



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



## KEY DATES

- 3rd - 14th April - Easter Holiday
- 20th April - Year 9 Healthy Living Day
- 24th April - Year 10 Exams Skills Day
- 25th April - Year 9 Parents' Evening
- 1st May and 8th May - Bank Holiday
- 4th May - Year 12 Parents' Evening
- 29th May to 2nd June - Half Term

## School Site Development

By Mrs Angus

On behalf of the governors of The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form, I am delighted to share with you that the construction of our brand new teaching block will begin in the next few weeks.

The new two-story teaching block will be situated on the existing site by the lower school block and in addition to this we are also able to deliver a new car parking area to provide the best facilities possible for the school community.



The £2.3million teaching block will house brand new IT facilities for use by all of our students, as well as new classrooms, intervention rooms and study areas amongst other things.

We are so excited to start sharing updates on its progress and we look forward to opening the new block in the Autumn term of 2023.

May I express my thanks for all of your support over the last few months (and years!) whilst we have waited for this project to get the green light. The development of South Wolds and our facilities is absolutely right and ensures that our community has access to a school of which you can be even more proud. This also comes at a time when we all recognise that a first class education enables all young people to have more choices for the future, no matter what direction they pursue.

At South Wolds we continue to be committed to ensuring all students are able to achieve or surpass their academic and social potential and we are excited to take these next steps with you in the development of the school.

# Dance Festival

*By Miss Drewett*

This year's dance festival 'Fabulous Feet' took place at the end of March.

There were over 50 students taking part and since October last year they have all worked very hard on their routines.

There were a variety of dance styles from lyrical to street and featured a wide range of costumes and a lot of fun.

The South Wolds Dance Troupe were leading the event with their excellent routines. They have also been a part of the rehearsals with the younger year groups. Our Captain Ffreuer J and Vice Captains Chloe T and Grace S had lead roles and choreographed some of the routines for Year 7, 8 and 9 assisted by Olivia B, Imogen B, Tia G, Lilly B and Ruby C.

Our feeder primaries were invited to come along, this is always a lovely morning and the primaries thoroughly enjoy the show.

Miss Drewett is incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication of the dance students and hope they enjoy being a part of 'Fabulous Feet 2023'.



## Lauren's Poem - "My Words"

Here is a poem written by one of our talented and creative Year 10 student, Lauren S, about her stammer.

*The words are there,  
somewhere inside,  
but when I try to speak,  
they just won't slide.*

*They get stuck,  
like a stone in my throat,  
and I feel like I'm drowning,  
unable to float.*

*I try to push them out,  
to force them to flow,  
but they resist,  
and my frustration grows.*

*People look at me,  
wondering what's wrong,  
but I can't explain,  
it's been with me so long.*

*I'm not dumb,  
or slow, or shy,  
I just struggle  
to make my words fly.*

*But I won't give up.  
I won't be defeated.  
I'll keep trying  
until my voice is freed.*

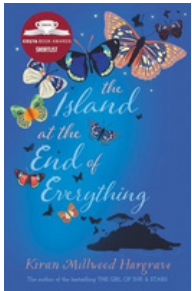
*And maybe some day,  
I'll speak without fear,  
and my words will flow,  
smooth and clear.*



# Library News

By Mrs Conroy

We have some fabulous books in our library. If you want to borrow one please come to the library at break or lunchtime. You can also read, do homework or sit quietly with a couple of friends.

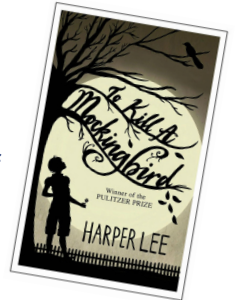


## The Island at the End of Everything

There are some places you wouldn't want to go, even if you were told it had oceans full of turtles and dolphins, with lush forest that echo with the sound of beautiful birds. Nobody comes here because they want to. Year 7 upwards.

