great Great Grandad who fought in the war, and I wanted to research local soldiers who fought at Passchendaele.

One of the things that stood out to me was the sheer scale of death and destruction, the mass industrialised slaughter with very little purpose. On our trip we got to visit a surviving trench, whilst we were there we reenacted the soldiers 'going over the top' and would stop us one at a time to show where we would've been gunned down. Some didn't even get to take a single step. Some only a few. Not a single one of us made it close to the enemy line before we were stopped. Thousands of soldiers lives were stolen in this brutal way, their bodies never recovered. There were other dangers than just 'going over the top': the life of a soldier was incredibly grim as trench foot, lice and rats were part of a normal day. With hundreds of thousands of soldiers dying of simple infections that today would be easily cured today. Soldiers lives were becoming increasingly harder. It was not uncommon in The Battle of Passchendaele for there to be waist high mud which many soldiers drowned in! We spent 30 minutes in a trench and could not imagine being in this cramped unhygienic space for months or even years on end.

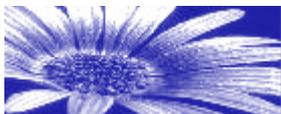
The main focus of the trip was remembrance and we got to witness many ways people commemorate the loss and horror of the First World War. I was lucky enough to be able to participate in The Last Post, a ceremony that has been held nearly every night since 1928 at the Menin Gates, to honour and remember those who have died. Hundreds of people were gathered together nearly a hundred years on dedicated on not letting these soldiers be forgotten. Another way their lives are commemorated are the grave sites and memorials funded by the Commonwealth Graves Commission, there are hundreds of these beautifully kept sites across Belgium and France and we were able to visit a few to pay our respects. Tyne Cot is the largest of these cemeteries and was the last stop on our trip, the amount of graves illustrated the scale of loss and we left wanting to never let these soldiers be forgotten.

As part of the trip we had to set up a project when we returned that shared what we had learnt with people in our community. We had the idea to run lessons with primary school children as we thought it was vital that the war was remembered but also understood. We ran three lessons with Year 6 students and they loved reenacting trenches and getting involved as well they wanting to learn and develop their knowledge for the war. We told them about the soldiers we had researched from our local village and the importance of seeing the lives behind the numbers. They were genuinely interested.

Remembrance is still important even 100 years later. 13 million deaths should not be forgotten. Battles like Passchendaele and The Somme serve as a graphic reminder of the senseless loss of men who didn't even know what they were fighting for.

Phoebe S, Year 9 Student





Collection of Results

Thursday 17th August—GCE and FSMQ
Thursday 24th August—GCSE, DiDA and ELC

All results will be available for collection from 8.30 am until 10.00 am in the Refectory on the day they are published. After 10.00 am on the relevant day, **results will not be available for collection until the start of term in September.**

If you are unable to collect your results in person, and wish to receive them before September, you must:-

- ◆ hand an A5 envelope, with your name and address written on it, to Michèle in the Exams Office before Wednesday 19th July so that your results can be posted to you on results day;
- ◆ write a note giving a named person (such as one of your parents) permission to collect the results envelope on your behalf. The person collecting the results must have proof of identity with them. In the absence of either a note of permission or proof of identity, your results will not be given out.

Please note results are not allowed to be given out over the telephone or by email.

Queries

From Wednesday 16th August until Tuesday 6th September, urgent exams queries should be sent to exams@southwolds.notts.sch.uk and any urgent sixth form queries should be sent to jjenkins@southwolds.notts.sch.uk.

Post-Results Services

Included with result slips will be details of the Enquiries about Results and Access to Scripts services offered by exam boards. All forms are available from Reception on results days. After this copies will be available on the South Wolds website. Completed forms must be posted into the Post Box in Reception in advance of the published deadlines in order that requests may be processed.

Certificates

Certificates must be collected and signed for after 30th November. Certificates may be collected by a nominated individual, provided they have written authorisation to do so. Certificates will be retained for two years.

Active Kids Vouchers

So we have come to the end of another year of Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers and have done really well with our collection. We were hoping to beat last year's amount of 3022 and having just counted the vouchers the grand total comes in at 4200. This is a fantastic achievement and I would personally like to say thank you to all of the students (and parents) for bringing them in to me, as well as a big thank to many staff members who did the same.

These vouchers are invaluable to Food Technology and can be used to replace and purchase new pieces of equipment for the subject. This year we will be buying a juice squeezer, whisks, can opener, mixing bowls, pastry brushes, spatulas, frying pans, muffin tins, oven gloves, sandwich tins, oven trays and green chopping boards.

I hope you will continue to support us with the collecting of the vouchers next year and of course we need to beat this year's total! Many thanks once again.

Jason Retter, Food Technology Teacher.

U14 County Futsal Competition

Both our girls and boys teams represented Rushcliffe at the U14 County Futsal Competition. It was a great day of competition at the David Sport Village at The University of Nottingham. Both teams played some great matches with the girls doing particularly well. They came second in the pool matches. The girls went on to beat a very strong Rushcliffe team who had won their pool, in the semi finals. A narrow 2-1 defeat in the final in a game that could have gone either way meant they came home with Silver Medals.

