



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



KEY DATES

Year 11 & 13 Awards Evening

By Mr Askham

On Thursday 11th January, we had the enormous pleasure of joining some of last years year 11 and 13 cohort at The South Wolds Academy & Sixth Form Annual Awards evening.

The evening took place at The Carriage Hall in Plumtree and was a celebration of those students whose attainment in the 2023 external exams was outstanding. The evening was a wonderful opportunity to show how proud we are of these students and to listen to the amazing things they have achieved during their years with us.

Mrs Angus opened the evening with some stirring words before the assembled staff shared citations written by the various nominating teachers. In addition to the subject awards, Mrs Angus presented her Head Teacher awards for both A Level and GCSE and the Governor awards were presented by our Chair of Governors, Sue Jaques. It was a real honour to listen to the citations and share the successes of such a talented and committed group of young people in a room full of suitably proud parents and carers.

- 19th Feb - School returns
- 28th Feb - Year 10 RSHE Day
- 29th Feb - Careers Fair
- 7th March - World Book Day
- 11th March - Year 7 Parents Evening
- 18th - 21st March - Inter-Tutor Sports
- 26th - 28th March - Dance Festival
- 29th March - 12th April - Half Term



Year 11 & 13 Awards Evening continued

After the formalities of the presentation were complete, staff were able to catch up with the students and their families over some fruity fizz and the best chocolate brownies I've ever tasted.

Once again, a massive congratulations to all of our winners and thank you for being part of such a special evening.

A Level Winners

Humanities - Troy B

English - Luke O

Business Studies - Libby P

Science - Yasmine H

Languages - Izzy N

Maths - Rachael B

PE - Henry T

Art, Design & Technology - Adam P

Psychology - Flaym D-T

KS5 Head Teacher Award - Ffreuer J

KS5 Governor Award - Isabelle F

GCSE Winners

Art & Photography - Jorja E

Triple Science - Phoebe C

Business - Harriet H

PE & Sports Science - Louis O

Computer Science - Faizaan D

English Language - Ashleigh B

English Literature - Harry S-A

Languages - Ellis J

Drama - Olivia B-B

Music - Isla G

Geography - Lucy H

Design Technology - Elliotte W

Graphics & Textiles - Darcey J-H

History - Ellie D

Maths - Joseph C-B

Philosophy & Ethics - Mika P

Science - Laura D

KS4 Head Teacher Award - Josh B

KS4 Governor Award - Jasmine G

Year 7 Sports Hall Athletics

By Miss Reast

A massive well done to our Year 7's who finished in first place after participating in the Sports Hall Athletics Festival as a team on the 11th January!

Congratulations to Vincy, Sherine, Ava Mc, Georgie, Ava O, Sam, Marcus, Harry, Will, Jenson, Brody and Cody!

Reading Updates

By Ms Haywood

New Librarian

We are delighted to welcome Miss Mitchell to The South Wolds Academy & Sixth Form as our new librarian. She is going to be leading on making sure our library continues to be an exciting and welcoming place to be. As well as delivering some of our extra literacy sessions. This means the library is now open every break and lunchtime for students to explore and enjoy our wide selection of books.

Scholastic Book Fair

The library will be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair between the 21st - 28th February. The fair offers 200 new and exciting books to inspire our young readers!

Students will be welcome to visit the library during break and lunchtimes to check out the fantastic range of books we will have on offer. Students will be able to purchase books from the fair with cash, or you can use the QR code to load money onto an account that can then be accessed in school. Any families in receipt of free school meals who would like to participate but may need support should contact the school office for more information.

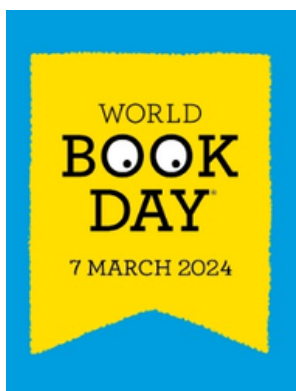


Scan the QR code to pay for your books online
or visit bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay

Non-Fiction Reading

A reminder about our fantastic resource TheDay.com <https://theday.co.uk/> that can be accessed via our homepage. After February half term, teachers are going to be setting more regular reading homeworks via The Day to support the development of students' reading for learning skills. This will start with English, Maths and Science initially, but will extend to all subject areas following the Easter break.

