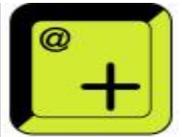




ONWARDS

March 2005



Maths & Computing

Reports and Term Grades

We are currently reviewing the timing and content of reports and term grades. The existing system is to have one full report, two term grades and one parents evening for each year group annually. We would welcome views from parents on what they would like, so I invite any interested parents to a discussion meeting on 21st April at 6.30pm, at school. Alternatively, if you cannot attend this meeting, do feel free to write to me with your views.
(Mrs Stratton)

Buildings

The new Sixth Form block is now open and well used by students. The study centre has a large number of sofas – although more would be welcome. It also has a resource area with computers. All the Sixth Form offices and the Careers department are now together. We are due to finish the new theatre in the old Sixth Form common room by the end of term and this will be a great resource for drama and school events. It will have 70 raked seats which can be pushed back when not needed. The Friends of South Wilts are purchasing the seats and we are very grateful for their help.

The next building phase starts on 24th March with an additional English classroom and a Technology extension, so we will be back to restricted routes and contractors around the site. Over the summer we will refurbish the PE changing rooms, install new showers, toilets, storage and changing facilities.

All of these projects will help to enhance the learning environment for students and I hope we are able to continue building and refurbishing.
(Mrs Stratton)

ICT News

This term two groups of parents, students, friend and staff of the school have been gaining new ICT skills. One course using Dreamweaver has been on creating websites. The result is very professional looking web pages. Why not have a go at the new course, starting on Wednesday 20th April at 6.30pm. This course is free. The course on digital photography using Photoshop has been run by Salisbury College staff and is an excellent way of learning what you can do to digital images. The cost is £54 and a new course starts on Monday 18th April. Please telephone Reception on 01722 323326 to book a place.

Spring End of Term

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Computers for Schools Vouchers

Tesco Computers for Schools is now in its 14th year. The vouchers will be given away in Tesco Stores from **Monday 7th March until 15th May 2005**. Please collect as many vouchers as you can and hand in at reception.
(Mr Parks)



Your daughters will be able to order USB sticks after Easter. Pick up an order form from Mr Parks



Charity Events

School uniform from the neck down was requested for Red Nose Day. Big hair and beyond was the theme with hundreds of students taking part. The hairstyles were extreme and at lunchtime design teams of Years 11 & 12 added the extra touches - mainly in the form of bright red hair spray. The curtains of the now demolished mobiles came in very handy as did safety goggles from technology and science departments. Several brave staff took part and we expect to have raised about £700. Thank you to everyone who took part. (Mrs Vaughan)



Flossie House 8B



Left: Hannah Bonney, Dulcie Horn, Caitlin Barnes, Vicky Timms, Maddie Hancock, Mairead Sheehan, Katie Newsome, Melissa Baggaley

ONWARDS

German Exchange with Maria Ward School in Landau

This year is a special year for the Exchange as we are celebrating the tenth anniversary of our link with the Maria Ward School in Landau. Forty pupils (eleven from Year 12 and the rest from Year 10) travelled to Landau on Thursday 10th March and stayed until Sunday 20th March, together with Mrs Tallis and Mrs Vaughan.



1995 - 2005

All the older pupils did a week's work experience in kindergartens or primary schools. Very positive comments have been received from the centres where they worked as well as from the pupils, who enjoyed the opportunity to practise their language skills in a work context. The Year Ten pupils went on various trips to Heidelberg Castle, Strassburg, Speyer, and Karlsruhe, where they explored an interactive media museum. We also visited a wine-co-operative and other places of interest in and around Landau. During our stay the German school held a special evening celebration buffet to mark our anniversary.

We are looking forward to welcoming the German girls back to Salisbury from 26th June until 6th July. (Mrs J Tallis)

Auction of Castle Cakes

The castle topic is always a popular one in the Year 7 History Curriculum and this year was no exception. However it was decided to channel the enthusiasm away from cardboard models and into edible cakes. On the given day a tremendous assortment of cake castles of every shape and size, though mostly giant, appeared in school. The auction at afternoon break attracted large crowds of curious pupils and staff, and raised £74 for the Tsunami Appeal. Thank you to all those parents who slaved away with their daughters to create so many masterpieces for such a good cause.

(Mrs Stammers)



British Biology Olympiad 2005

Congratulations to Alison Kinghorn in Year 13 who was awarded a Gold medal in the recent British Biology Olympiad, a national competition for Sixth Form Biology students. Her score, in a series of written questions, put her in the top 50 students from a total entry of over 1500 throughout the country. Well Done!

