



## Exam Results

Congratulations to all students who took external examinations last summer. The words 'best ever' seem to keep cropping up and the improvement each year continues. There must come a time when it is impossible to better the outstanding results attained by the girls. The GCSE results of Year 11 improved still further on last year's excellent results, with 46 girls gaining all As and A\*s, and the hard work of the entire year group was well rewarded. It was, however, the A level results of last year's Year 13 which were truly outstanding and exceeded all prior records. The proportion of A and B grades combined was 73%, an amazing 10% improvement on the previous best figure.

We started the academic year with the wonderful news that Naomi Cornish had won the Salter's Advanced Chemistry Prize for attaining the top mark in the country and that she had also received the Royal Society of Chemistry Prize. Naomi is just one of many students who achieved spectacular results allowing them to progress to the university and course of their choice. Another 'best ever' was the success of 12 students who gained Oxbridge places. (Mrs Stratton)

## Parental views

Last year we carried out surveys using a form similar to the Ofsted parents' questionnaire at all of our Parent Consultation Evenings. Thank you to all those parents who willingly completed those questionnaires. The results are on our website [www.swgs.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.swgs.wilts.sch.uk). This year we will be seeking more in depth views from parents, again at Parent Consultation Evenings, by a mix of questionnaires with comments rather than just ticking boxes and we are also setting up parent discussion groups. At the Parent Consultation Evening you will also have opportunities to meet with Ian Owen, who is going to host the discussion groups. He will collate all the responses from parents, which we hope will give an even better insight into potential areas for improvement.

## School uniform

You may have heard that Chas H Baker intends to give up selling school uniform at the end of this year and we are therefore investigating a range of alternative uniform suppliers. A decision will be made in November as to whether or not we will attempt to set up a school shop, use other local suppliers and / or use on-line suppliers. We will keep you posted but at the present time Chas H Baker is still stocking the South Wilts uniform. Please continue to support us in ensuring that students are appropriately dressed for school including sensible shoes and suitable skirt lengths. Please refer to the uniform code in the student planner or the website.

## Buildings

This summer was again busy with building work. Three laboratories were refurbished giving a bright modern feel, very different from the old wooden labs. They are far more pleasant for lessons and a great deal safer.

The new music block is due for completion this week and will be available for teaching after the October holiday. The total cost of the building is about £340,000 and, although the school has used its capital building money for this, a substantial amount has been contributed by parents through the School Fund or through the Friends of South Wilts. This project would have remained a pipe dream without this help and so on behalf of the staff and students our thanks go to the many parents who have contributed enabling us to complete this new building. The facilities include seven practice rooms which are all fully sound proofed, two ensemble rooms which can be used for small group work, both for music lessons and instrumental groups, and a music room which is being equipped with music technology computers. The superb facilities will be used by all students who have music lessons in school. The FOSWGS have bought eight new pianos and piano stools providing resources suitable for the superb music in which our students take part. (Mrs Stratton)

October 2006

Inside this issue

Page 2

Longdown Dairy Farm  
Year 7 RS Book Cover Competition  
Year 11 Battlefields Trip  
Catering

Page 3

Theatre Visits  
Gold D of E

Page 4

Year 11 Mock Interviews  
Scientists in School Day

Page 5

School Council  
1000 Club results  
Library News  
Year 8 Computer Club

Page 6

Music News  
Murder Mystery Night-FOSWGS  
6th Form Debating

Page 7

Sports News

Page 8

Sports Presentation Evening  
Head 4 Heights

Page 9

Sports News

Page 10

6th Form Parents Lost Property  
Trussell Trust Appeal  
USB Order Form

Page 11

School Production Tickets



## ONWARDS

### Longdown Dairy Farm

On the 16th June Year 7 went to Longdown Dairy Farm in the New Forest. Before that we went orienteering. We all had to follow different routes and we had a great time trekking around in the mud! Thankfully our group didn't get lost and got back to the meeting place for lunch. After we had eaten our lunch we went to the farm. We went to the farm to learn more about the farming process. Mrs Smith and Mrs Morris organised it. It was thoroughly enjoyable.

