



Updates for the parents and community of The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form



Music News, Carol Singing, Christmas Concert and Whole Class Brass

It's been a busy term in music this year especially in the build up to Christmas. Firstly and most festively, fifteen of our students braved the winter chill to take their angelic voices to the streets of Keyworth to serenade the local residents. Armed with the gift of song and novelty Christmas hats, our students sang their hearts out to warm the hearts of others. Singing a mixture of traditional carols and well known Christmas pop hits. Our very own superior songstress Miss Heaphy led the way alongside Mr Manning, Miss Jones and our singing teacher Miss Sheppard.

We will wrap up the year with an end of year music concert on Thursday 15th December 6.00pm - 7.30pm. This will be an excellent chance for some of our most musical students to showcase their expertise featuring some of our more experienced students who are performance veterans who might inspire some of our younger students who are also performing.

The evening will feature a wide range of songs, instruments and genres and will be a great way to see out the year, Christmas jumpers at the ready!

Lastly, a big thank you to Mrs Tetley our brass teacher. The good people at Inspire provided us with a whole class set of Cornets this term, so Year 8 A half have been learning about all things brass and learning how to play them, myself included.

Merry Christmas All, Mr Manning

- 21st Dec - End of term 12:30pm finish
- 22nd Dec - 3rd Jan Christmas Break
- 6th Jan - Year 10 Exams Skills Day 1
- 11th Jan - Year 7 Parents' Evening
- 12th Jan - Year 11/13 Awards Evening
- 19th - 26th Jan - Spanish Exchange
- 1st Feb - Year 9 Careers Day
- 2nd Feb - Year 9 Options Evening
- 2nd Feb - Inclusion Festival
- 3rd Feb - Anti-Bullying and Anti-Racism Day
- 11th Feb - Break up for half term

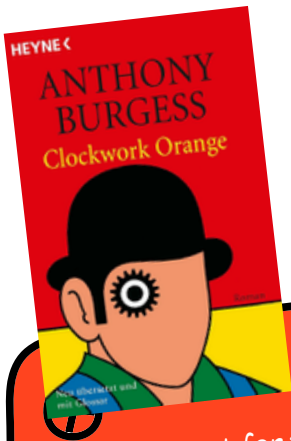


Well done to all of our fabulous students!

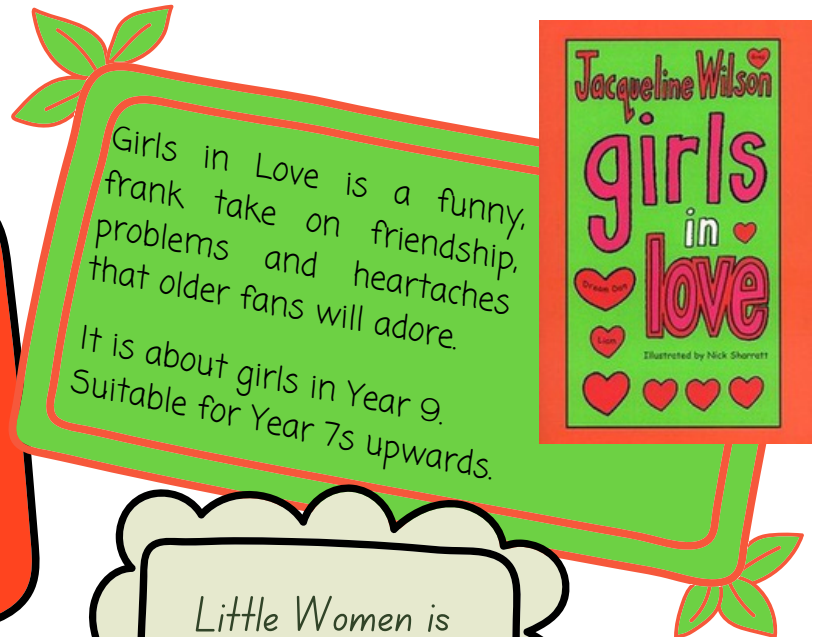
Library News

By Mrs Conroy

We have just had some fabulous new books donated and there really is something for everybody! If you want to borrow one please come to the library at break or lunch. You can also read, do homework or sit quietly with a couple of friends.