(Mrs Burns-Cox)



Happy Buckets for the Maldives

The Friends of the Maldives approached the school to see if any Year 7 pupils could fill some yellow "Happy Buckets" to go to the children in the Maldives. The buckets were filled with toys, pens, colouring books, etc and Year Seven managed to fill 40 buckets. Well done Year 7 for the wonderful and worthwhile contributions. You have really made a difference.

(Mrs Cameron)

Battlefields Trip 2005, 1st - 4th March

The Battlefields expedition in March 2005 was a very special trip (and not just because of the snowstorms that reduced the temperature to freezing) but very emotional as well. A visit was made to the Sanctuary Wood trenches, where girls had the chance to wander through the remains of the 1915 fortifications, including the long and very dark tunnel system. Two wreaths were placed on soldiers' graves. We placed one on that of an unknown soldier, he was probably from Wiltshire and another we placed on the grave of a Private Condon, who was only 14 years old when he was killed in action.

The medieval centre of Burges was visited and all the girls' spirits soared when we visited a range of excellent chocolate shops. The trip was a very successful one and all the girls enjoyed the historic learning curve.

(Mr Dennis)

(Picture right - The wreath the girls laid) →



ONWARDS

French Exchange

After a long travel across France and England, we arrived at 11.30pm in Salisbury. We spent the weekend getting to know our families and on the Saturday night all the exchange pupils met in the Dragon for a nice Chinese meal. The week went really well and every day we were kept busy. On Monday we went to London and visited Big Ben, The Tower of London and many more. On Tuesday we spent the day at South Wilts Grammar School and learned the difference between our schools and English schools. On Wednesday we practised cricket and made delicious scones. On Thursday we went to Oxford and visited Christ Church College and saw the big hall where "Harry Potter" was filmed. Finally on our last day we had a talk about the NHS and English Music. We thank all the families, teachers and schools for making our stay so exciting. (French Students)

Russian Trip 11-15th February

On Friday 11th February, 25 Year 11, 12 and 13 girls departed at an unearthly hour for St. Petersburg, Russia. After an uneventful flight, we arrived at St. Petersburg airport to find snow on the ground and our tour operator, Olga, and coach driver and guide, Igor, all waiting to take us to the Hotel Hoskva. The Hotel Hoskva is generally accepted to be the longest hotel in the world, and as the staff had diplomatically placed us in the farthest corner, it took a good ten minutes to get to our rooms. The food left much to be desired and because of the cold climate there were not many offerings of fruit and vegetables, just lots of fatty meat. Needless to say some of us managed to remain more full than others by conducting various experiments on Shanghai Goldfish!

Over the next four days we saw the best that St. Petersburg had to offer, although please note that that four days is nowhere near long enough to appreciate this incredible city. We saw the works of Da Vinci, Monet, Rubens and Rembrandt and many more attractions. The complete history of this country was a lot to take in and on behalf of all the students on the trip, I would like to express heartfelt thanks towards our group leaders; Mrs Stammers, Mrs Jouahri and Mrs Burns-Cox and ask only one question, 'When can we go back?'
(Emma Thorman, Lucy Gallon and Gemma Clutterbuck 11N)

Music News

Our instrumental groups have worked very hard this term for the Instrumental Groups Concert which took place on 22nd March 2005. Performances were given by the Training Orchestra, Senior Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra, and the Wind Band, Guitar Ensemble, Brass Ensemble and Junior Recorders. This has been a great opportunity for some of our older girls to play solos accompanied by an orchestra, which has proved a challenging but exciting experience. The Senior Choir has practised enthusiastically for next term's Joint Choral Concert with Bishop Wordsworths and St. Edmunds. This will take place at Bishop Wordsworths Sports Hall on May 7th at 7.30pm (not at St Mark's Church this year).

A Cappella are looking forward to singing Evensong in our first week back next term. This will take place at Salisbury Cathedral on Wednesday 13th April at 5.30pm.

There will also be a Summer Cabaret next term in the Main Hall at South Wilts Grammar School, on Friday 13th May, featuring solos, duets, Junior Choir, Wind Band and small groups performing light music.

The Guitar Ensemble will give a concert in the Music Room on Wednesday 18th May at 7.30pm.

Please come along and support these events, tickets for which will be on sale next term.

(Mrs Poppleton)



Congratulations

Congratulations to the many girls who were very successful in Associated Board exams this term. You have all worked very hard towards them.

Exam Recitals

With coursework deadlines to be met, many pupils have also been working hard to give GCSE, AS and A2 recitals. Good luck girls, and keep practising!

ONWARDS

Red Nose Day

What's that fearsome fearful din?
I said to myself, I said.
I opened the door and gasped, I did!
There were aliens - I nearly fled!