World Book Day: 7th March 2024



To promote students' reading for choice we have turned World Book Day into a week-long celebration, with a range of creative writing workshops, art and craft activities and film clubs taking place in the library during lunchtimes of the 4th-8th March.

On the big day itself, we will be hosting a character costume scavenger hunt where students will need to find all the teachers dressed as different book characters, as well as a World Book Day quiz. We have a range of fantastic prizes to be won so please do come on down to the library to get involved in all our exciting events!

Geography Reading Recommendations

By Mr Inufusa

The books below are geography-themed novels and non-fiction recommendations from team Geography.

Here are my top 3 books linked to topics students have been learning about in KS3, KS4 and KS5 geography lessons over the last term.

Running Wild - By Michael Morpurgo

This is a fictional novel that tells the story of a young boy named Will who survives a tsunami while on vacation in Indonesia. This book is inspired by true events and explores themes of loss, survival, and the connection between humans and nature. There is a theme of environmental conservation and the importance of protecting wildlife. Interesting read that incorporates cultural geography and the relationship between human activities and the natural environment.

Links to Geography at SWA: KS3 – Fantastic Places, GCSE – The living World (Tropical Rainforests) and The Challenges of Natural Hazards.

Trash - By Andy Mulligan

This book follows the lives of three boys, Raphael, Gardo, and Rat, living in extreme poverty. The mysterious bag they find in the landfill gets them mixed up with political scandal and corruption at the highest levels of government. From the slums to the mansions of the elite, it takes all of their quick thinking and fast-talking to stay ahead and alive with the story highlighting the social inequality and injustice.

Links to Geography at SWA: KS3 – Urbanisation, GCSE – Urban Issues and Challenges/ The Changing Economic World.

Factfulness - Ten Reasons We're Wrong About The World – and why things are better than you think - By Hans Rosling with Ola Rosling and Anna Rosling Rönnlund

A radical new explanation of our world. Hans Rosling explains why the world is not in quite such a bad shape as we thought and why we often get our facts wrong. This is a hopeful book about the potential for human progress when we consider the statistics. It is a great book for polishing up your knowledge about the world and seeing the opportunities of the future.

Links to Geography at SWA: GCSE – The Changing Economic World, A level – Global Systems and Global Governance.

Geography Reading Recommendations continued

By Mr Inufusa

Fusa's Fun Fact Quiz (questions based on the books above)

1. Running Wild is set in Indonesia. What is the population of Indonesia?

189
million

217
million

278
million

2. Will encounters orangutans in the book running wild. Which of these islands do orangutans not live in?

Sumatra

Borneo

Java

3. Oona from the story is a subspecies of Asian elephant. True or False: Asian elephants are the largest elephant species.

True

False

4. The story of 'Trash' is set in an informal settlement. Which country in the world has the largest informal settlement?

India

Kenya

Pakistan

5. True or False: Dharavi (an informal settlement) in Mumbai makes \$10 million per year.

True

False

6. What percent of the world's population currently live in extreme poverty?

9%

17%

50%

7. Primary education is standard for 60% of girls in low income countries.

True

False

8. What is the typical life expectancy across the world?

67 years

72 years

77 years

Other books to enrich learning for KS4 & KS5 students/ for adults at home:

- How Population will transform our World (Sarah Harper)
- Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need To Know About Global Politics (Tim Marshall)
- The Future of Energy: 2020 (John Michael Armstrong)
- The Almighty Dollar (Dharshini David)

Answers are on Page 10

Success for Year 7 Girl's Football

By Mr Shaw



The Year 7 girls' football team have enjoyed huge success over the last few weeks. They have been competing across three different cup competitions – South Notts Cup (Local), English Schools Cup (National) and the Utilita Cup (National).