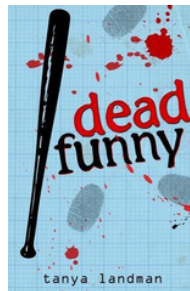
## To Kill a Mockingbird

Seen through the eyes of 3 young children, they watch as their father defends a falsely accused black man of raping a white girl. Year 9 upwards. This is a book of its time but it is a classic!



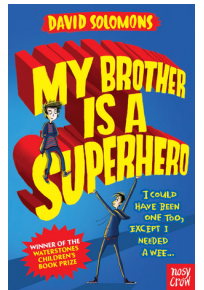
## Dead Funny

When aging star Baby Sugarcandy is found dead in her Hollywood Mansion, an autopsy reveals she was dead before she fell. Poppy Fields decides to investigate. Year 7 upwards.



## My Brother is a Superhero?

So did comic mad Luke. However, Luke nips out at the wrong time and superpowers are bestowed upon his loser brother, who has never read a comic in his life! Can his brother save the world? Suitable for Year 7 upwards.



## Time Travelling with a Hamster

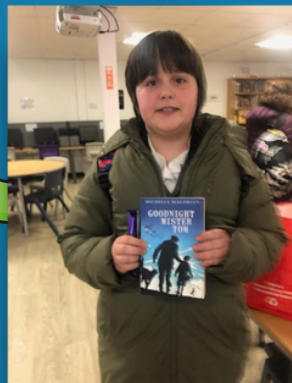
On Al Choudhary's 12th birthday, his beloved Grandpa Byron, gives him a letter from Al's late father. His father gives him a mission to travel back to 1984 in a secret time machine and save his father's life! He takes his hamster, Alan Shearer with him... Year 7 upwards.



# World Book Day

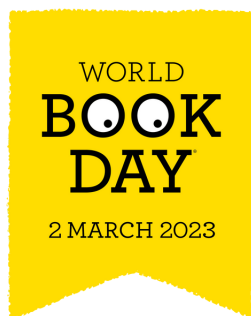
By Mrs Conroy

March has seen South Wolds' celebrate 'World Book Day,' with a book quiz hosted by the English Department and a school book hunt. The winners of the book hunt are Lily R (8T) Gemma W (8Y) and Lilly May C (7H).



# World Book Day 2023

By Mrs Green

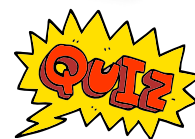


Thank you to everyone who took part in World Book Day this year!

There were some inspired costumes from students (and staff!) and lots of enthusiasm for the activities around school.



Well done to the treasure hunters, who solved clues to characters from well-known books to complete the quest, and thank you to the students who attended the lunchtime quiz, who brought their full competitive energies to the occasion.



For the display in English, teachers have shared information about a memorable book and what made it unforgettable.

There is a great range, from fiction to non-fiction, epic fantasy series to short dystopian stories, and favourites from childhood - which you might recognise - through to recommendations for older readers. Each teacher has also shared how they learned about the book: some were shared by friends or family members, some were read in school, and my favourite is Miss Gale's which was a recommendation from a stranger in a coffee shop!

Reading really can fuel our relationships. Come and check out the display if you have not already. You might spot a familiar title or you might find your next reading recommendation... keep the connections going!

What should I do with all my post-World Book Day excitement...

## ...in school?

The school library is open again for quiet study and reading at breaks and lunchtimes. It's a relaxed space, perfect for completing your homework or getting engrossed in a good read.

## ...over Easter?

Why not join your local library? Joining is easy - just click on the link below and follow the instructions:

<https://www.inspireculture.org.uk/reading-information/libraries/joining-and-using-libraries/>



The great thing about joining is it gives you access to resources not just at your local library but across the county too.

There's also BorrowBox, which enables you to borrow titles to your e-reading device.