They had wild, blinding hair.
I saw, oh yes I saw,
Their eyes looking over a red carbuncle.
I exclaimed with utmost awe!

Some were spraying coloured fluid.
I was puzzled, utterly puzzled,
And they were wearing curtains (how strange!)
My cry of surprise I muffled!

Scared as I was, I was awfully inquisitive
I knocked on the door - I knocked.
Alas! No one heard me!
My feeling of terror I blocked.

I took a few very deep breaths.
I poked my head round the door.
Then I noticed a sign on the wall
Oh I'm stupid... I beat the floor!

The sign said the name of an academy:
South Wilts Girls Grammar School.
They're raising dosh for a good cause -
See where I'm going? ... I'm a fool!

This good cause helps lots of people
In Africa - there's no time for play.
Please support it and raise lots of money
The charity is Red Nose Day.
(Dulcie Horn 7B)

Gifted & Talented Writers

South Wilts has always had a strong tradition of offering its students excellent writing talents and this year is no exception. Here is just a cross section of the ways in which girls from all years have been able to develop their writing skills outside the classroom.

Sixth Form wWriters

I've been reading Marvel comics since I was eight years old, learning how it was that Peter Parker came to be Spider-man and finding out about Bruce Banner's serious rage issues, uncontrollably turning him into the Hulk. I then began to read DC comics at the age of ten, reading the adventures of Superman and the Dark Knight himself, Batman. It was about two years ago that my brother started to write for such magazines as Playstation and DVD Review. When he became editor of Monster World, he offered me a job writing reviews for graphic novels. It's a great job and I love the fact that people are able to read my reviews and appreciate what I have to say.
(Lucy Asadi 12A)

Writing in the Lower School

Some people say writing is boring. But if you said that to Colin McFarlane, he would soon show you how magical writing can be. Colin McFarlane is an established poet, journalist and storyteller, who has recently been interviewed on several radio stations because of his greatly esteemed work. Braeside and Kolve Court have benefited immensely from Colin's talent and enthusiasm for writing. We have both been on several of his courses and are always begging our parents to send us on more! We truly wish Colin would visit South Wilts, as he is the most talented writer we have ever met and his positive attitude towards absolutely everything should be shared within the school.
(Kimi Brown & Sarah Giles 8E)

Sixth Form Writers

I started to write poetry about two years ago. It all started when I went onto the internet and was looking for things that other people had posted that fitted the mood I was in. After reading some of what other people my age had written, I decided to try and write some myself. I have recently entered many competitions but have only had one poem published on the internet, on a site for young and teenage writers.
(Rachel Gregory 12B)

I started writing poetry when I was fourteen, and was one of the overall winners in the Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award in 2003 and 2004. The prize was a week-long poetry course at the Avron Foundation in Yorkshire, tutored by two professional poets. If you are into poetry, it's like spending a week in heaven. (Maria Onyango 12S)



Exciting Writing—The Creative Writing Group

There is a club called "Exciting Writing", which runs on Monday lunchtimes. Sometimes we look at different types of poetry, then write our own. For example we have looked at haikus, limericks and scary poetry to give us some ideas. At the moment we are writing about chocolates and sweets. We meet in the library at 12.10pm every week and then go to a classroom to start creating. So if you enjoy writing why not come along? (Hattie Le Gresley 7E)

Salisbury & District U14 & U16 Hockey Tournaments



The U16 squad played on 23rd February against very stiff competition from Godolphin and St. Edmunds. A 0-0 draw against Godolphin meant the girls had to win by a good margin against St. Edmunds to secure first place. Thankfully some superb strikes by Centre Forward Philippa Ireland and a last minute goal by Lyndsey Phelps ensured a 4-1 victory. The South Wilts U16 team are therefore Salisbury Champions once again. Well done to Hannah Hudson, Hannah Fisher, Katie Wilder, Minny Symondson, Miranda Naish, Laura Atkins, Christina Hancock, Hattie Davies, Jemma Wells, Pip Ireland, Lyndsey Phelps, Harriet Labouchere and Ellie Rayner.

The U14 squad played on 3rd March, once again against Godolphin and St. Edmunds. The girls found it hard to settle into a steady rhythm in such chilly weather, resulting in a 1-0 loss to Godolphin. Their standard of play improved against St. Edmunds, final score 1-1. As St. Edmunds lost 3-0 to Godolphin, South Wilts finished in second place. Congratulations to the whole squad. You played brilliantly! (Miss Salen)

Well Done Gemma Barmby 9A

On the 28th February 2005 Gemma Barmby, at the age of 13, was awarded her black belt in the art of Karate at the Ren Bu Kan Club in Tidworth. She achieved this after 5 years of dedicated training and hard work. Well done Gemma!!