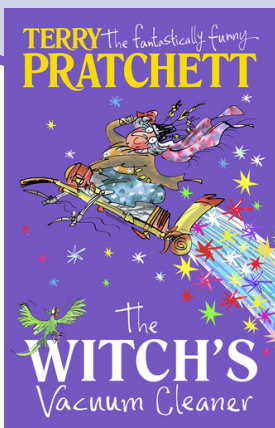


This book is not for the faint hearted. It was 'banned' when first published. It features a dystopian nightmare world of violence. For that reason it is suitable for Year 11 and upwards only.



Girls in Love is a funny, frank take on friendship, problems and heartaches that older fans will adore. It is about girls in Year 9. Suitable for Year 7s upwards.

This is a book full of 14 short and funny stories about witches and wizards. 'An illustrated collection of short stories by Sir Terry Pratchett, featuring food fights, pirates, wizards and crooks!' Suitable for Year 7s upwards.



Little Women is set in the 1800's but still relevant today. It's about love, family, sisters and friendship. Also this book made me cry! Suitable for Year 10 and upwards.



A funny and fantastical adventure story featuring a finger-eating troll and a very determined heroine, from one of the world's favourite children's authors. Suitable for Year 7s upwards.

December High Flyers

Kayla B-C (Year 8) Netball Club

I would like to nominate Kayla B-C for her contribution to netball club. She is a fantastic player, full of energy, determination and team spirit. A true high flyer!

Mrs Angus

Ella T, Millie G and Poppy W (Year 8) German

We have some fantastic students in Y8 German, but these three deserve a special mention this time, as they got 100% in all three sections of their most recent assessment. They have been really hard working, well done.

Mrs Pabari

Alicia H (Year 9) for History

Alicia's most recent History assessment on the Battle of the Somme was outstanding. Alicia works incredibly well in every lesson and makes some great contributions to class discussions. Well done Alicia - keep up the great work!

Miss Fox

Kai H (Year 9) for PE

Kai has been working really hard in his PE lessons and has demonstrated an exceptional level of performance this year. This was highlighted by his outstanding performance in a recent school football fixture vs South Notts Academy that saw Kai score two outstanding, long range goals.

Congratulations Kai and keep up the hard work.

Mr Levack

Thomas C-B, Edward D, Holden L and Michael W (Year 9) for EP

I'd like to celebrate Thomas, Ed, Holden and Michael in Year 9. They planned, resourced and delivered an amazing talk to the rest of the class on the question 'Are self-driving cars ethically defensible?'. The knowledge, understanding and evaluative thinking that they showed was the best that I have personally seen in the last three years since we started delivering this topic. Great work chaps, it is a pleasure to be able to teach you :)

Mr Lloyd

Rebecca K (Year 9) for Spanish

Rebecca always aims high and shows great pleasure whenever she achieves something extra or new in Spanish. She is enthusiastic in class and a pleasure to teach.

Mr Roberts

Poppy C (Year 9) English

Poppy has shown real enthusiasm for the creative writing that we are doing in English lessons at the moment and is proving to be an excellent young author. Watch this space, Waterstones!

Mrs Arnold

Javis W (Year 9) History

Javis did fantastically well in his recent History assessment. Well done Javis and keep up the good work.

Mrs Ritoridis

Anna, Katie, Lucy & Rebecca (Year 9) EP

Did an epic presentation on self-driving cars. I know I've already mentioned some of this class and didn't think I'd see a better presentation following the boys group yet these guys smashed it. Confident speaking, impressive research and even a class survey thrown in for good measure. Thank you for all of your hard work and hopefully see you next year for the EP GCSE :)

Mr Lloyd



December High Flyers

BERTIE F (Year 10) Maths

Bertie is always enthusiastic and keen to participate in Maths. He is supportive of his peers and a great problem solver!! Well done Bertie keep up the hard work.