The Utilita Cup is an event that is organised and run by the English Football League. Notts County FC hosted the Club Final before Christmas where we were victorious against Rushcliffe School in the final. This meant that we would now be representing Notts County FC at the Area Finals that were held in Doncaster in January. This was a huge achievement in itself as the competition is an U13 competition, meaning we were competing against teams with players that were a year older.

At the Area Finals, we competed against 8 other schools representing other Football League teams – Derby County, Leicester City, Doncaster Rovers, Burton Albion, Lincoln City, Hull City, Mansfield Town and Grimsby Town. The tournament consisted of a round robin format with each team playing the other eight and games were 8 minutes in duration. It was a fast-paced format that we took a couple of games to get into. We lost our first 2 games and drew our third. Then, suddenly, we clicked into gear, winning our remaining 5 group games without conceding. The girls were fantastic! Hard work, teamwork and exceptional performance saw us finish in second place and gain a place in the semi-finals. We played Hull City in the semi-final – a team that we had beaten 1-0 in the group stage – so hopes were high. A battling, end-to-end game with chances missed and great saves made, but neither team could find the winner and so to the dreaded penalty shoot-out. Lauren S in goal was extremely confident and we had 5 brave volunteers to take them. Hull missed their first three penalties, Lauren saving two. We were much more clinical, leaving Brianne W-K with the chance to score our 4th penalty and win the shoot-out. No problems as she nestled the ball in the bottom corner, meaning a 3-0 win and a place in the final!

Here we came up against a strong Burton Albion team that had beaten us 2-0 in our first game, earlier in the day. They had an exceptional striker who we knew we would have to combat in order to be successful. The girls started the game positively, defending valiantly and nullifying the threat of the opposition. We started to grow into the game and managed to create a break away attack. Eva D picked up the ball and waltzed round 2 defenders before calmly firing the ball past the keeper. Moments later, Eva D was at it again. Beating defenders with ease and slotting the ball past the keeper to make it 2-0! We continued to defend brilliantly and managed the game superbly, meaning the victory was ours!

Success for Year 7 Girl's Football continued

By Mr Shaw

A fantastic achievement, beating talented teams from across the region, all of which were a year older than our team. Another trophy for the cabinet and Eva D was also crowned Player of the Tournament. We will now go onto represent Notts County at the Northern Area Finals in March with a place in the final at Wembley stadium at stake! All of the girls were fantastic on the day. High energy, determination, positivity and great teamwork were displayed in abundance.

In the English Schools Cup – another National competition – the team is also performing extremely well. A total of 231 schools entered the competition this year and we have made it through to the last 8. We have had some comprehensive victories in the earlier rounds – winning 5-0, 6-0 and 5-1 respectively against schools in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire – and now face Archbishop Temple School from Preston, after half term, for a place in the semi-finals.

Achievements in both competitions is above anything that has been achieved at South Wolds before. The girls have been absolutely amazing and are a real credit to the school.

Team below form L-R: Esme S, Molly C, Brianne W-K, Lily S, Eva D, Pia P and Lauren S.

(Not in photo but also represented the team: Isla T, Imogen G, Millie B, Jessie S and Evie F)



January/February High Flyers

James S (Year 10) PE

For being a loyal and supportive friend. Great work! [Mr Levack](#)

Will B (Year 10) PE

For being a loyal and supportive friend. Great work! [Mr Levack](#)

The Year 7 Girls Football Team

For winning the Utilita Area Football Final and the Utilita Club Final to progress through to the Northern Finals ... In a Year 8 competition! Absolutely AMAZING! [PE Department](#)

Jamal L-M (Year 11) History

Jamal has made fantastic progress in History this year, makes fantastic contributions in lessons and works hard in every task set. [Miss Fox](#)

Eila O (Year 11) History

Eila has made some excellent progress in History - she consistently works hard in every lesson. Well done, Eila! [Miss Fox](#)

