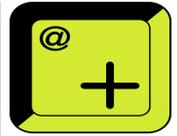




ONWARDS

February 2005



Maths & Computing

ICT Courses

We have two ICT courses running at the moment. Let's Go Digital started in January and a group of parents, friends, relations and school staff are learning how to improve their digital photography. The course is being run in conjunction with Salisbury College and is the first of what we hope will be a number of collaborative ICT classes as they are part of our specialist school provision. There were not enough people interested in starting ECDL, a general ICT qualification, but we will be trying again. Why not e-mail the school or phone reception and let us know if you are interested in future ICT courses? (Mrs Stratton)

Charity Events

South Wilts work for charity continues. Many people will have seen the photographs of Mrs Black and Mrs Hall in the newspaper, their pink hair day raised over £1300 for breast cancer. If you still have money to pay, please give it directly to Mrs Black.

Students have also raised money for other causes and of course responded very quickly to the Tsunami appeal. Mrs Stratton and I asked that we concentrate on long term aid and intend to send a cheque to Save the Children at the end of the term and we challenged every form to take part. At the end of March we hope to publish a list of what events occurred and how much was raised by each form. Years 7 and 8 have got us off to a wonderful start, by raising several hundred pounds from "No Homework Day" and 11B held a cookie sale which raised over £70. (Mrs Vaughan)

Sixth Form Block Opens

Over half term, another move will take place as Psychology and Classical Civilisation move from the last mobiles to new classrooms. There are also offices for Careers and the sixth form staff in the new building. The largest area is the Sixth Form Centre, which is double the size of the old common room. It has a kitchen, and a computer area, as well as plenty of sofas – many newly purchased in the January sales. The grounds around the buildings are being landscaped and planted, creating a great environment for study and relaxation. We can then demolish the mobiles, which will leave a large area next to the music classroom - ideal for a new music block. We will start building again straight away with the lecture theatre/drama room being created in February/March from the old common room. Then we will start on Technology and English extensions, followed by the refurbishment of the PE changing rooms over the summer holidays. (Mrs Stratton)

School Successes

In the recently published National Schools Performance tables, South Wilts has featured highly. We are particularly pleased by the fact that our GCSE results placed us tenth out of all the grammar schools, as many of them are much more selective than we are. In fact, our GCSE results were the best ever; there were so many students gaining A* and A grades that the average points score was 571.2 – the national average being 340.3. We also scored highly in the value added tables as our students made excellent progress from Year 6 KS2 to Year 11 at GCSE.

David Bell, the Chief Inspector of Schools, has written to congratulate us as we have had two successful inspections and we are "an excellent school". The credit for these achievements belongs entirely to the hard work of the girls and the excellent teaching they have received from committed teachers. (Mrs Stratton)

Exam Invigilators

Do you have a few spare hours in May & June? We need to add to our team of invigilators for external examinations. It would be helpful if you have CRB clearance for children. Pay is £8.42 per hour, any time from 9 - 4.30. Contact C. Brundle on 01722 343747

Spring Half Term

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School Calendar

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March 24th

ONWARDS

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

On the evening of Friday January 24th the South Wilts team took part in the South West Regional First Round of the English Speaking Union Public Speaking competition which was held at Bishop Wordworth's School. Our team was made up of Lena Barnes 10E (Main Speaker), Blanche Lumb 10W (Questioner) and Charlotte Turner 10E (Chair).

In front of a large audience from six participating schools, including parents, teachers and, most scarily, the judges, Lena gave her speech arguing that 'Britain's greatest asset is its language'. Not only did she do that but she also had to give detailed answers to questions posed by a Questioner from her host team, and from the audience and the judges. She acquitted herself very well, bringing a lot of energy and animation into her performance.

As Chair and Questioner Charlotte and Blanche hosted a Speaker from Thornden School whose humour and all-round delivery took him on to win the competition. Charlotte chaired with poise, managing the tight timing very well and being very definitely in charge when it came to inviting questions from the floor. In questioning the Speaker, Blanche says she used the experience of years of practice arguing with her brother! It certainly paid off as Blanche received a commendation as Best Questioner of the evening.