Before we did anything we were given a quick briefing on the health and safety aspects of the farm such as washing our hands before and after handling animals. We went around into the goat's enclosure and bottle fed the young ones. They were so cute! The larger goats were extremely greedy and were pushing and shoving to get their food. Afterwards we were able to hold baby animals including chicks (very fidgety, but still cute) and rabbits-very fluffy. Before leaving we were given ten minutes in the shop where they had many gifts. I think that I can speak for the whole of Year 7 when I say that we all enjoyed this trip very much and would like to say thank you to Mrs Smith and Mrs Morris for organising it. (Hannah Gidney-Bullard 8N)

### Year 11 Battlefields Trip

In September a group of Year 11s went on the Battlefields expedition around Belgium and France. From the moment we stepped on the coach we knew we'd be in for a great time when we realised we were surrounded by bunnies. No, we weren't hallucinating - our coach driver (aka 'Bunny' Hutch) had a collection of furry friends from all around the globe. On our first day in Belgium we visited the museum at Ypres (or 'Wipers'), Toc H, Poperinge, Tyne Cot cemetery, Langemark and the highlight of the day - the Belgian chocolate shop! Over the three days we visited more interesting places, got very competitive over the notorious room inspections, simmered in the September sunshine and squeezed in shopping at every possible opportunity. (Hester Ruddle 11N)

### Year 7 RS Book Cover Competition

Annually, the first Religious Studies challenge for Year 7 is to decorate their exercise books in a RS theme. In Religious Studies we examine the 6 major world religions, Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Sikhism, with a focus on Buddhism and Christianity. In the lower school, the students were encouraged to incorporate the full range of religions into their designs. An impressive wide range of designs were produced, in several different mediums. Not only did the students turn their hands to drawing, illustration and colouring, but also to painting, collage, glitter and jewels. As usual it was a difficult, though extremely enjoyable task, to judge the competition. A winner was chosen from each class and an overall Year group winner, Zoe Treasure in 7E, was also selected, and received a £5 WH Smith Voucher. Zoe's cover was composed of a number of photographs and symbols from many religions and was both decorative and informative. (Miss Russell)

### Catering

The catering team at South Wilts believe that the pupils and staff deserve the opportunity to enjoy a good quality meal that offers value for money. We provide a good choice of freshly prepared food using ingredients from local suppliers. The feedback from staff and students on the new menus this year is all very positive, including 'great food' and 'good choice'.

The new government guidelines on standards in school meals came into effect in September. The biggest impact of these guidelines has been the removal of certain products from sale, namely chocolate, crisps and sugary fizzy drinks. The Food Standards Agency has also stipulated that certain food items are restricted to an occasional feature on school menus and certain items such as fresh fruit and bread is available daily.

Breakfast is from 8.15 a.m. to 8.45 p.m. serving cereals, toasted muffins, cinnamon toast, fruit juice and fresh fruit. This range will be extended during the colder months to include bacon rolls, porridge, sausage and beans. During morning break we sell sandwiches, baguettes, yoghurts and homemade cakes and biscuits. We also offer a range of savoury items such as crumpets, cheese scones, savoury jacket potatoes, pizza whirls and sausage rolls. During the winter we will also be providing homemade soup to takeaway at morning break. At lunch time we offer a choice of meals from a light snack to a main meal with rice or potatoes and fresh vegetables. Fresh fruit, yoghurts, cartons of semi-skimmed milk, bottled water and cartons of fruit juice are available at every meal service.

We welcome your suggestions and comments...but sorry we can't bring back the chocolate! (Helen Sanderson, Catering Manager)

**Year 11 Theatre trip to 'The Taming of the Shrew'**

On 5<sup>th</sup> October Mrs Young's English class travelled to Newbury for a performance of Shakespeare's 'The Taming of the Shrew' at The Watermill Theatre. This unique venue, a sympathetically converted mill on the banks of the River Lambourne, provided an interesting and intimate setting for the production. The performance was given by Propeller, an all-male theatre company, which in itself provided entertainment for the audience (particularly for us!)

A definite highlight of the performance would have to be when Petruchio paraded around the stage in nothing but very tight Y-fronts! However, we were also impressed by the use of various musical instruments – often played by the same actor – to add to the drama and comedy of the play. Despite the obvious humour, the audience was also drawn to consider darker themes, which were emphasised both by the physical violence and the actors' interpretations of their characters; and the issue of sexism was a recurring theme in the audience's mind. Everyone had a great time and the performance helped us get to grips with the complex plot of the play as well as its thematic issues. (Frances Copp and Jasmin Shahnava 11B)

**Year 12 Theatre Trip to Chaucer's 'The Canterbury Tales'**

On 29<sup>th</sup> September Year 12 Literature students travelled to London's West End to watch the Royal Shakespeare Company in their production of Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales' at the Gielgud Theatre.

The RSC delivered the adaptation with their renowned mastery and vigour. The mix of colloquial Middle English verse and modern day language made for an easy-to-follow, highly entertaining production.

The audience sat entranced from beginning to end. The actors morphed from role to role with the utmost ease as the production moved from insane sword fights to hilarious puppetry to sinister Middle-Eastern contexts, to bare buttocks. Shrieks of laughter were heard not only from our gaggle of embarrassed females but also from the respectable middle-aged males in the audience!