Mrs Sprake

Amber C and Grace D (Year 11) History

Both Amber and Grace in 11A History have shown a real effort and consistent commitment to producing fantastic classwork and homework this term. They have both made impressive progress.

Mrs Ritoridis

Olivia B-B (Year 11) Maths

Olivia always works really hard and attends extra sessions in maths. I'm so impressed with her commitment.

Mrs Farrington

Harry S-A and Charlie M (Year 11) Business Studies

Can I please nominate Harry and Charlie, they are both such positive young men who also excel in the subject - both achieving above their target grades in their recent test. I love their enthusiasm. Keep up the good work!

Mrs Spencer

Sean C (Year 11) English

Sean has shown huge commitment to his studies and upcoming exams this year and continues to take responsibility for his own success. Sean has been working hard at home to complete independent revision above and beyond the work set for homework which has resulted in him achieving, meeting and exceeding his target grade. Well done!

Mrs Sowerby

Azure G (Year 11) Business Studies

I would like to nominate Azure for always being so fabulous! Azure concentrates, works hard and pushes to produce top quality work every lesson. Aside from this, Azure is the kindest, most polite and helpful student you could wish for. Whenever students leave the room in a mess, Azure will stay behind (without being asked) to clear desks, then never fails to leave without saying 'Enjoy the rest of your day Miss'. This never fails to put a smile on my face. Everyone needs an Azure in their class!

Mrs Spencer

Emily D, Jorja E, Millie S (Year 11) Geography

I would like to nominate Emily, Jorja and Millie for having a great attitude to learning - both in the class and as independent learners. Thank you and well done!

Mrs Martin

Jude D (Year 12) Basketball Club

Jude has done a brilliant job coaching the Year 10 & 11 Basketball Club. In his own words "the student has become the master" ... I couldn't agree more! Thank you Jude.

Mrs Ritoridis

Ismaeel I, Evie W, Freddie J, Sam P, Eseosa E-O and Jaiveer M (Year 12) Business Studies

Can I please nominate Ismaeel, Evie, Freddie, Sam, Eseosa, and Jaiveer for giving up their time after school to tutor the Year 11s in preparation for their mock exam. It was a joy to see them all looking professional imparting their knowledge and experience to the year below. I really do appreciate your help and so do the Year 11 students. A massive 'thank you'.

Mrs Spencer

HIGH FLYERS



Year 12 visited Magdalen College at The University of Oxford

By Mrs Capewell

On Tuesday 15th November, 30 Year 12 students visited Magdalen College at The University of Oxford. The purpose of the trip was to learn more about making an Oxbridge application, have a tour around the colleges and attend 2 taster lectures delivered by Oxford academics.

We visited The Greenland Library, the junior common room and the accommodation at Brasenose and thought we had disappeared down a Harry Potter rabbit hole! This college was founded in 1509, the buildings and the chapel were beautiful.

The students were spoilt with a waiter-served hot dinner in the dining room at Magdalen, very different to our usual lunch down at the Keyworth co-op!

In the afternoon we heard a lecture from one of the leading researchers in the field of Biological Science on Microbial Evolution and a Professor of Law who engaged us with a current highly publicised legal case Fearn & Ors Vs the Tate Gallery (a case brought by a man who lives in a glass walled apartment overlooked by the viewing gallery at the Tate). This generated much debate amongst the students about human rights, privacy and security.

It was an amazing day and the outreach team at Oxford couldn't do enough for us.

Over to the students now, to complete the application form, the assessment tests, sit the interviews and bag 3 excellent A level grades!



Computer Science Updates

By Mrs Rowe



Cyber Explorers

Cyber Explorers for students aged 11-14

We will be offering the opportunity for students in Year 7-9 to participate in the Cyber Explorers digital programme. This a free interactive learning platform for all 11-14-year-olds, offering hands-on insights into how digital, computing and cyber skills are integral to exciting career paths. Information on how to sign up will be on Satchel soon.

We entered four teams for the NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) CyberFirst Girls Competition. The competition ran for a week and closed on 30th November. The teams worked hard solving lots of cyber and lateral thinking puzzles. The highest team score was an impressive 768 points!