# Spanish Exchange 2023

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## *By Year 10 Spanish Students*

In January students from Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 studying Spanish went on the Spanish Exchange to Madrid. We were all very nervous about meeting our partners and staying with them for a whole week, but they made us all feel so welcome and at home!

We had the chance to really experience what Spanish life is like. The biggest difference was how much they ate and how late they ate! But we did get the chance to try lots of traditional food.

Throughout the week, we did lots of different activities with our exchange partners, their families and with the other students from South Wolds. We had lots of time to explore the centre of Madrid, which was beautiful and unique. We went to the Bernebeu stadium, the home of Real Madrid – some people even went to watch football matches. We went shopping and to the zoo and we also went to a traditional Spanish city called Toledo, it was very pretty and here we did a tapas challenge.

We also spent a morning in their school which was interesting as it was really different to school in the UK.

We all had an amazing time and became good friends with our exchange partners. We can't wait to welcome them here at the end of March.



# February and March High Flyers

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## ↑ Alex C (Year 9) PE

Alex completed the Multi Stage Abdominal Curl Fitness Test and was the only person in his group to do so. Brilliant work Alex! [Mr Levack](#)

## ↑ Warren R-B , James S (Year 9) Science

Warren and James have shown an exceptional quality of work and commitment to stay focused during the lesson. Warren was the only one in the class to correctly recall all the major blood vessels coming in and out of heart. James constantly strives to improve his written answers and learn on feedback. That is on the top of two lovely personalities and friendly attitude towards both teachers and school colleagues. [Dr Buczek](#)

## ↑ Toby A (Year 11) English

Toby is a joy to teach and he makes marvellous points during discussions. This was compounded further when he revealed that he'd linked an idea from an anime film to Macbeth and therefore pursued independent research into Machiavelli's The Prince! Nice one, Toby. [Miss Curley](#)

## ↑ Bethany W (Year 7) EP

Always focused and working hard in EP. Beth is also way more confident compared to the start of the year and regularly shares her ideas in class. Great work Beth :) [Mr Lloyd](#)

## ↑ Isaac C (Year 9) Spanish

Isaac started with no knowledge of Spanish but has now become the best student in the class. He is also excelling in French and German as well as Cantonese. [Mr Roberts](#)

## ↑ Rebecca K (Year 9) Spanish

Rebecca always excels, and shows great enthusiasm for all her tasks. [Mr Roberts](#)

## ↑ Oscar LT (Year 11) Spanish

Oscar went on the Spanish Exchange and his Spanish has blossomed ever since. He is now the fastest improving in the Foundation group. [Mr Roberts](#)

## ↑ Maisie B (Year 11) Spanish

Maisie went on the Spanish Exchange and her Spanish has improved dramatically. She is now the fastest improving in the Higher group. [Mr Roberts](#)

## ↑ Freddie C-J (Year 8) French and Fristory

Freddie has been much improved since half term and working well independently in lessons and challenging himself to complete higher level tasks. He has embraced the new topic of slavery in fristory and participated really well in lessons. [Miss Crawford](#) and [Miss Fox](#)

## ↑ Megan C (Year 8) French

Megan tried her absolute best with every task set. She is growing in confidence to participate in lessons and works diligently to listen to feedback and try to improve the quality of her work.

[Miss Crawford](#)

## ↑ Alexis W-K (Year 8) French

Alexis is making excellent progress in French. She works hard in the lessons, participates well and tries her best with every task set.

Her book work is also exemplary. Well done Alexis. [Miss Crawford](#)

## ↑ Charlotte D (Year 8) French

Charlotte is quiet in lessons but brilliant and works very hard at each task set and has produced some excellent work. [Miss Crawford](#)



# February and March High Flyers

## Rebecca N (Year 8) French

Rebecca is eager to learn and asks such insightful questions and tackles even the most complex grammar tasks with determination to be successful. She is a delight to teach and her book work is exemplary. *Miss Crawford*

## Baily H (Year 9) Maths

Baily always works hard in maths lessons and is a pleasure to have in the classroom.