This skilful production was a beautifully refreshing and inspiring example of how we can enjoy centuries-old literature: it really helped us to see how we can relate C14 culture to our own present-day society. (Harriet Green 12S)

**Gold D of E assessed expedition: Lake District 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> July 2006**

On the morning of Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, after saying farewell to the other groups, most of whom we didn't see for another 3 days, we set off into the wilderness. Before long we had fully adapted to our dehydrated food and began to enjoy porridge for breakfast and couscous for supper.

Throughout our 4 days we walked and climbed through fabulous landscapes. For me, the view and sense of achievement sitting at the top of Fairfield and watching the sunset as we eventually descended to Lake Buttermere were just two of the many highlights of our expedition. As with every expedition there were points where we all struggled both physically and mentally: this was by far one of our hardest challenges. After walking from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., ending with a steep climb to a midge-infested bog which was our wild camp for the night, low morale turned to hysteria!

Finally after 4 days of virtually continuous walking we descended to our campsite, where our assessor greeted us with cream buns and Mrs Herbert provided money for a very welcome and much needed shower. Reunited with the other groups again, there was a great sense of achievement, as we exchanged and laughed over unforgettable experiences. Later we were given a lift into Keswick, where we enjoyed the flavours of "real" food again.

Many thanks to the Herberts and their helpers for not only guiding and encouraging us through our Gold expedition, but providing the opportunity to partake in the D of E scheme. (Maranda Naish 13I)



At the top of Fairfield—We made it!

## ONWARDS

### Year 11 Mock Interviews

On the 4th and 11th October many Year 11 students including myself had our mock interviews. Employees from outside school came and gave us the opportunity of experiencing a real life interview. Leading up to the interviews we had careers lessons. We learnt about skills needed during interviews and we also wrote our CV's which were used in the mock interview. This meant that many people found the idea of the interviews less intimidating as we knew what to expect and what the employees were looking for. On the day of the interview however, I know I was not alone in feeling nervous, because even though we had been prepared, for many of us this was our first experience of an interview. I think many Year 11's will agree with me that it was an extremely worthwhile experience and one that I think will be very useful in the coming years. Thank you to all the Interviewers that helped make the afternoons so successful. (Jenny McKinnell 11E)

### Scientists in School Day – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2006

The whole of Year 10 spent the day taking part in talks and demonstrations to show and explain some of the wonders of science. The highlight of the day for most was the Explorer Dome. This is what Heather Findlay (10B) says:

'Crawling on your hands and knees into pitch black may not be your idea of fun, and if you were peeping through the windows of the Small Hall you might be a bit worried about our education. Jumping through a time warp to night time, we sat in a circular dome and went into a different world. After a brief introduction, the lights went out and images were projected on to the curved wall behind us. At first we were sceptical but when the first image appeared, our breath was taken away. "Ooohing" and "aaahing" at the wonderful pictures, we were told about stars, massive stars and super massive stars! The next part was favourite among most groups. Images were projected all around us: everywhere you looked were beautiful tiny stars, such as the ones you used to have as a little boy or girl on your ceiling to send you to sleep. Those of us who managed to keep our eyes open were told about the constellations, the North Star and how the earth moves. Then we experienced the earth actually moving and it was lucky our group hadn't eaten lunch! The guides, Sharon and Damien then switched the images for pictures of the Greek stories such as Medusa and we all searched for our own horoscope. Sadly the session came to an end and we glumly left the dome, again on our hands and knees, giggling with dizziness and awe at the beauty we'd seen.'

We were pleased to welcome Hadrian Cook from the Harnham Water Meadows Trust to explain the use and significance of these fields in the heart of Salisbury. Emily Nash (10E) enjoyed this talk and writes:

'During the course of this incredibly interesting and information-packed day we were given a presentation on the Harnham Water Meadows Trust by its Education and Development Officer; Hadrian Cook. He explained to us not only what a water meadow was but also how beneficial they are to the surrounding agriculture and environment.

In short, a water meadow is a piece of grass or farmland situated beside a river (in this case the River Nadder) that is flooded seasonally as a controlled form of irrigation. They are so useful because when the water is trickled through, warming the plant roots and protecting them from frost, it is also full of nutrients that encourage grass growth, which means that in Spring there is plenty of food to graze cattle on and also more plant life.'