Well done girls!

Year 10 Team Building

A group of boys and girls from Year 10 have been taking part in watersports activities at Holme Pierrepont.

Designed to build confidence, develop team work and encourage leadership skills, they have been put through their paces in raft building, kayaking and an assault course.

All the students have thoroughly enjoyed all the activities which in true British summer weather, have taken place in sunshine, wind and torrential rain. The mud on the assault course just made it that much more fun!

Maria Smith, PE Performance Leader



News from the Sixth Form

We cannot believe how quickly this academic year has gone, and what a fantastic year we have had in the Sixth Form. We were sad to say good bye to Year 13 but we enjoyed a lovely sunny day, ice creams and a disco dome to celebrate their last day in school. The exams are now over and we hope that all of our Sixth Form students enjoy the time over summer to relax before exam results day on 17th August. The Sixth Form management team will be in on results day to celebrate and support all of our students both in Year 12 and Year 13.

As Year 13 left, Year 12 returned from exam leave. It has been a hectic few weeks as students continue to prepare for life beyond Sixth Form. The whole year group visited Nottingham Trent University for a Student Experience Day and alongside seeing what university is like, they learnt about writing personal statements, different types of courses and student finance.

Parents and students were invited to a Post-18 Pathways information evening hosted by Jo Capewell. A significant proportion of our students choose university but we recognise that the jobs landscape is changing and each year more of our students are looking at apprenticeship opportunities.

Year 12 are also involved in a 'Futures' day where we will begin work on UCAS and apprenticeship application forms. The committee are continuing to work hard and are currently fundraising for new common room furniture and a cold water drinking dispenser. Many of our students have secured work experience placements during the last full week of term and we have been delighted with the proportion of students who have accessed university outreach projects to boost their UCAS applications and increase confidence in choosing the right course or job following A levels.

Of course, the highlight of our social calendar is our annual Sixth Form Prom which was held at Blotts Country Club. The theme of this year's prom was A World of Pure Imagination, and students were treated to unlimited candy floss, a sweet cart, glow sticks, candy cane balloons and much more. Year 13 students received awards voted by the year group and after a tasty three course meal we were treated to a fantastic disco. It was great to see so many staff there, celebrating the end of another great year with the students.



Our Year 11 applicants received personal invitations to our Sixth Form Induction morning on 5th July. It was brilliant to meet our newest cohort of post-16 students and we had a lot of fun. Students met with Mr Jenkins and Mrs Stanley to receive key information about what happens next between now and September. Our current Year 12 students ran a speed dating event, chatting to Year 11 students about different subjects, enrichment, social life and how to prepare for the jump between GCSE and A Levels. We then had some chill out time on the field eating hot dogs and playing games. We even had a bouncy castle, penalty shoot-out and a gladiator duel!

Not to be missed out, we invited Year 10 students to come and see what our Sixth Form is about. Mrs Stanley talked to students about the changing future jobs landscape and how South Wolds Sixth Form is the natural choice for our KS4 students. We looked at the A Level Mindset and the importance of vision, aspiring to turn dreams into reality, and imagining where students want to be in the future. Feedback from students has been great and we loved the opportunity to share how fantastic our Sixth Form is and how proud we are, not only of our amazing students but also the fantastic and highly skilled team of A Level tutors and teachers that are helping our students to progress so much more between GCSE and A level than other local schools. Year 10 students were also treated to hot dogs and cookies alongside games with the inflatables including Sumo Wrestling and a Rodeo Bull!

We are sad to say goodbye to some of our wonderful tutors this year: Mr Hind, Mr Smith, Mrs Evans and Mrs Welch. We are looking forward to welcoming Mr Singh and Mrs Kiesswetter to the tutor team.

We hope all of our students have a fantastic summer break and we look forward to meeting students, old and new, during both GCSE and A Level results days in August.

Key Dates

AS and A Level Results Day: Thursday 17th August

Year 12 Induction morning: Tuesday 5th September

Year 13 Tutor Review Day: Tuesday 5th September

Timetable commences: Wednesday 6th September

Julia Stanley, Assistant Science Performance Leader & Year 13 Performance Leader

South Wolds is

50



This year and we would love to celebrate by putting together a memory wall from former students and staff with their happy memories of South Wolds. If you have a memory or photograph you would like to share please email it to SW50@southwolds.notts.sch.uk

We look forward to reading and sharing them!

Celebrating 50 Years 1967 - 2017

Art, Design & Technology Summer Exhibition

The 3rd Annual Art, Design and Technology Exhibition took place on Monday 10th July.