Ianna K (Year 9) History

For always being enthusiastic, contributing and working hard in every History lesson. [Miss Fox](#)

Brody K (Year 7) History

For always being enthusiastic and sharing some excellent ideas in History lesson. [Miss Fox](#)

Alice K (Year 11) English

For demonstrating brilliant progress in English Language and outstanding commitment to learning. [Mrs Harper-Williams](#)

Jessica H (Year 7) English

Jessica is consistently brilliant in English lessons - she quietly completes excellent work every lesson and she is always polite and kind. Great job! [Mrs Arnold](#)

Maegan C (Year 8) English

Maegen's English work is of the highest quality and she always uses feedback constructively to improve her responses - super commitment to learning! [Mrs Arnold](#)

Thomas C-B (Year 10) English

For some excellent high quality writing in English Language. [Miss Wightman](#)

Mishti J (Year 10) English

Mishti always puts incredibly effort into her English homework pieces - they are always above and beyond expectation. Well done, Mishti! [Mrs Arnold](#)

Oli R (Year 11) Spanish

For always being there to help me out when I need a volunteer in Spanish classes.

Bethany W (Year 8) English

For consistently working hard in English lessons, her excellent contributions to class discussions, her mature attitude, exemplary behaviour - plus an outstanding piece of homework. [Mrs Hudson](#)

Zoe N (Year 8) English

For her excellent contributions to class discussions in English lessons, her willingness to share ideas, her creative writing and her strong resilience! [Mrs Hudson](#)



January/February High Flyers

Libby T (Year 8) English

For consistently working hard in English lessons, her excellent and frequent contributions to class discussions and for her mature attitude and behaviour. **Mrs Hudson**

Adib R (Year 11) English

For his fantastic achievement in the English Literature mock exam and for his outstanding contributions to class discussions - well done, Adib! **Mrs Hudson**

Oliver M (Year 8) English

For always being positive, polite and kind in English lessons and for working hard on written tasks in class and at home - well done, Oliver! **Mrs Hudson**

The Year 7 Indoor Athletics Festival Team

For winning the Rushcliffe Schools Indoor Athletics Festival! **PE Department**

Leah M (Year 11) Life Skills

Always taking a great role when discussing topics in Life Skills. Well done! **Miss Gale**

Junior W (Year 11) Life Skills

Always taking a great role when discussing topics in Life Skills. Well done! **Miss Gale**

Libby H (Year 11) Life Skills

Always taking a great role when discussing topics in Life Skills. Well done! **Miss Gale**

Furkhan B (Year 11) Life Skills

Always taking a great role when discussing topics in Life Skills. Well done! **Miss Gale**

Bethany M (Year 7) History/Geography

Bethany is always hard-working in both my History and Geography lessons. She always contributes and is really helpful too. **Mrs Shirra**

Daniel F, Norah T, Florence D-S, Amelia A, Jerome B, Isabelle P and Matthew C (Year 8) History

For their excellent History extended writing on the repatriation on the Benin Bronzes. Well done! **Mrs Shirra**

Lily F, Zak G, Reuben H, Evelyn L H, Lily M, Jack O and Curtis P (Year 9) History

Very impressive result in the History Test in Year 9 Test Week. Well done! **Mrs Shirra**

Lis N, Freddie C-J, Kiki F, Holly T, Femke P, Mia D, Isaac O, Liam F, Poppy W, Eliana R, Ella T, Freya M, Millie G, Evan M, Joshua T, Imogen F, Eva K, Lily H, Isaac R and Ben P (Year 9) Geography

For good structure and detail in the Geography test. **Miss Martin**

Eugenie L (Year 11) French

Excellent work in French and asking great questions - super participation. **Miss Crawford**



January/February High Flyers

Zilpha C, Jenson C, Ianna K, Poppy W, Erin P, Luca B and Daniel B (Year 9)

Geography

Impressive test result in the Geography Year 9 test. Great work! [Mr Inufusa](#)