Thank you to Margaret Clayton from Psychem for her Kinetic Theory demonstration, Pearl John and the Laser Express Light Show from the University of Southampton, Alison Bridewell and the team from Dstl, Sally Armstrong, Katy Barber, Anna Robinson and Anna Scholz for their support. (Mrs Wrighton)



Sophie Rutherford and Stephanie Biggs

## ONWARDS

### School Council

School Councils are an amazing facility for youth involvement and citizenship and today they are constantly encouraged on a national scale. They have a very positive role to play in the experiences young people have of school life; dealing with issues from bullying and healthy foods in the canteen to the teaching ethos and practices adopted by schools.

The School Council has representatives from every form in Years 7-11, and discuss issues that affect students. Council representatives have been involved in a range of important duties representing the views and needs of the students, including uniform reviews, the design of the homework diaries, the re-designing of the old building courtyards, the purchase of new outdoor furniture, the encouragement of students running in the UK Youth Parliament and Wiltshire Assembly of Youth elections, attendance at the Youth Democracy Week Road shows and interviewing for new staff.

This year a new structure has been introduced to the Council. It is to be chaired by students, elected from within the council itself, rather than the Head Girl Team. The new Chairs for the School Council are Catherine Palmer, and myself, Polly Selby, our Deputies are Elizabeth Bridewell and Molly Allen. Over the next year it is hoped that the Council will develop an ever more productive system for dealing with issues. This will ideally entail structured debating time with a clear process of feedback on the developments made to the issues discussed, so that by the end of the year we can achieve a number of clear objectives.

#### Are you a member of the 1000 Club?

Two thirds of the school haven't yet joined this ongoing fund raising event.

With a monthly first prize of approximately £80, why not donate a £1 a month and have a chance of winning some cash!

See the School website for an application form, or leave a contact name and number at reception.

#### News from the Library

We are always looking for ways to increase our library book stock and by keeping it fresh and up-to-date we hope to encourage our pupils to read as widely as possible. So thank you to all Year 7 & 8 parents for supporting the Cover2Cover Book Club. As a result last year we were delighted to receive free books to the value of over £500 for the Library. We also participate in the Nestle Box Tops for Books scheme, by collecting the tokens from Nestle cereal packets, which we can either exchange for Dorling Kindersley books or have a cheque to buy books of our choice. Last year we received a cheque for £52 and hope to earn more this year, so please encourage your daughter to bring tokens into the library. Thank you for all your support. (Mrs E Wood)



#### 1000 Club Winners

##### July 06

1 <sup>st</sup>	No 81	Mr & Mrs T Bradley-Watson	£63
2 <sup>nd</sup>	No 146	Mrs J C Fishwick	£37.50
3 <sup>rd</sup>	No 281	Mrs M Rae	£25.20

##### August 06

1 <sup>st</sup>	No173	Ms C Lousteau	£63
2 <sup>nd</sup>	No 239	A Campbell	£37.50
3 <sup>rd</sup>	No 119	Mrs J Cornish	£25.20

##### September 06

1 <sup>st</sup>	No 12	Mrs F Saunders	£80
2 <sup>nd</sup>	No172	Mrs C Young	£45
3 <sup>rd</sup>	No 259	Mr Ross Christie	£30

#### Year 8 Computer Club 4 Girls – CC4G

Would you like to have more time playing and learning on computers? There is a club at SWGS designed for you. Computer Clubs for Girls (CC4G) is an innovative, award-winning initiative created by e-skills UK and funded by DfES. Popular interests such as music, fashion, dance and celebrity have been combined to deliver an engaging and fun approach for girls aged up to 14.

CC4G is a well researched, self-contained resource which boasts 120 hours of curriculum-linked creative activities designed to appeal specifically to girls' interests. The variety of activities offered is aimed at developing skills valued by employers. There is a mixture of password-protected online fun combined with offline extension activities to practise new skills.

The club is run every Thursday afternoon from 4-5pm in Room O24 under the guidance of Mrs Fiona Green. If you would like to know more about it, please see Mr Parks or come along and chat to us soon at the club. (Mrs Green)

## ONWARDS

### Individual Music Exam Results

Many girls have again received successful results and particular congratulations should go to Rosie Jackson for passing Grade 8 Piano with merit and to Rachel Abbott for passing Grade 8 Singing with distinction. (Mrs Poppleton)

### National Music Week

National Music Week began on October 16<sup>th</sup>. All Year 7 – 11 students were given £1 vouchers which could be used towards the cost of music or CDs. Our department also held 'Practice-mania', a sponsored music practice, in order to raise money for music and equipment for use in extra-curricular activities. (Mrs Poppleton)

### Forthcoming Events

**School Concert** - Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
7.30pm in School Hall

A variety of ensembles will take part including Training, Senior and Chamber Orchestras, Wind Band, Junior, Senior Choirs and A Cappella. Tickets £5 and £3 for concessions available from Mrs Wood in the Library (on a first come first served basis and initially limited to 2 per family).