Well done to all girls, not least for your absolute reliability and commitment to practice.
(Mrs Young)

Languages Day

Friday 28th January at South Wilts Grammar School

The day started with a talk in the Main Hall for the whole of Year 9 by Mrs Lumb the Careers Adviser. She explained how many careers can be enhanced by knowledge of, and willingness to learn, languages. She showed how there are fewer linguists than ever in the UK, making language skills a rare commodity. Megan Hunt and Jessica Haresign from Year 10 also explained why they opted to do French and German for GCSE.

Then, a chance to learn something new! There were lessons in Spanish, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Arabic and Basque. The lunch time continental picnic was fantastic, with dishes from around the world and everyone eating more than they should. After a quiz about all things European, the language classes performed small sketches in French and German - "Little Britain" in French and German is definitely unusual.

Well done to all Year 9 for their enthusiasm, participation, good manners and willingness to have a go. The day went really well.
(Mrs Jouahri)

Election of UKYP and WAY Candidates Voting Day 24th January 2005

The UK Youth Parliament is a nationwide organisation which aims to highlight the ideas, rights and requirements of British Youth.

Wiltshire Assembly of Youth is a county based group which deals with local issues of Youth in Wiltshire.

Four candidates from South Wilts stood for election to these organisations and on January 24th there was an excellent turnout from the school with over 85% of the students voting.

We were delighted to find out that Kayleigh McDougall from Year 10 was elected UK Youth Parliament member for South Wiltshire. Bryony Waite, Beth Coldridge and Nadine Rowe were also elected members of the Wiltshire Assembly of Youth. South Wilts Grammar School is now very well represented, and the students will have ample opportunity to make their voices heard, both county and countrywide.
(Mrs Mahoney)

Higher Education Fair Monday 14th March 2005

All Year 12 students will be visiting the Higher Education Fair at Bath University on Monday 14th March 2005. If you would be willing to help supervise this visit, travelling to and from Bath with the students on the coach, please contact Mrs Beckett in the Sixth Form Office on 01722 323326

Young Enterprise Trade Fair

The Young Enterprise Area Board has organised a Trade Fair. Come and support the Young Enterprise teams which include Ice Lightning & Papillon. They will be in the **Cross Keys Shopping Mall, Salisbury on 26th February 2005.**



ONWARDS

READING MATTERS

At South Wilts, we really LOVE reading! Especially in Year 7, girls are often so enthusiastic that it's difficult to stop them, when they're right in the middle of that exciting bit and "I just CAN'T stop, Mrs Black, because I've GOT to get to the end of this bit PLEASE!!!"

So we asked some Year 7s why they thought reading was important, and here's a selection of their comments:-

"You can learn new words – it helps your vocabulary ..." ***"it's better than the television"*** ***"... and your punctuation"*** ***"....and you can learn about new things, new worlds"*** ***"...you can put yourself in somebody else's shoes ..."*** ***"... it stops you getting into trouble – it calms me down .."*** ***".. you can lose yourself in a book ..."*** ***".. it's peaceful and I can escape and get away from my brothers ..."*** ***".... and it helps your grammar ..."*** ***"... it gives you ideas for your own writing ..."*** ***"... it's fun! ..."*** ***"... reading exercises your brain ..."***

So if you weren't convinced before, it's official – reading is alive and well and flourishing at South Wilts.

Year 12 Reading Group

The Year 12 Reading Group was set up to allow us to carry on enjoying literature without necessarily taking English as an AS subject.

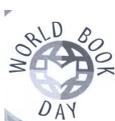
Our plan was to choose a novel and meet up once a month to discuss it and then nominate a new book. So far we have read 'I Capture the Castle' by Dodie Smith which raised different opinions and allowed us to discuss our personal views on the characters and the ending. As a group, we are currently reading 'The Da Vinci Code' by Dan Brown which has already provoked strong opinions throughout the school and I am sure everyone cannot wait to meet and discuss all Dan Brown's incredible theories. Once a term we will be joining forces with the reading group at Bishop Wordsworth and we're expecting these meetings to be even more popular! The date of the next meeting is Thursday 24th February at 4 p.m. in the Library.