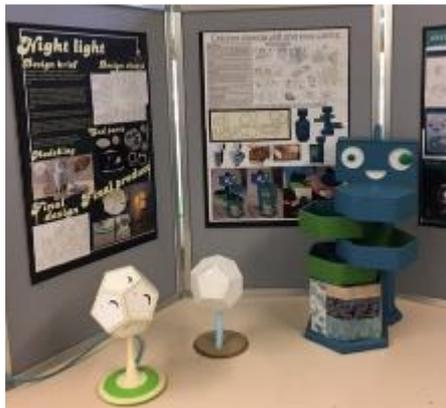
This was a superb exhibition of all GCSE and A-Level work from the Art, Design and Technology subjects. The AD&T show was a wonderful showcase for the creative arts at The South Wolds Academy. Students from Art and Design, Photography, Textiles, Product Design and Food Technology had their work show cased. It represented over three years of students work and displayed the excellent design and creative talents of our students.

The evening was extremely well attended and was a great opportunity for families and friends to see the vast range of work created over the exam courses and to sample a selection of delicious canapes and refreshments made by South Wolds Food Department! Work included sculpture, costume design, architecture, furniture construction, digital photography, multi-media pieces, drawing and painting, textile studies and more!



For the students it was a wonderful way to see their hard work and commitment, for families a proud moment to see their children's work on display and for staff another reminder of the excellent work produced at South Wolds. Last year we had the best GCSE results ever and the quality of work on display this year should be just as successful when the results are published in August. As we move into a new academic year and Art, Design & Technology look forward to another year of excellent results The AD&T Summer show reminds us all that the creative arts are thriving at South Wolds.

If you missed the show this summer, check out our twitter account @DT_Rocks for some updates and make sure you look out for it on the calendar next year!



Design & Technology Week in Year 8

During DT Week I went to a lesson with visitors from The University of Nottingham. Myself and the other students from Year 8 saw the many opportunities that DT could offer us in the future.

During the week we were invited to join students who are studying Product Design at university. They taught us how to build our own lamp, including how to wire up a small LED light. Using moulds to form whatever shape lamp that we intended to make. We used polystyrene as the mould and layered cardboard as the main body. Thirty minutes later we were ready to decorate our lamps, which we did with wire. The project ended with many unique lamps all made out of simple basic materials.

The next day a former student from South Wolds, now studying Textiles at university came and spoke to us about her course including meeting Paul Smith, designing products and being able to give her opinion. We used materials to create our own designs.

Thank you Design and Technology for these experiences. The subject does not only give you knowledge in the work place, but also gives you life skills that you will treasure.

On behalf of all the students who took part in DT Week, whether they joined in with the fun of the visitors or went to Design Museum, London trip, we would like to say thank you to the DT staff at South Wolds for organising this educational week. Thank you also to the students from university for coming in and helping us gain life skills.

Aimee, Year 8 Student

Year 8 Design & Technology Trip to London!



On Tuesday 20th June the D&T staff and a group of 40 Year 8 students got up bright and early to embark on a special 'Design Week' trip to London!

The aim of the trip was to get students involved in exciting activities relating to the key areas of D&T: Food, Textiles, Product Design & Graphics!

After our (almost) four hour coach journey down to London, including the all important stop at the services, we arrived at Wagamama in Earls Court. We had chosen this venue as it gave students the opportunity to try food from a different culture and for us all to eat together in a civilised environment and learn something at the same time!

Before we dug into our delicious noodles the chef at Wagamama gave the students a mini presentation about their Japanese philosophy for eating and preparing food and how they conduct business. Students then took part in a quiz with



restaurant gift vouchers for the lucky winners so they can now sample more Asian inspired food when they get back to Nottingham!

After Wagamama we paid a visit to the V&A Museum where students got to view the Theatre Design exhibition looking at costumes, posters and set design from famous productions. We also got to look at some 'serious bling' in the jewellery section, where quite a number of students were (literally) dazzled by the diamonds on display!

Our final stop was a quick stroll across the road to the Science Museum. Here students did a fact finding mission spanning a range of different exhibitions including: aeronautical design, maths in design (e.g. ATMS and the National Lottery Machines) a materials exhibition looking at the property of different materials and why they are used in different products as well as many more educational exhibits including the history of

many different household products!

Well done to Kieran and Joe who won the Trip Award for best 'Fact Finders'!

It was a gloriously hot and sunny day and we got to experience many different activities, we look forward to another Design Week Trip next year, we are starting planning it already!

Susan Aston, Art, Design and Technology Performance Leader

South Wolds Super Stars

Many of our students have a variety of hobbies and interests outside of school and show a tremendous level of dedication and commitment to these activities. We would like to recognise and celebrate more formally the achievements and successes our students make during such endeavours and to share these throughout the academy.

We are asking parents and carers to send us information about any notable out of school achievements, along with a picture (optional), that they are happy we can share through assemblies, on an 'Achievements Noticeboard', in newsletters and during staff briefings.

Please send information to the email address below at any time of year when your child has achieved something you would like us to celebrate with them. The email address is: printroom@southwolds.notts.sch.uk

Thank you in anticipation of your response.