**Concert at St. Martin's Church** - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December  
7.30pm

A Cappella will sing Mozart's Missa Brevis in Bb accompanied by an adult orchestra led by Richard Parsons. They will also sing part of Britten's 'Ceremony of Carols' accompanied by the harpist Katie Flanagan and a variety of other music. The Chamber Orchestra and Flute Band will perform as well. Tickets £6 and £4 for concessions available from Mrs Wood in the Library.

**Carol Service Salisbury Cathedral** - Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
7.30pm.

All school choirs will be singing in the service.



### A Cappella - Eucharist

On 18<sup>th</sup> October, A Cappella took part in the St. Luke's Day Eucharist at Salisbury Cathedral and sang beautifully. They sang Mozart's Missa Brevis in Bb and Harris's 'Strengthen Ye the Weak Hands'. We are very grateful to the men who join us to sing, and to Chris Fay for playing the organ, enabling us to sing such beautiful and challenging music. This was a wonderful experience for us all.

### West Side Story

Auditions have been held for West Side Story which will be performed at Bishop Wordsworth's School at the beginning of February. This should prove a very exciting and memorable project.

### Speech Day

Junior and Senior Choirs and A Cappella all sang in Speech Day: nearly two hundred girls sang a variety of music, performing with confidence and enthusiasm.

**Congratulations** to Rose Adams and Amy Holdsworth for successfully auditioning for the Wiltshire Youth Orchestra and so becoming the youngest string players in the orchestra.

### Friends of South Wilts presents

#### WHEN?

10<sup>th</sup> November  
7:00-10:30pm

#### WHERE?

In the Small Hall

#### HOW MUCH?

£6 Adults  
£3 Children and Students

Tickets available from the Library

Light refreshments included

**STOP PRESS! THIS EVENT IS ON THE  
10<sup>TH</sup> AND NOT THE 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  
AS STATED ON THE SCHOOL CALENDAR**

### Sixth Form Debating

On September 19<sup>th</sup> Mrs Young and three Sixth Formers travelled to St Anne's School in Southampton where The English Speaking Union's 'Debating Roadshow' was being held.

We were given lively and amusing demonstrations by teams of experienced debaters and then joined a number of workshops where we practised a variety of skills and generally were encouraged to show off to our hearts' content! We have now set up a Sixth Form Debating Society that meets on Monday lunchtimes and are looking forward to the first round of the English Speaking Union's 'Mace' Competition which will be hosted by BWS in November. (Harriet Green 12S)



**Well done Avril Gibbons 10W**

Avril is a member of the RYA U 17 National Windsurfing Squad. She is expecting to be selected for the Youth European Championships in Cadiz, which take place during the first week of January 2007.

Avril finished 6th in the U 17 girl category at the World Championships this summer. The weekend of the 2nd September she won the RYA under-17 girls national title at Weymouth, the venue for the 2012 Olympics.

Avril was asked to make the leaving speech, which took her by surprise.

**U12 Hockey Coaching & Festival**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October at Salisbury Astro turf Pitch**

Fifteen Year 7 girls from South Wilts went to compete in a start of season coaching and festival to improve their skills in hockey. The girls worked hard all day to develop individual and team skills. After a well deserved lunch break the tournament commenced, with South Wilts 'A' team winning all their matches convincingly (18 goals scored!), and South Wilts 'B' team losing to Godolphin 'A', but winning all other matches. South Wilts 'B' went into the 3<sup>rd</sup> place play-off and won 3-1 against Godolphin 'B'. Well done! South Wilts 'A' had a hard fought battle against Godolphin 'A' to decide on the winner of the tournament, but unfortunately conceded one goal to become runners up. They still played a very high standard of hockey and should be proud of what they achieved during the day.

All girls played so well, and it should be noted that it was the first time they had played as a team. Well done to all the following girls; **'A' Team**

Louise Davison  
Ellie Copping  
Amy Welch  
Emily Kalik  
Anna Carter  
Hannah Brown  
Rosanna Grant

**'B' Team**

Sylvie Craig  
Laura Breeds  
Laura Jack  
Heather Baker  
Olivia Stannah  
Florence Powell  
Abi Pownall-Gray

**Basketball is Underway**

Years 7 & 8 training has recommenced at Five Rivers Leisure Centre on Monday lunchtimes. Three teams from this group will be entered in the Wiltshire Basketball Club competition held at Tidworth Leisure Centre on one Sunday per month, starting in November.