*Mrs Skilbeck*

## Millie C (Year 9) English

Millie's analysis of literature texts is always mature and well-considered. She works hard in lessons and in her homework. Great job, Millie! *Mrs Arnold*

## Lucianne H

Lucianne makes thoughtful contributions in all of her English lessons and she's doing a fabulous job at reading the part of the Inspector in our class play, 'An Inspector Calls'. *Mrs Arnold*

## Furkan B (Year 10) English

Furkan's English has improved hugely since Year 9. I've been so impressed with his English essays this year. He is surpassing his target grades! *Mrs Arnold*

## Zilpha C (Year 8) Spanish

Passionate about the subject, hard-working in the extreme and always pushing the boundaries, never content to relax with just being good enough. *Mr Reeves*

## Luca B (Year 8) Spanish

Not only intelligent, assiduous and self-challenging, always achieving the highest possible test scores, Luca is also a high-flyer from a social and personal perspective, being a supportive and friendly work partner, kind, polite and reliable. *Mr Reeves*

## Kacey W (Year 12) Tutor

Despite having to negotiate various appointments outside of school, Kacey continues to keep up to date with all tasks and carries out independent study. She also absolutely smashed it in her recent Mocks. Well done Kacey, you're an inspiration and we're lucky to have you in the Sixth Form! *Miss Gale*

## Caitlin J (Year 11) English

Caitlin has been consistently engaged in sessions and offers impressive analysis at every given opportunity. Well done, Caitlin! *Miss Curley*

## Katie B (Year 11) English

Katie reported that she'd applied what she'd learned during our sessions into her mock exam. There is so much to remember at any one time in the pressurised environment of an exam hall, so it is really pleasing that she was confident in her knowledge and skills. Keep it up, Katie!

*Miss Curley*

## McKenzie H (Year 10) English

McKenzie has an excellent and thoughtful approach to lessons. His confidence in descriptive writing is increasing, and I really enjoy working with him. Nice one, McKenzie! *Miss Curley*

## Rose H (Year 11) History

Rose puts so much effort in to all tasks and manages to stay on top of everything despite all the other challenges of Year 11. *Mrs Ritoridis*



HIGH FLYERS

# February and March High Flyers

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## ↑ Ashleigh B (Year 11) History

Ashleigh always puts 100% into every task, no matter how challenging, and is doing really well. Her homework record is fantastic too. Mrs Ritoridis

## ↑ Mika P (Year 11) History

Mika always sets the bar high and works really hard to ensure she is always learning and always making progress. Mrs Ritoridis

## ↑ Jess G and Sophie S (Year 10) Maths

Both worked incredibly hard on the day of the strike, both in the revision lesson period 2 and in the walking talking mock in period 5. Miss Turnbull

## ↑ Isabelle W (Year 7) Fristory

Isabelle makes some great contributions in our Fristory lessons and always puts 100% effort into tasks. Miss Fox

## ↑ Lucianne H (Year 9) History

Lucianne has produced some fantastic work this year, including her most recent assessment on influential women in History. Lucianne is always engaged and focused and works hard in her History lessons, well done! Miss Fox

## ↑ Freya M (Year 7) Fristory

Freya always puts 100% effort into her class work and homework and has worked really well in her Fristory lessons this year. Keep up the great work Freya! Miss Fox

## ↑ Hannah K (Year 10) History

Hannah is a great Historian - she is analytical and has great knowledge of the topics that we covered so far. Her mock exam was excellent. Keep up the great work. Miss Fox

## ↑ The Year 13 Extended Project Students

The year 13 EPQ students delivered outstanding presentations on their chosen topics to staff, students and parents. You all spoke with such confidence and delivered your presentations so professionally. You should all be very proud - your hard work over the past year has really paid off. Miss Fox