Albert F (Year 11) Geography

Excellent progress in Geography. Super result in the recent test. Keep up the good work! [Mr Inufusa](#)

Adib R (Year 11) Geography

Adib works hard, aspires and is always kind. Great test results. You legend! [Mr Inufusa](#)

Albert R (Year 11) Geography

Fantastic contributions in lessons. Top score in the most recent test. Well done! [Mr Inufusa](#)

Nashra R (Year 11) Geography

Getting consistently high grades in assessments. Superb commitment to learning. [Mr Inufusa](#)

Wayne Y (Year 11) Geography

Amazing work ethic. Always polite. Super assessment results. Fantastic Geographer! [Mr Inufusa](#)

Jorja T (Year 10) History

For consistently excellent effort in History and always seeking to challenge herself. [Miss Crawford](#)

Curtis P (Year 9) Geography

Great 9 marker answer in the Geography test. [Mr Inufusa](#)

Imogen F (Year 9) French

An outstanding performance in the French assessment - Imogen really listened to advice given and applied this in the exam. [Miss Crawford](#)

Aiqi F (Year 10) French

Excellent progress in French - Aiqi is a pleasure to teach and is working very hard in lessons and with homework tasks. [Miss Crawford](#)

Megan C (Year 9) French

Megan works so hard in French and has made incredible progress as a result - she listens carefully to feedback and is focused on improvement. [Miss Crawford](#)

Oliver R (Year 11) French

Superb participation in French lessons and asking questions for clarification. [Miss Crawford](#)

Brodie A-C (Year 8) Geography

Always stays to collect all the books in at the end of the lesson. Thank you for being super kind! [Mr Inufusa](#)

Libby T (Year 8) Geography

For being a Geography legend! Always participating and aced the end of topic test. [Mr Inufusa](#)

Shun Y (Year 8) Geography

For being a Geography legend! Always participating and aced the end of topic test. [Mr Inufusa](#)

Hector C (Year 8) Geography

Fantastic contribution in lessons. Made a great advert for the Great Barrier Reef. [Mr Inufusa](#)



Insights to Innovation: A Level Discovery Event

By Mrs Rowe

Some of our A-Level Computer Science students took part in the online “Insights in Innovation” discovery event hosted by Isaac Computer Science. The event had three mini lectures:

- Computer Science: with a lecturer from Huddersfield University
- Empowering Tomorrow's Innovators: A Peak into the Careers Behind the Tech Products you use Everyday! - Morgan Patzelt (Director of Product, Showbie Inc)
- Coding the Swing: Harnessing Python and Pygame for a Thrilling Tarzan Adventure Workshop - Daniel Toms (NCCE Specialist Lead for Programming).

Students who virtually attended the event, said it was really interesting, finding out about Computer Science at University and hearing from a recent graduate about their experiences in the workplace.

We will be virtually attending more sessions next half term.

Oxford University Computing Challenge

On January 19th, 20 students took part in the Oxford University Computing Challenge. This Oxford University Computing Challenge is an invitation only event, which aims to encourage students who have achieved a top 10% score in the UK Bebras Challenge (which we took part in during the Autumn term) to develop their skills further and produce programmed solutions to computational thinking problems.

Everyone worked really hard to prepare for the challenge, and I’m really proud of everyone who took part, as it’s not easy! There are 12 questions to answer in 50 minutes.

Well Done to Samuel B, Hazel C, Charlotte G, Isla K, Carly C, Jerome B, Daniel B, Tommy C, Peter G, Philip J, Ben P, Ben W, Thomas W, Shun Y, Mishti J, Harry S, David J, Jack E, Yulian N, Hagen W, Jack E.

Special mention to Ben W and Philip J who were awarded ‘Certificates of Merit’!

Fusa’s Fun Fact Quiz - Answers

By Mr Inufusa

Answers to the quiz.