Ben Stanley, a level 2 Basketball Coach from Southampton has agreed to train the U15 and U16 (Years 10 and 11) teams, on Wednesdays from 4 – 5pm.

The U14 and U16 teams had their first taste of competition playing two games each in their first league matches of the season at Tidworth on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October. SWGS U14A won both games comfortably, Under 14B lost both but fought valiantly, U16A lost narrowly to Pistons from Devizes and won against SWGS U16B, and SWGS U16 B lost both of their matches.

English Schools' Basketball National Cup fixtures will commence during November with matches against St Edmund's for the U14 and U15 teams. Good luck to all players for these higher level matches.

**English Schools Cross Country National Cup**

This year, for the first time in many years SWGS entered two teams of runners in this prestigious event. The first round took place on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> October on a wet, windy but relatively flat course at Canford, near Poole. Amy McDermott (8N) and Imogen Wolsey (8B) took command of the 40 strong pack and finished the 2Km course very comfortably in 9.03 and 9.07 respectively. Emily Kalik (7E) battled through to take 4<sup>th</sup> place with Hannah Gidney-Bullard 7<sup>th</sup>, Vicky James 9<sup>th</sup> and Lucy Butt a creditable 26<sup>th</sup>.

Lucy ran in place of a fellow runner who was ill on the day of the race. **This team with an overall score of 14 (best possible score is 10!!) have now qualified in first place for the Regional Championships at Millfield Preparatory School on Saturday, 11 November, 2006.** Unfortunately the Intermediate team did not fare quite so well, although their individual performances were very pleasing considering that they were running against athletes a year older than themselves.

Congratulations to Amelia Clifford (18<sup>th</sup>), Sophie Davie (21<sup>st</sup>), Margaret Adnett (26<sup>th</sup>), Jennifer Spring (32<sup>nd</sup>) and Laura Jacobs (36<sup>th</sup>). A big thank you to Nadine Rowe and Mr Butt for their excellent support and encouragement for our SWGS runners on the day. (Mrs Godber)

## ONWARDS

### Sports Presentation Evening

The fourth Annual Sports Presentation Evening was held in the school hall on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> October. Recent England Masters hockey representative and stand in Guest Speaker (Louise Gammon was flown to Italy at short notice!) Mrs Miranda MacTaggart, inspired the 230 recipients, friends and family with her anecdotes and slide show. Mrs MacTaggart, previously Head of Years 10 & 11 congratulated 140 girls as they received certificates for 'Achievement in Sport', 116 girls who gained Colours in their respective sports, 12 girls for their 'Player of the Year' trophies and another 10 young sportswomen who were presented with silver salvers for 'Outstanding Achievement' outside of school hours. Informative light entertainment was provided in the intermission by Adam Gerken, Director of **Self Defence Direct**, and Kate Annis and Emily Bridewell in a demonstration of self preservation and Self Defence techniques. A raffle was also drawn from generous donations made by parents and the Friends of South Wilts.

The evening concluded with 'EMI' award style nominations and envelope opening for the 'Progress and Dedication' trophy – Amelia Clifford (9N), 'Sports Team of the Year 2005 - 06' - Under -14 Football team, and 'Sports Person of the Year 2005 – 06' – Alice Butt (12E). Eleonore Rayner (current Games Captain), Annie Taylor and Amy Hicks (Deputy Games Captains) closed the evening with a thank you on behalf of the recipients. Beautiful bouquets (made by Mrs Allison Kirkham) were presented to the PE teachers and Sports Co-ordinator. The valuable input and support given by teachers, parents and coaches was acknowledged, especially Mr Owen (cricket and badminton), Mrs Caroline Outterside (badminton), Mr Wood (cricket), Mr Herrod-Taylor (U13 football), Mr and Mrs Butt (cross country & orienteering), Mrs Tallis (cross country), Mr Symon Pickett (U14 & U16 football), Mrs Sue Drummond (netball) and the many parents who provide transport to and from fixtures.

The PE department would also like to add a HUGE thank you to Mrs Allison Kirkham and the Friends of South Wilts for the tasty supper and refreshments provided during the evening. Mr Anthony Von Roretz deserves an award of his own for his sterling efforts photographing all of the recipients. Sport Presentation photographs will be available to order through the school intranet at the beginning of Term 2.