Basketball Festival

Four teams took part in the 2005 Salisbury District Council Year 7 and 8 Basketball Festival. The number of schools which entered was disappointing but the standard of play and level of enjoyment was excellent. Once again this festival served as a step towards qualifying for the Wiltshire Youth Games at Bath University on Sunday 17th July 2005. Results:

St. Edmunds 1	1st
SWGS Year 8	2nd
SWGS Year 7	3rd
St. Edmunds 2	4th

The following girls have been nominated for pre Youth Games training which begins in May: Katie Godber, Caitlin Boyle, JJ Rushworth, Naomi Goddard, Hannah Billingham, Hannah Grayer, Isabelle Grigg, Sasha Kirkham, Alice Butler, Emily Brown, Margaret Adnett, Katie Patrick, Sarah Turner, Sophie Walker. (Mrs Godber)

Round Three of the Wiltshire Volleyball League



The South Wilts team continues to go from strength to strength in the league, and particularly strong serving contributed to two convincing victories on 27th February in Melksham.

The entire team worked well together and produced great hits and blocks. Well done to Abby Abel, Sian Emmett, Leila Nightingale, Alice Judd, Hannah Hudson and Rachel Jackson. (Miss Salen)

Active Kids with Sainsbury's

From **2nd March - 30th June** Sainsbury's is 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

Salisbury District Council Girls Football Festival

The winter football season culminated in a Festival of Games, on Wednesday 16th March at St. Edmunds School. The four South Wilts teams acquitted themselves with excellent skill and determination to win overall. Three of our four teams have also qualified for the Wiltshire Youth Games to be held at Bath University on Sunday 17th July. Well done girls. (Mrs Godber)



ONWARDS

Tag Rugby Years 7 & 8

Every Wednesday during the month of March an excited group of South Wilts Year 7 and 8 Tag Rugby players have trooped along to the Salisbury Rugby Club. The South Wilts Grammar School first team was unbeaten in their first triangular matches. The second team rose to the challenge to also win their first round of games. In the final fixtures on Wednesday 16th March, South Wilts Grammar School Team One had a convincing win over St. Edmunds with great tries from Naomi Goddard, Hannah Billingham and Hannah Smith. South Wilts Grammar School Team Two lost 4-8 against Downton School but then again found plenty of depth to lose only narrowly against South Wilts Grammar School Team One. Both teams will play in the Salisbury Tag Rugby Festival on Wednesday 23rd March. South Wilts teams are the reigning champions in both year groups so we are looking forward to another enjoyable festival.

A special thanks this season to Mrs Wrighton, Mr Herrod Taylor, Carrie Smith (Rugby Captain), Annie Taylor and Amy Hicks (Assistant Coaches) for their help and support.

Netball Success

South Wilts Netballers have had a successful season in the Salisbury and District Leagues and Festivals. We are still awaiting the overall results from the league secretary but we are expecting 1st or 2nd place in five out of the six age groups. All the teams were represented in the Salisbury Netball Festival and all teams played with excellent team spirit and motivation.

The results were as follows:

Sixth Form	2nd
Year 11	2nd
Year 10	3rd
Year 9	1st
Year 8	2nd
Year 7	3rd

Well done to all the girls involved. The P.E. department would like to give a special thank you to Kate Arrandale and Jo Fry in Year Thirteen for their service to the school in netball. They have been prefects and committee members this year and have represented South Wilts Grammar School in netball teams throughout their time here. We appreciate their contribution.

(Miss Weir)



See you back at school on 11th April for the start of the summer term. Have a great spring break!



Cross Country Championships

The South Wilts Cross Country squads have concluded a successful season of running by winning the Minor Girls team event at Wilton Middle School, on Wednesday 16th March. The Minor Girls team has been led by Karina Roche (7E) who was placed fourth for the season in the Individual Awards, and also received a certificate with Hannah Royle to recognise their contribution as members of the winning County Minor Girls team in December 2004.

The Junior Girls Grade has struggled to enter a team for each of the four Championship events, but Keri McNamara 8B and Rachel Tooley 8N have acquitted themselves well as individual runners.

Results: Wilton Middle School Cross Country, 16th March 2005:

Minor Girls	
Karina Roche 7E	6th
Laura Jacobs 7A	8th
Rebecca Parfrey 7E	12th
Jennifer Spring 7E	14th
Hannah Royle 7A	17th
Junior Girls	
Sophie Davie 7A	12th
Keri McNamara 8B	19th
Intermediate Girls	
Alice Butt 10E	1st
Jemma Davie 10N	6th