Well Done to Lily, Ivy, Chloe, Lily, Evelyn, Olivia, Madeline, Luca, Ella, Zilpha, Ella and Chloe – a superb effort from all of you!

Cyber First Girls Competition



Bebras 2022

Well done to all the students who participated in the 2022 Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge. We have 7 students who have qualified for The 2023 Oxford University Computing Challenge which takes place online in January.



Good Luck to Ben and Carly Y7, Luca Y8, Albert and Edith Y10 and Callum and Jacob Y11!

Influential Women in History Competition

By Miss Fox

Well done to Charlie in Year 7 who wrote this amazing poem for last month's Women in History Competition.

An English nurse, a helper indeed
She helped many people in need
We praise her for the life she lived
Although she was killed for what she did
All freed soldiers gather round
Take a moment of silent sound
For Edith Cavell a helper indeed
She helped many people in need
She was known around the world
And because of her
Many people's hopes unfurled.

by Charlie (7R)



Edith Cavell
1865-1915



Christmas Card Competition

Our Year 10 students have once again risen to the challenge of creating exciting and imaginative designs for the school's Christmas Card competition. Thank you to all the students who took part for your hard work, effort and time that you dedicated to produce creative, interesting designs, and for making it so difficult to choose a winner!

Congratulations to this year's winners Charlotte D and Lauren S



Created by Charlotte D
Needle felt and embroidery



Created by Lauren S
Watercolour paints

Mental Health Awareness Day

By Miss Drewett

"It's okay not to be okay"

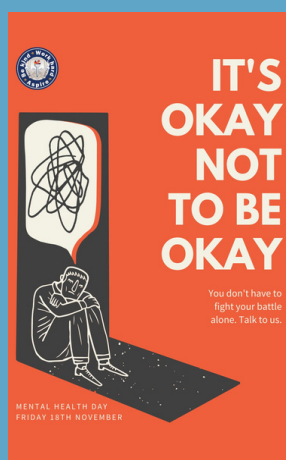
Our Mental Health Awareness Day was Friday 18th November and was preceded by a week of assemblies on anxiety and self care.

As a school we have a strong support system with a four-tiered approach to offering all our pupils the right level of care.

Our mental health day was a success as always with tutor time activities, non-uniform day and a bake sale at break time.

All the money raised has been split between the charity YoungMinds and a local service child bereavement centre.

Kooth held stress and anxiety workshops within school with selected students and this will be followed up with an invite for parents to attend a ZOOM session on the same topic.



Year 9 Languages Career Morning

By Mafalda and Poppy

The Year 9 Languages Careers Morning was such an amazing opportunity for Year 9 students, particularly those who want to pursue careers in languages.

We completed a range of different business activities in order to earn money (wolds!) for our company and our CEO, and the group who made the most money won. In particular we really liked being able to speak French, German and Spanish outside of our language lessons and understand how it would work in business. And the competition was great! It was also really fun working with other students that we wouldn't normally work with.

Our favourite task was the phone call and the logo, because we got to show our creative side and speak in a different language.

Overall, we are so grateful that we had the opportunity to take part in this, and we hope we get the chance to do more activities like this in the future!



Nottingham Forest in the Community Football Event

By Mafalda and Poppy

On Tuesday 29th November students following a degree course in Community Football Coaching and Development, based at the Nottingham Forest Community Trust, came into school to run a football event for Year 7 girls.

The mission for the Nottingham Forest Community Trust is to develop links with the local community and to promote participation in football to those communities. With the recent success of women's sport, in particular the success of the England Women's Football Team at the 2022 Euro Championship and the legacy that this has established, then this makes it an ideal opportunity to engage girls in sport through football. Therefore they approached the school to ask if they could come in to run an event for Year 7.

Girls arrived at school early in the morning and the activities began at 8.30am with a carousel of football-based activities. This continued through period one with a football tournament and then a celebration and presentation of certificates and trophies to complete the event.

All the girls who took part thoroughly enjoyed the event and were very grateful for the opportunity, as well as the free Nottingham Forest baseball caps!!