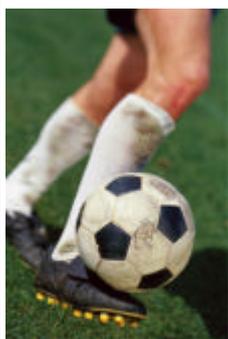
A full prize list is also available on the SWGS intranet under 'Sports Presentation Evening 2006' (Mrs Godber)



### Head 4 Heights – Y11 GCSE PE Personal Development Day

This year's Year 11 GCSE PE class took part in a low and high ropes course at Keynes Country Park near Cirencester on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October. The class of 25 students warmed up with brain teasing and reaction time activities such as 'splat', warp ball and pattern pass. The suspension bridge and cavern crossing came next (at ground level) followed by a team challenge to balance as many of the group as possible on a small square, for 30 seconds. After a picnic lunch at the lakeside the PE students donned their full body safety harnesses and helmets. They listened intently as Ben and Sam explained and demonstrated belaying, and then proceeded to challenge themselves on the totem pole climb, the free fall, the quad platform and Jacob's ladder. Michelle Todd amazed everyone including the instructors, by going it alone to the top of Jacob's ladder. Every team conquered their challenge albeit with shaking knees and white knuckles as they hung on to each other. Whoops of glee could be heard all over the park and passers by stopped to admire the bravery. Courage awards went to Emma Sibald, Jenny McKinnell, Storm Kirkham and Leona Bruce for their determination to overcome their fear and take those extra steps higher.

It was an exhilarating day full of laughter, relief, excitement, satisfaction and total support for each other. Well done Year 11 GCSE PE! Thank you to Mr Butt for accompanying the group. (Mrs Godber)



### Football Round Up

The weather has cooled and the pitches have softened so many SWGS girls have donned their football boots once again. Training with Symon Pickett has proved to be as popular as last season with good numbers at the Tuesday after school and Friday lunchtime sessions at The Butts, adjacent to Five Rivers Leisure Centre. Mark McClements, Community Football Coach for Wiltshire is now coaching the Year 7 & 8 (U13) players on Thursdays, 4 – 5pm. All football training is ‘user pays’ so parents will be requested to pay £1.50 for an hour session and £1.25 for a lunchtime training.

Early matches this term in the **English Schools FA National Cup** have produced a win, and a loss. The U15 team of Hannah Billingham (C), Hannah Smith, Frances Carney, Sarah Mills, JJ Rushworth (GK), Stephanie Biggs, Louise Sleeman, Laura Beal, Hayley Ranachan and Rachael Kidner travelled to Highcliffe High School in Christchurch on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> October and came home with a 4 – 0 win (Hayley Ranachan a hat trick and Rachel Kidner 1 goal). Captain Hannah Billingham was instrumental in setting up two of her team’s goals. The U15’s will now move on to the next round in November. This team won the Sports Team of the Year award at the recent South Wilts Sports Presentation Evening so expectations are high for their continued success this season. The U18 team had an exciting trip to Cowes in the Isle of Wight for their first match in the ESFA cup. Unfortunately the opposition were too skilful and forced SWGS to play most of the match defending the goal. Seven goals to nil has ensured that Cowes go through to the next round while SWGS will have to be content playing local opposition. Outstanding play on the day – Blanche Lumb (C), Caoimhe Tiernan, Annie Taylor and Nadine Rowe in defence, and Rachel Warne and Alice Foster (Goal Keepers).

In the **Wiltshire Schools League** the U16 team have won their first round game by default against St Joseph’s School of Swindon who can not field a team within the time restrictions. SWGS U16 will now play either Hardenhuish or Dorcan in November. (Mrs Godber)

### Under 19 Schools County Netball Qualifying Tournament

Laura Arrandale (C), Emma Atkinson, Lyndsey Phelps, Emily Foyle, Iona McCall-Judson, Alice Judd, Louise Badham, Jenny Buckingham, Hannah Revell, Rachel Jackson and Emma Garnett took part in this year’s County qualifying tournament at Wootton Bassett School near Swindon, on Wednesday 11th October. The tournament was very well supported with fourteen teams entered. Our division included final tournament winners New College ‘A’ and Marlborough College who placed second overall to also qualify. Results were:



SWGS 7 v Devizes ‘B’ 0, SWGS 3 v St Mary’s Calne 7, SWGS 4 v Wootton Bassett 2, SWGS 2 v New College 7, SWGS 2 v Marlborough 8.

**Salisbury Women’s Netball League** – South Wilts has entered a Senior Squad team (U16 & U18 combined) in the women’s competition held at Salisbury High School on Wednesday evenings. South Wilts’ first match was against Blue Jays ‘B’, a mixture of South Wilts and St Edmund’s players. At the end of the third 15 minute quarter SWGS and Blue Jays were still tied at 12 – 12, but a concerted effort in the fourth quarter from the more established team saw Blue Jays pull away to win 20 – 16 at the final whistle.