## ↑ Mishti J (Year 9) Maths

Mishti has made a great start to her new maths class always volunteering answers and working incredibly hard. She is a great asset to the class. Well done Mishti. Mrs Cleator

## ↑ Holly L (Year 10) History

Holly's class work and homework is always completed to a very high standard. Holly is always engaged and focused in lessons. Keep up the great work! Miss Fox

## ↑ Katie L (Year 10) History

Katie has been working so well in History this year. Katie has a great work ethic and always completes tasks to the best of her ability. Keep up the great work! Miss Fox

## ↑ Kyle N (Year 8) Maths

Kyle always works very hard in Maths lessons and his presentation is outstanding. Mrs Barr-Smith

## ↑ Rebecca N (Year 9) Maths

Rebecca works extremely hard in Maths lessons and asks very good questions. It is a pleasure to have her in the class. Mrs Barr-Smith



# The Steel City Ice Skating Competition

By Ms Giugno



In March from Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th myself (Miss Giugno), Charlotte D (Year 10) and Lucy B (Year 9) took part in the Steel City synchronised ice skating competition in Sheffield with the Nottingham Synchronised Ice Skating Academy (NSSA).

Synchronised ice skating involves teams of 12-16 skaters skating in formation whilst performing intricate routines to music. Synchronized skating is an amazing team sport that takes hours of hard work and dedication on and off the ice to blend many skaters into one unit. Training sessions are often early in the morning before school starts, in the evening and at the weekends.

NSSA are a Nottingham based synchronized skating club, comprising of seven squads and approximately 100 skaters. NSSA have teams across seven levels/categories.

Lucy skates in two teams; Ice Stars in the Basic Novice category and Ice Gems in the Juvenile category. Lucy skated on Friday with her Ice Gems team and after a fantastic skate earned a personal best and placed second, receiving a silver medal. On Sunday she skated again with her second team Ice Stars and gained another personal best for the season and placed first taking home a gold medal.



Charlotte skated on Saturday with her team Ice Dreams in the Advanced Novice category. After skating a brilliant, energetic and fast paced program to Aladdin, they placed first, awarding them gold medals.

I also skated on Saturday as part of Ice Diamonds, the academy's Adult team. After skating a successful program we achieved our personal best score for the season and were awarded first place receiving Gold medals.

It was a fantastic three days and a great end to the 2022-2023 season. All teams skating with NSSA placed first, second or third and were very proud and happy with the wonderful achievements at this competition.



# Mission Zero Colour Sensor Project

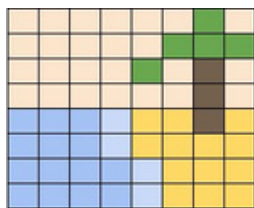
By Mrs Rowe

Some students have submitted entries for Mission Zero (ran by the European Space Agency and Raspberry Pi) which offers young people the chance to have their code run in space!

The theme for Mission Zero 2022/23 is 'Flora and Fauna'.

Students have deigned an 8x8 image and written a program to take a reading from the colour and luminosity sensor on an Astro Pi computer on board the International Space Station, and used it to set the background colour in a personalised image for the astronauts to see as they go about their daily tasks.

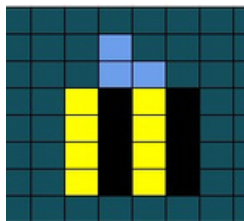
If their code is run on the mission students will receive a certificate they can download recording the exact start and end time, and the position of the ISS when their program ran – a piece of space science history to keep!



```
# Import the libraries
from sense_hat import SenseHat
from time import sleep
```

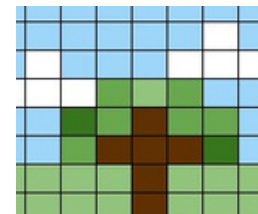
```
# Set up the Sense HAT
sense = SenseHat()
sense.set_rotation(270)
```

```
# Set up the colour sensor
sense.color.gain = 60 # Set the sensitivity of the sensor
sense.color.integration_cycles = 64 # The interval at which the reading will be taken
```