(Francesca Hopwood & Katy Stewart, Year 12)

World Book Day

World Book Day will take place on Thursday 3rd March 2005. It is a partnership of publishers, booksellers and interested parties such as South Wilts Grammar School who work together to promote books and reading for the personal enrichment and enjoyment of all. Every year thousands of events are organised in schools, bookshops, libraries and other venues to celebrate World Book Day. The variety and number are impressive, demonstrating how big the celebrations are all over the country. Details of planned events can be found on the web site: www.worldbookday.com.

Every pupil in school will receive a World Book Day £1 Book Token. The aim is "to give every child the opportunity to choose a book of their own and to promote the enjoyment of books and reading". The token can be redeemed from 28th February – 26th March inclusive.



What are Year 7 Reading?

Richard Adams - Watership Down
Lauren Brooke - Heartland series
Meg Cabot - Love You to Death
Meg Cabot - All American Girls
Carol Drinkwater - The Hunger
Catherine Fisher - The Oracle
Georgette Hayer - Cotillion
Mark Haddon - The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime
Mary Hooper - Megan 2
C.J Lewis - A Horse and His Boy
Anthony Masters - Shark Attack
Michael Morpurgo - The Sleeping Sword
Michael Morpurgo - Private Peaceful
Terry Pratchett - Colour of Magic
Philip Pulman - His Dark materials
Cecilia Rees - Witch Child
Cecilia Rees - Pirates!
Jennifer Rennison - And That's When it Fell Off in my Hand
R.L Stine - Ghost in the Mirror
Louise Sachar - Holes
Lemony Snicket - The Grim Grotto
Natsuki Tahaya - Fruit Basket Series
G. P. Taylor - Shadowmancer
Jaqueline Wilson - Illustrated Mum
Jaqueline Wilson - Secrets
Jaqueline Wilson - Girls under Pressure

The tokens can be exchanged for six special £1 World Book Day Books; other purchases must be of a minimum £1.99. We are also planning to publish a list of fiction recommended by Departments, which they feel enhance and enrich the study of the different subjects taught in school.

ONWARDS

Under 14 Netball Tournament 14th November 2004

The Year 9 Group A netball team qualified for the Wiltshire County Tournament earlier this season by winning the Salisbury Tournament. Godolphin, the runners up of the Salisbury Tournament, travelled to Marlborough College as well to compete against five other teams from all around the county.

The team was determined to play to their best even in icy subzero conditions. But after losing two games by only one goal, South Wilts became frustrated. Unexpectedly in the third match Alice Hoole, an excellent defender, suffered an injury and was forced to sit out. Despite this, Kerry Fazal boldly stood in as the seventh player and the whole team persevered even though they were not in their usual positions.

The tournament ended with South Wilts gaining eight points in total, positioning them in fourth place overall. The A team was very pleased with this result as they only lost to the winning team (who qualified at national level) by one goal! The Year 9s are determined to come back in 2006, improved, to represent Year 10, after additional coaching from Mrs Sue Drummond.
(PE Department)

Under 12's Netball

We first played Godolphin who were tough competition but we were playing them first so weren't tired and ready to play. They scored first although it was our centre pass. We scored and so this made it equal. At full time the score was 3-3 and we were glad that we had not lost.

Our next game was against St Edmunds. We had quite an easy game and the final score was 7-1. We think we did very well and Mrs Hole gave us great support.
(Emily Brown 7A)

Active Kids with Sainsbury's

From **2nd March - 30th June** Sainsbury's are running a voucher scheme which will enable us to buy sports equipment for our school. The vouchers are called Active Kids vouchers and for every £10 you spend at Sainsbury's you will receive one voucher. To promote healthy living Sainsbury's will issue an extra voucher for every £5 spent on fresh fruit and vegetables—so healthy eating means more vouchers for our school. Get Collecting!!

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

Wiltshire Under 13 County Cup Final



South Wilts have never had a football team in the past, so in January last year I decided to enter a Year 7/8 and Year 9/10 team in the local (Salisbury) District Council Festival, which led to two teams qualifying for the Wiltshire Youth Games. The South Wilts Grammar School Year 7/8 team went through as first qualifiers. Unfortunately in the final, which took place in July, we lost to Dorcan School 3-1. I soon realised that we had a pretty exceptional junior team on our hands. The girls started training on a regular basis and we entered many more competitions.