Team members are; Iona McCall-Judson (C), Alice Judd, Claire Garnett, Emily Foyle, Hannah Revell, Annie Taylor, Megan Hollinghurst and Emma Atkinson.

\* Next match is v Phoenix Knights at 8.30pm on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Welcome and a sincere thank you to Mrs Sue Drummond for her work with SWGS netball teams this term. Mrs Drummond is coaching U14, U15 and U16 & 18 combined. (Mrs Godber)

## ONWARDS

### Sixth Form Parents

Punctuality, attendance and attentiveness are crucial for success in the Sixth Form, and we ask you to let school know by phone call, email or letter, if for any reason your daughter is absent. We will write to you about any unauthorised absences.

We will also contact you and ask for your encouragement and support if deadlines are missed and work is not handed in on time.

Our Sixth Form dress code is quite informal but we sometimes have to remind students that dress should be suitable for a place of work. Specifically we have asked students not to wear flip-flops or fabric slip-ons (for health and safety reasons) and to ensure that skirts are long enough to prevent embarrassment to the wearer or others. We appreciate your support in ensuring that the dress code is met. Please contact your daughter's Form Tutor or myself if you have any concerns. (Mrs Phelps)

### Lost Property

A reminder to parents and students to name all belongings which come into school, including trainers, coats, pencil cases, lunch boxes, umbrellas, hats, scarves and non-school uniform. The lost Property Office is overflowing with un-named items (most of which was collected from around school over the summer holidays). All named items will be returned to students but anything un-named remains in Lost Property for up to three months.

If your daughter has lost anything over the last few weeks or months, please ask her to check Lost Property (parents are also welcome) open Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12.30pm. (Mrs Taylor)

### Trussell Trust Harvest Appeal

There was a good response to the annual Harvest Appeal this year. Many items were donated for the food bank which aims to help those in need in our own area. Thank you to all those who contributed. (Mrs Vaughan)



### USB FLASH-MEMORY STICKS AVAILABLE VIA THE SCHOOL

The school will be putting in a bulk order for USB flash-memory sticks shortly. These devices are the recommended method for transferring computer files between school and home PCs, and are much more reliable than floppy disks.

**The USB sticks on offer have a capacity of 256 Mb (equivalent to 180 floppy disks) and will cost £5.50 each.** As far as we are aware, this is cheaper than any similar devices currently available in shops.

If you wish to purchase a USB stick then please ask your parents to complete the tear-off slip below and return it, with a cheque for the correct amount, to the Deputy Bursar's office by **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2006.**

**IMPORTANT: To Windows 98 users only**

This USB stick does not come with a supplied driver for computers with the Windows 98 operating system. The driver can be downloaded from the supplier's website once you have received the device, but we are aware that some users have had problems with the 98 driver in the past. (Mike Parks)

✂ -----  
**USB memory stick order:**                      Number Required: .....

Name of Pupil: ..... Form:.....

I enclose a cheque for £                      for each USB stick (cheques payable to South Wilts Grammar School please).

Please ask your daughter to return this section and the one below, with payment, by posting through the letterbox of the Deputy Bursar's office. Your daughter's name and form along with the title USB should be written on the front of the envelope. The bottom section will be returned to you.

✂ -----  
**From the Deputy Bursar's Office, South Wilts Grammar School**

To parent of: ..... Form: .....

Received with thanks the sum of .....for ..... USB flash memory stick(s). Your daughter will be notified when the stick is ready for collection.

# MACBETH

A student run-production of Shakespeare's Macbeth is going to be shown in the Theatre at SWGS on the following dates:

- Tuesday 21st November
- Wednesday 22nd November
- Friday 24th November
- Saturday 25th November

The performances will start at 7:30pm with refreshments available in the fifteen minute interval. Programmes will be available for purchase on the night. The play is being directed by Year 13 and will be showcasing talent from all years from both Grammar Schools.

A limited number of tickets will be available from Mrs Wood in the school library immediately after half term.

The tickets will be £4.50 for adults and £3 for students.

Any profit made will be donated to a cancer research charity.

Please come and support us. We hope it will be an enjoyable evening for all. Cheques made payable to SWGS.

✍️ .....

SCHOOL PRODUCTION - MACBETH

NAME..... FORM .....

NUMBER OF TICKETS:                      ADULTS (£4.50)                      STUDENTS (£3)

Tuesday 21st November	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Wednesday 22nd November	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Friday 24th November	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Saturday 25th November	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

TOTAL COST ..... DATE .....

SIGNED ..... (Parent/Guardian)

✍️ .....

SCHOOL PRODUCTION - MACBETH

RECIEPT

NAME..... FORM .....

£ .....FOR MACBETH TICKETS                      DATE .....

Received with thanks.