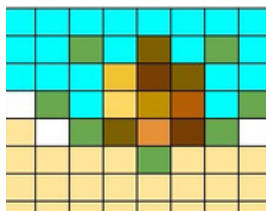


```
# Add colour variables and image
```

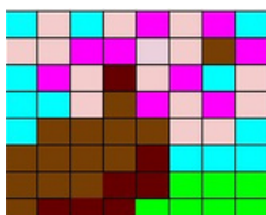
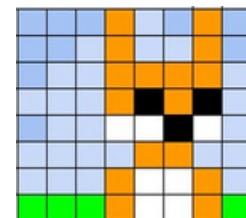
```
c = (0, 0, 0) # Black
m = (34, 139, 34) # DeepPink
q = (255, 255, 0) # Yellow
t = (255, 140, 0) # DarkOrange
y = (255, 20, 147) # ForestGreen
```



```
for i in range(28):
    rgb = sense.color # get the colour from the sensor
    c = (rgb.red, rgb.green, rgb.blue)
```

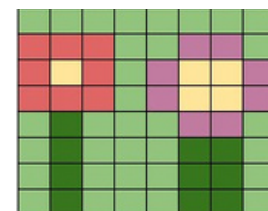


```
# image = [
c, c, y, y, y, y, c, c,
c, y, y, t, t, y, y, c,
y, y, t, q, q, t, y, y,
c, y, y, t, t, y, y, c,
c, c, y, y, y, y, c, c,
m, c, c, m, m, c, c, m,
c, m, m, m, m, m, m, c,
c, c, c, m, m, c, c, c]
```



```
# Display the image
```

```
sense.set_pixels(image)
sleep(1)
```



```
x = (178, 34, 34) # choose your own red, green, blue values between 0 - 255
sense.clear(x)
```

# Year 13 Extended Project Qualification Presentation

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**By Miss Fox**

On Wednesday 8th March, the Year 13 Extended Project students delivered their presentations to staff, students and parents.

The EPQ is an independent research project. The students select a topic of their choice, conduct in-depth research, write an academic essay and create a presentation.

The project takes just under a year to complete and requires a lot of hard work and dedication.

Some of the students were really nervous about presenting, but they had no reason to be. They spoke confidently and delivered engaging presentations. Their hard work really paid off and they were all clearly very knowledgeable about their topics.

Thank you to everyone who came along to support them!



## The Cliftonettes Gift Life-Saving Equipment

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**By Mrs Angus**

South Wolds has been generously gifted a brand new portable defibrillator, courtesy of The Cliftonettes Netball Club.

The U16 Black Squad have been involved in organising a curry and quiz night which raised over £6000.



This funding has enabled the Cliftonettes to purchase 5 defibrillators in total and we are incredibly grateful to have received one of these life-saving pieces of equipment. This will be used by our sports teams when we go out on fixtures and our thanks go to everyone involved in helping raise funds for such an important resource that will ensure we continue to look after our players and officials.

Pictured are two Cliftonettes U16 Black Squad players Violet W and Mae O handing over the defibrillator to Mrs Angus.



**WEAR IT OUT,  
DON'T THROW  
IT OUT!**



## **BUY AND SELL SECOND-HAND SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Uniformerly is an online marketplace that allows you to buy, sell or give away second-hand school uniform and school related items to other parents within school.

We hope by using Uniformerly, that you can recycle your children's old school kit, helping to save you money, whilst helping other parents to cut the cost of buying school uniform.

It's completely FREE to use, with no listing fees and no hidden extras.

For more information check out their website [www.uniformerly.co.uk](http://www.uniformerly.co.uk)

**[WWW.UNIFORMERLY.CO.UK](http://WWW.UNIFORMERLY.CO.UK)**