1. 278 million
2. Java – It is estimated that there are 104,700 in Borneo and 7,500 in Sumatra
3. False – They are the smallest out of the 3 main species – The African Bush, The African Forest and The Asian elephants.
4. Pakistan – Orangi Town has an estimated population of 2.4 million.
5. False – They actually make \$1 billion per year through their factories and industries linked to leather, textiles and pottery.
6. 9% - Back in 1966 it was 50%.
7. True – There is still a large gender gap, however, it is slowly closing.
8. 72 years – Half a century ago, it was 60 years.

English Stars - January/February

By Ms Wightman



Your English teachers have been voting again for the Star Students of this term!

Please congratulate all of our fabulous winners!

Year 7

Imogen G

Bethany M

Harry D

Alexander P

Eleanor B

Harley K

WINNER – Lauren S

Year 8

Karen C

Eunice C

Bethany W

WINNER – Naomi H

Year 9

Curtis P

Ianna K

Erin P

Ell J

James C

WINNER – Femke P

Year 10

Ella D

Edward D

Hayah R

Millie L

Sienna W

Isaac C

WINNER – Spike M-T

Year 11

Nashra R

Lois B

Holly C

Lauren S

Holly L

Adib R

WINNER - Katie L

Ethics & Philosophy Film Recommendations

By Mr Baines

The Boy and the Heron 2023 (12A)



The Boy and the Heron is the latest studio Ghibli movie which focuses on Mahito, a young 12-year-old boy, who struggles to settle in a new home after a family issue. However, when a talking heron informs Mahito that his mother is still alive, he enters an abandoned tower in search of her, which takes him to another world where time operates on a different level.

Philosophy and Ethics reference:

The film centres on the idea that time will pass anyway. By moving forward, we can be present and focus on what is important to us, while simultaneously letting go of the past. Some heavy ethics involved and will make you appreciate what you have now. A typical Ghibli film.

Links to GCSE where we study the afterlife as well as KS3 discussions on Ultimate Questions and the concept of reincarnation.

Soul 2020 (PG)



A story about Joe, a middle-school band teacher whose life hasn't quite gone the way he expected. His true passion is jazz -- and he's good. But when he travels to another realm to help someone find their passion, he soon discovers what it means to have soul.

Philosophy and Ethics reference:

Soul is, as it titles itself, about the soul. What is this though? Is it a real thing or part of our brain? A lot of questions pop in this and it's featured in Mr Lloyd's philosophy film club before. The movie asks you about what is the purpose of life? A question that leaves anyone pondering their life's work. Yet, it seems to push the idea it is more about developing your own philosophy on the little things. It's great to be in this world, as a thinking, breathing human being, ready to enjoy ourselves.

Links to KS3 and GCSE with discussions on the soul. As well as KS5 A Level where the conscience is looked into, with links to psychology too.

Anyone But You 2023 (15)



Anyone but you is a heavy feature, breaking some box office records, and has Natasha Bedingfield's song in that is now everywhere- mainly my brain. Despite an amazing first date, Bea and Ben's initial attraction quickly turns sour. However, when they unexpectedly find themselves at a destination wedding in Australia, they pretend to be the perfect couple to keep up appearances.

Philosophy and Ethics reference:

The movie is predominantly a rom-com but behind all that is the ethical debate on playing with emotions. Is it right to pretend to be with someone? Are emotions best for moral decision making or should we be more rational?

Links to A-Level where emotivism is studied as a part in meta-ethics.

The South Wolds Academy & Sixth Form



Careers Fair 2024

Thursday 29th February
4pm - 7pm
doors will close at 6:30pm

Come and talk to experts about:
Universities, Sixth Form, Colleges,
Employment, Apprenticeships
and Work Experience
opportunities.

All South Wolds Academy
students and parents/carers
welcome!



www.southwolds.co.uk





2024!

Working Together For Our Children

A Conference To Support Our Adopters & Kinship Carers



Educational
Psychology
Service



18th June 2024



9:30am - 2:30pm



Double Tree Nottingham
Gateway Nuthall Road
Nottingham NG8 6AZ



FREE workshops, resources,
speakers & lunch!

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but worried
about transport?

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