Our Under 13's played Sheldon School on Astroturf and won 5-0. In our game against Headlands School, Hayley Ranachan (Year 7) scored within the first two minutes and then went on to score another five of our team's 11-1 victory. In the quarter finals Wootton Bassett withdrew due to pitch problems so we were through to the finals.

In the final the weather was clear but cold and in the first half South Wilts dominated, holding possession through very skilful ball control and excellent passing. At half time South Wilts were 2-0 up and spirits were high. In the second half Dorcan School poured on their attack and our defence proved steady. The game continued to go between South Wilts and Dorcan but in the end a draw (2-2) was achieved. The Under 13 girls now look forward to playing in the Festival in February and hopefully will qualify for the Wiltshire Youth Games in July.

Keep it up girls!
(Mrs Godber)



Year 7 Hockey Team—Salisbury & District Champions!

Many congratulations go to the Year 7 hockey team who won the Salisbury & District Under 12 Girls Hockey Tournament held at the Astroturf pitch on Thursday 3rd February 2005.

All the girls put in maximum effort throughout the tournament, working superbly as a team to produce some outstanding goals. The victory was made even more convincing as not only did the girls win every match they played, but also they did not let one single goal in! Well done girls, you all played brilliantly!
(Miss Salen)

ONWARDS

Music News

Following the departure of Mr Holmes at Christmas, we were delighted to welcome Mr Bill Ferrier and Mr Matthew Hind to our school to share the brass teaching. Both are very experienced and enthusiastic teachers and are part of the Wiltshire Music Service team. Mrs Flower takes maternity leave and we send her all our best wishes as she prepares for the birth of her baby. We are delighted that Miss Marian Givens will take on her teaching until the end of the summer term.

One of the highlights of this term was the concert in Harnham Church given by Year 12 AS level students. The students, who are taught jointly by BWS and South Wilts, made all the arrangements and performed their concert without any help from staff, who enjoyed the concert immensely while marking their performances as part of their coursework. A large and appreciative audience attended. The students raised £280 for the Tsunami Appeal.

Future Dates:

Tuesday 22nd March at 7.30pm - Instrumental Groups Concert - School Hall. Tickets £3

Wednesday, April 13th at 5.30pm – A Cappella sings Evensong in Salisbury Cathedral

Tuesday, 19th April - 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. Senior Choir in rehearsal for Joint Choral Concert (St. Edmund's School Hall)

Tuesday, 26th April - 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. Senior Choir in rehearsal for Joint Choral Concert (SWGS Main Hall)

Tuesday, 3rd May – 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. Senior Choir in rehearsal for Joint Choral Concert (BWS Sports Hall)

Saturday, 7th May, 2.00 - 5.00 p.m. approx. Senior Choir in rehearsal for Joint Choral Concert (BWS Sports Hall)

Saturday, 7th May at 7.30 p.m. Joint Choral Concert - BWS Sport Hall N.B. CHANGE OF VENUE

Tickets on sale nearer the time.

Friday, 13th May at 7.30pm - An Evening of Cabaret - School Hall

(Mrs Poppleton)

End of Term Arrangements

The end of the spring term will be Thursday March 24th and we will finish on that day at 12pm.

We will return for the summer term on Monday 11th April.

SUMMER UNIFORM

New Summer Skirts (kilt style)

These are now available from Chas H. Baker in Salisbury. Prices range from £24 (waist sizes 22-28) to £29 (Waist sizes 30-36). The new summer kilt style is required uniform for Year 7 but optional for years 8-10. The current green A line summer skirts and the checked pattern skirts will be gradually phased out over successive years.

Salsa Night

Friday 11th March

**7.30 pm (prompt) in the Main Hall
South Wilts Grammar School**



Please return this slip, with a cheque made payable to Friends of SWGS, in an envelope marked Salsa Night, Friends of SWGS, c/o the Deputy Bursar, by 1st March.

No. of adult tickets at £6

No. of child tickets at £3

Total cost:

- Fun for all the family, with professional instruction
- No experience necessary, just a pair of sensible shoes (not trainers)
- Refreshments provided
- Bar

Daughter's name and form:

