



ONWARDS

July 2011



Science



Maths & Computing

We say goodbye to members of staff who are leaving at the end of term:

We are saying goodbye to Joanne Salen (PE) after nine years, the last three as Head of PE. She will be teaching part-time at Leehurst Swan following the birth of her son.

Ben Hillier (Science) is leaving after four years at South Wilts to take up a teaching post in South Korea. Graham Burgess (Science) left in June after three years at South Wilts to look after his young son. Following the end of their temporary contracts, Lucy Darby (Acting Head of PE) will be moving to Worcestershire, John Tillotson (ICT and Business Studies) is taking up a post at Poole High School, Katy Bosworth (History) is taking the opportunity to travel, to Australia, Sarah Milward (Maths) will be joining BWS and Julie Kane (French) who stepped into the MFL Department will also be leaving. We also say goodbye to Katie Lockyer, our Bournemouth University ICT student. We would like to thank all those who are leaving for all their hard work and wish them well for the future.

Thank you

I will be retiring this summer and over the last 37 years have taught thousands of students and enjoyed all of it. My time at South Wilts has been a very positive experience, with the opportunity to work with excellent and enthusiastic staff, supportive governors and, most important, so many students. Many arrive in Year 7 in long kilts and as they develop in confidence, skills and knowledge, the skirts get shorter!

We have achieved a lot over the last eight years, including the building programme, which has been made possible by financial help from parents, and has created the learning environment the students deserve. Of course I am very proud of the incredible academic success of the girls, which has improved every year, but equally, girls excel in a wide range of activities – music, sport, art and drama amongst them. South Wilts girls hopefully leave school with the confidence to develop and succeed in the next step of their lives. I am sure that many more students will look back on their time at South Wilts with fond memories.

There are so many people I would like to thank but a special mention must go to the Friends of South Wilts who not only raise money for the school but also organise many of the events, culminating in the Year 13 Leavers' Ball – a really magnificent event. Finally, thank you all for the wonderful gifts. My garden will be greatly enriched by all the wonderful plants. A flight in a glider has been an ambition for a long time so one day soon I will take to the skies above Wiltshire. Thanks to all parents for their help and support over the years. (Mrs Stratton)

September Start Dates

Thursday 1st September

am Year 12

pm Year 13 in school

Friday 2nd September

Year 7 only in school

Monday 5th September

Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 in school

Tuesday 6th September

All years in school

A Message for the Summer

The holidays always seem to fly by, especially for girls expecting A and AS level results on Thursday 18th August and GCSE results on Thursday 25th August.

This has been a fantastically successful year for the school with sporting, musical, artistic, dramatic, mathematical, scientific and creative achievements in every area. Congratulations and enjoy the summer. (Mrs Stratton)

SWGS Uniform shop E-mail: uniform@swgs.wilts.sch.uk Website: www.swgs.wilts.sch.uk

The term time opening hours are:

Thursday 12.00pm to 1.00pm

1st Saturday of each month 9.30am to 10.30am

The shop will be closed from Friday 22nd July to Wednesday 31st August 2011

(except Bank Holiday Monday 29th August 2011 from 9.30am to 1.30pm)



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International School Activities



At the start of July, 39 American students along with 5 teachers visited South Wilts. The students stayed with host families whose daughters attend the school and the teachers were hosted by teachers at the school. Day time activities included a visit to the cathedral and baking scones at Waitrose. The visit also coincided with our sports day so they were able to experience this unique event and even entered a relay team in one of the races. It was a great opportunity for students to discuss life in America, broadening understanding of the world and hopefully make friends and keep in contact via the internet. We hope to make this an annual event, so I will be looking for more host families next year!

We have also been successful in our application to the British Council for continued funding with our link school in India. Building on a very successful year looking at different eating and cooking habits, we will investigate the different climates in the two countries. The grant will fund a weather station at our partner school in Lucknow and allow real time collection of data relating to temperature, rainfall, humidity etc. This can then be compared with the data that we are currently collecting from our weather station on the roof at South Wilts. The most exciting part of the project will be the funding to support students from both schools to visit each other. 4 students from South Wilts will be chosen to visit India in February and a return trip will host 4 Indian students in June. This will be a fantastic opportunity for these students to really experience life in a completely different culture. More details regarding how students can apply will be made available in September. (Mr Jones)

Link School Visit

At the beginning of this term two teachers from Lawrence Homan Public School in India came to visit England for two weeks. This was the return visit from the trip that Mr Jones and I made to India in February.

Amit is Head of ICT and Karuna is Head of the Primary Section at LHPS. Neither had visited this country before and were amazed at how green the countryside was and how most people obeyed the 'rules of the road'.

During the first week they spent a morning at a primary school, saw some of the Year 8 Team Building Activities and looked at the Year 9 Industry Days projects. At the beginning of their second week Amit saw some ICT lessons and Karuna watched some Year 7 and 8 lessons. Both were very impressed with the facilities available and enjoyed seeing the teaching and learning techniques being used.

Over the weekend my family took our visitors to Lulworth Cove and Swanage as LHPS is such a long way from the coast that Amit and Karuna had never paddled in the sea! The water was cold despite the beautiful sunny day. We had fish and chips and ice creams before coming home via the 'chain' ferry at Studland.

Unfortunately, Mr Jones and his family were not so lucky with the weather on the Sunday but they managed to visit Longleat House.

The highlight of the visit was the opportunity to work with the Year 10 Food Tech students and for Karuna to help them produce some more authentic Indian dishes. She had brought many samples of spices with her which enabled students to make Tahari, a vegetable and rice dish and Fara, a substantial snack made with a rice flour dough and a coriander flavoured filling. Everyone enjoyed tasting the resulting food. (Mrs Wrighton)



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Speech Day

Our annual Speech Day is a wonderful event held in Salisbury Cathedral every September. It is an opportunity to congratulate students on their achievements of the previous year and celebrate all our students' hard work and commitment. You may be aware that we award subject prizes for GCSE and A Level, as well as prizes for commitment, achievement and community service for all year groups.

We are currently looking for sponsors who might be prepared to support a particular GCSE or A Level subject prize. This might be an individual, company or group who wish to contribute £15 each year and add their name to a prize. All prize-givers are invited to celebrate with us in the Cathedral and at the drinks reception.

If you would be interested in sponsoring one of our prizes please contact Mrs Harris at tdh@swgs.wilts.sch.uk. We currently have sponsor vacancies for the following prizes: Prize for Deputy Head Girls; Prize for Chair of 6th Form Committee; Prize for A Level Art; Prize for A-Level English Literature; Prize for A Level German; Prize for A Level French; Prize for A Level Physical Education; Prize for GCSE English; Prize for GCSE Geography; Prize for GCSE History; Prize for GCSE Religious Studies; Prize for GCSE Art; Prize for GCSE Music; Prize for GCSE Drama; Prize for GCSE German; Prize for GCSE French; Prize for GCSE Information Communication Technologies. (Mrs Harris)



South West Academic Trust Student Research Days

Two Year 10's and two Year 12's volunteered to take part in a research task, looking into the pastoral care system at South Wilts. Firstly, back in May, we took part in a training day at Colyton Grammar School near Exeter; here we were given research for the task (focused on our pastoral care system), and met students from eight of the other schools in the South West Academic Trust (SWAT). Having been given lots of advice as to how to carry out our research, we had the following 12 weeks to carry out our research, collating all the answers and compiling a presentation.

Once our time was up, we travelled to Exeter University to present our findings in a lecture room full of students and teachers from the other eight SWAT schools (a truly scary experience!). It has been a very valuable experience for all of us, not only helping the school and students to understand what's happening in our pastoral care system, but also a really enjoyable experience and a taste of real hard work (particularly late nights spent inputting survey responses)! We would like to thank all the students and staff who helped us. Hopefully we will be able to present some of our findings back to *you* in the autumn, to complete the circle. (Isabel Ewing & Alice Brearey Year 10)

South West Academic Trust Challenge Day

On 14th July eight Year 9 students travelled to Exeter to take part in the final of their two Challenge Days. Students worked in mixed teams with students from all the 8 grammar schools to tackle a philosophical Oxbridge style interview question such as: 'Can you imagine a world free from law?' or 'Is nature natural?' and the unusual 'Do slugs think?' Students worked at a distance after the first day to play creative and thought provoking presentations. Ideas ranged from the Question Time format, to a court case, original song writing and BBC's The Apprentice.

Prizes were awarded for originality of thought, creativity and entertainment and the panel of judges had very difficult decisions to make as the quality of work was extremely high. (Mrs Harris)



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Charity News

This term has seen a plethora of charity events and there are still several more to come! Earlier in the term, 10B held a “pink cake sale” where they made and sold pink cakes and sweets. They made a fantastic £100! 9A and 9B also held cake and sweets sales, with 9A bringing in £56 and 9B raising £41 for charity. 7E held a “Great British Tea Party” with egg and spoon races, scones and homemade cakes and also hair accessories! They made over £100 which is an excellent achievement. 8N made some delicious smoothies and sold them at sports day, making £60.

On Thursday, 14th July 8A ran a Teacher Fashion Show where teachers from several various departments bravely dressed up and walked down the catwalk! We saw Marilyn Munroe, Elvis, Kristen Stewart, Lady Gaga, the Spice Girls, Harry Potter, Voldemort and Jedward. It was a very well planned event that raised over £100 – well done!

The same evening, Caroline Halls organised a brief concert where she performed absolutely brilliantly on the piano and raised money for charity at the same time. She impressed everyone watching and the songs she played were beautiful!

During the next week we will also have two summer fairs and another cake sale!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the directors of Grease for very generously donating £1000 of their profits to charity, of which £500 went to the South Wilts Charities. This was a very thoughtful gesture which will make a big difference!

A really big thank you to all the forms who worked hard at planning and organising such excellent events this year, as well as all the staff and students who donated to them. We have again raised a significant amount of money and are able to hand over cheques for over £2800 to each of our two charities – The Mayor’s Stars Appeal and Teenage Cancer Trust. We can’t wait to see what you think of next year! (Mrs Chamberlain)



Teacher Fashion Show

Year 8 Charity Fair April 2011

The Annual Year 8 Charity Fair took place in the Main Hall on 28th April, attended by representatives from sixteen, mainly local, charities. Groups of eight students were allocated a charity to research during PSD lessons in the lead-up to the Charity Fair. They then planned a fund-raising activity to present to the rest of the school at the Fair.

The charities supported were Age Concern, Alabaré Christian Care, Children’s Chance, The Harnham Water Meadows Trust, Home-Start South Wiltshire, Hope and Homes for Children, Naomi House Children’s Hospice, Salisbury Arts Centre, Salisbury Child Contact Centre, Salisbury Women’s Refuge, Swan Advocacy Network, The Trussell Trust, Wiltshire Air Ambulance, Wiltshire Mind, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and Woofability.



On the day, each group put up a display about their charity and ran a stall or fund-raising activity. These included the sale of home-made cakes, cookies, jewellery and craft items as well as raffles, games and a treasure hunt. Once again, one of the most popular attractions proved to be a ten-week old Labrador Retriever puppy from Woofability, a local charity providing assistance dogs.

The Year 8 Students worked very hard on their preparation for the Fair and managed to raise a total of £694 on the day. The Fair was enjoyed by students and staff throughout the school. (Mrs Passam)

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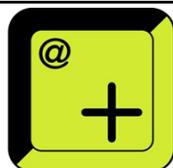
Young Volunteer of the Year Award

Congratulations to Emma Preedy who has this year been chosen to receive Salisbury District Hospital's Young Volunteer Award. Emma has given many hours of her time this year to help at Salisbury Hospital.

Salisbury 



Junior Mathematical Challenge



A record number of certificates were awarded this year! Two Year 7 girls were invited to compete in the Junior Mathematical Olympiad, a very prestigious competition – congratulations to Emily Hedger and Juliette Littlewood!! Emily Hedger was also awarded “Best in School”.

Maths & Computing Well done to all competitors, it is wonderful to see so many of you taking part in this competition.

Gold

Year 8 Niamh Aarons, Louise Chiverton, Sarah Croager, Anna Godson, Meaghan Hopkinson, Kegan Hughes, Selena Jessop, Natalie Moncur, Emily Norman, Lucy Olsen, Johanna Schwarting

Year 7 Alexandria Brown, Laura Coakley, Hazel Cutler, Anna Feest, Juliette Littlewood, Alice Risebrow

Silver

Year 8 Harriet Allen, Bethan Bates, Lara Bonney, Imogen Cawley, Hermione Christie, Octavia Clark, Imogen Collins, Katherine Cooke, Elizabeth Cusack, Olivia Day, Claudia Henry, Anastasia O'Connor, Eloisa Paver, Rebecca Perriment, Emily Francis-Pollin, Catriona Richards, Isabel Rutledge, Nicole Saville, Annabelle Sessions, Sarah Tooms, Alicia Vidal, Natasha White

Year 7 Adelice Ashworth, Isabel Backhouse, Susannah Costley-White, Ella Fletcher, Helen Forrest, Sophie Gwinn, Grace Macready, Isabel McNulty, Alexandra Nikolin, Zoe O'Neill, Phoebe Phillips, Bethany Puzio, Georgie Belle Rubega, Jessica Stokes-Bowler, Olivia Warner

Bronze

Year 8 Lily Bissell, Caitlin Capitelli, Elise Craig, Frances Elgar, Sophie Hudson, Rosanna Patel, Deeksha Raju, Paige Shanley, Hannah Smith

Year 7 Holly Allaway, Daisy Billinge, Elizabeth Boulter, Katherine d'Apice, Stephanie Jung, Sally Morris, Louise Osmond, Hannah Quirk, Lucy Ramsdale, Kiera Reavill, Laura Thornton,

Year 7 World Maths Day

We started the morning by being invited into the Wyvern hall and being spoken to about maths. A few questions were asked like 'Why do you learn maths?' and 'Do you like maths?' For the second question 'Do you like maths?' not many people put their hands up.

After this we were led into their maths classrooms to play several maths related games. One of our favourites was the fire house one where there were 2 children, weighing 30 kg, a mum weighing 60 kg and a dad weighing 90 kg. You had to get everyone down on the ground, but you were only allowed to have a difference of less than 30 kg between the two baskets.

Then after about an hour and a half of maths games the head of the 'Wyvern World Maths Day' gave us a goodbye, but before we left asked the 'Do you like maths?' question again, but this time almost everyone put their hands up! It was a very enjoyable occasion and we would definitely do it again if the option came up. (Alexandra Brown & Alexandra Nikolin Year 7)

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World Class Tests: Problem Solving

Eleanor May, Esther Bersweden, Kira Green all took part in the world class tests. The questions use contexts drawn from science, design technology, and mathematics and require high level problem solving skills to be able to solve them.

All students who took part passed with a Distinction and receive certificates.



A Level Biology

This term A Level Biology students were given the opportunity to carry out a rat dissection, which included assisting Year 10 students from Trafalgar School, St. Edmund's, and St. Joseph's. The sessions were run by Miss Drysdale and Mrs Penwarden, who demonstrated the skills on one rat, and then everyone else carried out the dissection in pairs. We explored the digestive system, the heart and the brain of the rat, and we also learned how a rat's brain is different from our own. It was a unique chance for all those involved to carry out a practical that deviated slightly from the A Level and GCSE specifications, and to apply our current biological knowledge to a new situation. (Faye Robinson Year 12)

Science

Bath University Physics G&T Rocket Competition

Eight Year 9 physics students were selected to take place in a Rocket competition held at Bath University. The day started with an introductory talk by a lecturer of Physics who was very enthusiastic about rockets!

A short game relating to the history of rockets then followed, after which students were mixed with those from other schools and placed into small teams. A challenge was set to build the cheapest water rocket that would go the furthest, with the limited materials available. Teams would compete not only with a teachers' team but also with 4 adults who all had many years of experience in the aeronautics industry.

Straightaway teams dived in and came up with a variety of interesting and sometimes eccentric designs. On the first and only trial run, the teachers' team came 2nd to the professional team, reaching over 80m! The students had some big improvements to make! After frantic redesigns and rebuilds the final launch took place on a large field. Amelia Powell (9E) immediately stole the glory with a rocket that launched so far it cleared the field and crashed into a car roof in the car park! The teachers had peaked far too soon and saw their rocket launch a measly 36m.

All-in-all an excellent day, with plenty of fun Physics and a trip we hope to run again next year. Well done to all eight who took part. (Mr Lawrence)

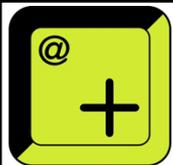


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Women in Computer Science Day

On Tuesday 28th June, ten Year 10 students travelled by minibus up to Oxford University to attend their annual 'Women in Computer Science Day'. The day was aimed at raising awareness of what Computer Science is at University level, and in this aim it was a success. The students met a range of professors, lecturers and researchers working in the field of Computer Science, from automatic language translation to modelling the human body. The students combined this with completing a range of hands-on activities, which the South Wilts girls in particular excelled at! Finally the girls visited Keble College, and gained an insight into the life of a student at Oxford University. (Ms Thorpe)

"Our trip to Oxford University for Women in Computer Science Day on 28th June was a lot of fun and I would love to go again. We listened to some lectures and talks on Computer Science and some were actually very interesting and helped me to understand what Computer Science is and how it is used in many jobs. I enjoyed the practical sessions in the computer rooms, which included a computer treasure hunt / quiz and having a go at programming and digital art on a program called Geomlab. To top the day off we were taken on a tour of an Oxford College, which was very grand, and found out a little about what it is like to be a student there. Overall I found it a very informative but enjoyable day out." (Emma Clarke Year 10)

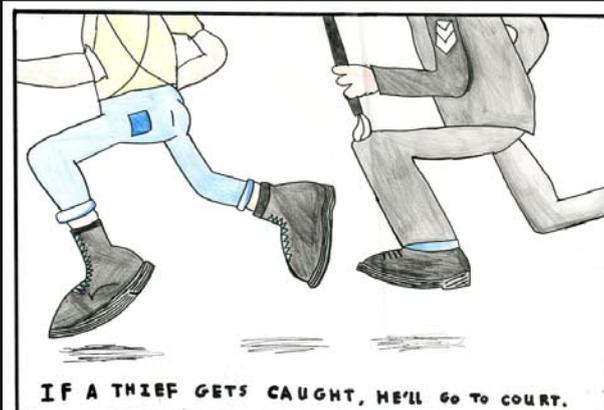


Maths & Computing

Community ICT classes

For the past 7 years we have been running classes for senior citizens on computer awareness. Fiona Green has been running these classes, introducing the internet and software packages such as word, excel and power-point to enthusiastic members of our local community. Getting to grips with concepts such as file management, buying items on amazon and backing up photos can at first seem daunting, but with patience and clearly structured help sheets and work sheets, Fiona has been able to make it all seem less scary.

Next year we will be continuing these classes, heavily subsidised through the school's specialism, for groups from Age UK and U3A. Future topics will include the use of Skype to keep in touch with friends and relatives, and internet e-mail. (Mr Jones)



Crime Poster Competition

We have been working with our local community police officer this year to raise awareness of the implications of theft and the need to keep personal belongings safe and secure. We ran a poster campaign and this was won by Izzy Wray in 7N.

She was awarded her prize in an end of term celebration assembly and her posters will be placed in spots around the school from September. (Mrs Stammers)

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The Funky Frogs Meet the Spelling Bee!

South Wilts Girls Grammar School and its Head of English and spelling team manager, Steve Davies, are delighted by the performance of its 2011 Year 7 Spelling Bee team, The Funky Frogs.

The Funky Frogs (Miranda Clifford, Eleanor Piggott, Olivia Kinderman and Elizabeth Webber) are the first team the school has entered for The Times newspaper's national Spelling Bee competition, so it is no surprise how thrilled everyone was when The Funky Frogs had a comfortable win over nine other teams in the local heats held last March in Southampton. "The girls kept their cool, thought before answering and did themselves proud," said Steve Davies.

The team faced inevitably stiffer competition in the semi-finals, held at Crawley in May. The South Wilts Girls Grammar School team remained cool, again paused before answering, but simply found themselves out-spelt and out-played by teams such as Brighton College's Bright-On team that went on to win the semi-final. The Funky Frog's fourth place position, after competing against nine other semi-finalists, was no mean feat and the team deserved to be pleased with its performance overall.

And next year? "We were all new to the competition this year. Next time we'll have a team wise to tactics as well as being brilliant at spelling," said Mr Davies.

And what did the girls think? "A great thing to do," said Miranda Clifford, "but for the rest of my life I'll remember my misspelling of j-o-d-h-p-u-r!" And Eleanor? "Not scary at all. And the goody bags were cool!"



'Off by heart' Competition



Laura Simpkins, Bethany Cooper and Freya Henry have been successful in getting through to the first heat of the BBC's 'Off by heart' competition and have been awarded a place in the Bristol heat in November!!!

They had to battle it out against 23 other students in auditions run by Mrs McLannahan to select the best performance of a Shakespeare speech. Huge congratulations and good luck to them for the next phase of the competition! (Mrs McLannahan)

Christopher Tower Poetry Competition

Congratulation to Nicki Biggs for making the Christopher Tower Poetry Competition long list of 50 poems. Nicki's poem can be found on the competition web site. Well done Nicki

Sixth Form Writing Club

Despite decreasing numbers, a loyal core of aspiring writers has met regularly, and written in ways that stretched the imagination. The encouragement and feedback given by peers at these meetings was both helpful and motivating.

We meet about once every three weeks, sometimes at lunch time and sometimes after school. It is ideal for any students studying English, or who just enjoy writing for its own sake. Please join us next year - the more the merrier!

Exciting Writing Club

This year some Year 7 and 8 pupils have been going to 'Exciting Writing' in 08 every Monday lunch time. It has been run by sixth formers, notably Ellie Coles, Sarah Merritt, Emilie Lysaght, Nicki Biggs and Beth Gore, who did a marvellous job in inspiring the girls.

There have been different activities every week, including making up stories, entering competitions, writing poetry and putting together a magazine. Please join us next year if you would enjoy getting together and writing for pleasure with like-minded people. (Mrs Coundley)

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English Speaking Union

Opportunities for Debating have widened this year at South Wilts. Both Year 8 and Year 10 ran debating clubs and entered formal competitions. Many students should be very proud of the way they succeeded in very demanding situations.

There was however one student who excelled above all this year in debate. The debating prize for 2011 goes to Mia Baines in 10A. Well done.

Grease

'Grease' was the word at South Wilts Grammar School from the 7th-9th July with a spectacularly successful rendition of the popular musical. Being the first ever student led musical, this was both very exciting and extremely nerve wracking. We had taken on the task of not only creating a show worth watching, but also balancing the books to ensure that we didn't make a loss. Everybody worked tirelessly for 6 months, from rigging to sewing, painting to dancing and writing to companies asking for their financial support.

Denis and I knew we were taking on a huge responsibility, but wanted to show just how committed and passionate people were about theatre in the school, proven through the 180 people who auditioned and the countless number of people who applied to help the technical crew. We decided that during the production of Grease, the technical team would train younger students on how to use the lighting and sound equipment for the future, therefore preparing for upcoming productions when the senior crew have left.

Grease was an experience enjoyed by all and could not have happened without the support of Mrs Stratton and Dr Smallwood who put their trust in us and helped us on the way to success, finishing with an overall profit of over £3000. This profit was donated to the school charities and the drama department, hopefully to fund future student-led projects such as this one and making drama an asset to the school. (Hollie Morgan & Denis Twomey)



Hollie Morgan & Denis Twomey



Masterchef at Salisbury College

On July 7th SWGS entered two teams in the Masterchef competition held at Salisbury College,

'On July 7th two groups of 3 from Year 8 went to Salisbury College to compete against 6 other schools in a Salisbury Schools Masterchef competition. We were given the challenge of making a 3 course meal making sure that the whole meal was priced under £20.00. When we first got into our kitchen we were slightly nervous but excited. We checked we had all the required ingredients to make our fresh stuffed summer peppers starter, our delicious chicken risotto with Parmesan crisps main, and of course our scrumptious chocolate mousses with strawberry coulis for pudding. We then had 2 hours to cook and serve up our meal. We worked individually on the starter, main and dessert, however we did help each other when it was needed. We didn't win but I really enjoyed taking part in the competition, as well as working as a team, and it was definitely a superb experience!' (Nadia Ghauri Year 8)

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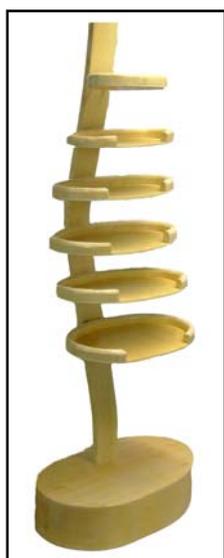
Design and Technology Exhibition 2011

A change of venue this year did not deter the crowds from visiting the Design and Technology exhibition. Holding it within the department for the first time since 1992 enabled the electronic design portfolios to be viewed on the department's own computers. The exceptionally high quality Food Technology portfolios greeted guests in room Design 5. A very wide range of design situations requiring extremely detailed nutritional research and analysis could be seen and the presentation was exemplary. The food design portfolios on show are amongst the best in the country and the department has been awarded the Good Schools Guide Top English School award for many years now.

Moving on to room Design 12 all the practical work could be viewed along with the associated electronic design portfolios. Visitors could not be anything other than impressed as they were greeted by the magnificent architectural model made by Hannah Bonney Year 13. Hannah has spent the last year developing a plan for a new refectory for the Cathedral and the very large model was the practical culmination of this effort. There were other architects' models too as there are currently a number of girls interested in studying architecture at university. Their final year A Level projects have allowed them to gain valuable experience prior to starting their degree courses.

The room was also packed with a range of GCSE products completed as part of the D&T and Graphics courses. Abi Pownall-Gray fulfilled a long term ambition by making a virtually life size Rocking Horse and other products included two fully functional and very different I-Pod

Docking Stations, each influenced by different historic design periods. These were by Rosa Whiteley and Alix Bird (pictured). Precision manufacturing and high finish quality were very evident in a beautifully crafted oak bedside cabinet by Jennifer Welsh, and Zoe Treasure's contemporary chess set, board and storage unit in black and white acrylic.



Around the outer edges of the room was displayed this year's range of graphic products designed to briefs set, for the first time, by the exam board. There were numerous alternative designs to promote a production of Jack and The Beanstalk, or a new school band. All of these products had to include 'Smart Materials'. There were products that changed colour under varying light or temperature conditions plus many glow in the dark elements to the girls' designs. Florence Powell chose to promote the forthcoming Olympics with commercial products and a poster. Her outcomes were very advanced and included a superb canvas bag and presentation packaging all hand printed with an extremely eye catching and fluid Olympic design that she created through digital manipulation. Rebecca Young opted for designing a travel game pack. Her box of games and activities seemed endless as more and more boards, characters and component parts could be lifted out and set up to play with on those tiresome long journeys. The quality of this work was outstanding. Finally from the AS course Kat Burleigh from Yr12 interpreted the theme of 'Human Form' to create a wonderfully sinuous free standing shelf unit based on the spine and ribs (pictured).

This year the exhibition was a co-event with the junior concert. It was a wonderful opportunity for the junior girls and their parents to view the senior design and technology work and for the senior girls to discuss the development of thinking and practical applications to design problems. We were also delighted to see just how many took up this opportunity. A wider range of products from the exhibition will shortly be available to view in the Photographs section of the school website. (Mr Crouch)

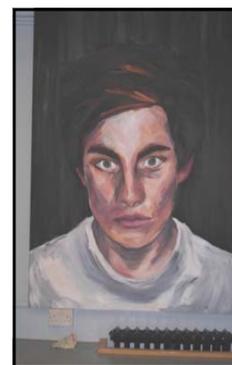


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Exhibition at the Mall Galleries in London

This term the Art Department was contacted by Janet O'Callaghan who is linked with the National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies and the Royal Society of British Artists, to ask if we would like to submit current Year 13 A level Art work to be considered for an exhibition at the Mall Galleries in London.

Three pieces, Anna Kashina's Year 13 A level examination piece and a pastel portrait and Charlotte Boag's large portrait have been photographed and submitted and we have our fingers crossed that both girls are successful.



Year 10 Geography Trip to Hengistbury Head

A large group of hyperactive Year 10s set off to Hengistbury Head and Mudeford Spit on Friday 15th July for a Geography Field Trip. Accompanied by Miss Behan, Miss Taggart and the new geography teacher Mr Brown we carried out a number of activities, relevant to our Controlled Assessment. These included counting waves, measuring cliff angles and collecting and recording the shape and diameter of pebbles.

After noting down the results from these tasks at Hengistbury Head, we embarked on a three quarters of a mile trek to Mudeford Spit, stopping at Long Groyne on the way. Various pictures were taken by those with cameras, along with a sketch of a cliff – noting down any evidence of erosion and weathering.



Lunch was eaten and the activities were continued throughout the afternoon at Mudeford, before we climbed up a hill to the top of the spit. After drawing our sketch, there was swift walking to the ice cream shop! And singing voices were brought out just in time for the trip home.

Thank you to the three wonderful teachers who came with us and Mr Brown had a grand introduction to the energetic Year 10s! (Miss Behan)

Lulworth Cove

Our class was already enjoying our topic about coasts so we were really looking forward to going to Lulworth on Thursday 23rd June. We split up with our teachers, Mrs Brown and Mrs Chamberlain taking most of 7B to see "Durdle Door" and Miss Behan, Miss Taggart and Miss Bosworth taking 7A and the rest of 7B to Lulworth Cove before lunch. After lunch (and lots of ice-creams) we swapped over. Lulworth is a rocky cove that is always crowded. It was nice to see the different types of rocks and see how the erosion took place quicker because of the river behind eroding it as well as the sea. Also we saw Durdle Door, which is a huge arch that formed thousands of years ago. Stair Hole was an amazing thing to see because of the tectonic plates crushing the rock together; this is called 'the crumple' because it looks like there was a huge explosion causing the rocks to crumple up together. The Heritage Centre was interesting to see because of the information inside. This was an amazing trip and I hope all Year 7s enjoyed it! (Charlotte Lewis & Ellie Webber Year 7)



Purbeck Biology Field Trip

“A glorious slice of natural coastline in Purbeck featuring a four-mile stretch of golden, sandy beach, with gently shelving bathing waters and views of Old Harry Rocks and the Isle of Wight. Ideal for water sports and includes the most popular naturist beach in Britain.” This is how The National Trust described the popular beach at Studland, and I have to agree.

Our day started off with the tagging and release of a finch and a blackbird, with Mike Gould (Leeson House Field Studies Centre Instructor) teaching us about all the data he collects from every bird. Of course, with the group made up largely of teenage girls, awww-ing and cooing was inevitable, especially when he stuffed them into a small pot and plonked them upside down on the scales to weigh them! After the birds were released we moved on to mammals, and we were equally mushy when we finally found a trap with the tiniest field mouse inside (so cute!) The experience was very interactive and we were able to release the animals ourselves which I think brought an extra special something to the start of a wonderful day.

Next on our trip was a visit to the beach to learn about dunes and heathland management issues; we were given a presentation on how sand dunes are formed and told to how to use our equipment to gather as much information as we could about the succession of the beach and we set to work to get to the other side (though secretly it became a race). At every stage we measured the temperature of the ground, wind speed, changing angle of the dunes and the percentage cover of plants like marram grass, ling heather and lichen. Now this may seem very boring and uninteresting to those of you who only know the beach as a place to sunbathe and eat ice cream in the summer (I must confess to this also) but when you really look at the nature around you it does become much more interesting. It is possibly the only place to actually see succession happening in stages: the move from sandy beaches to heaths and finally on to trees.



After lunch on the beach another coach ride took us to the last location of the day. We arrived at the river and once again got excited. That is until we saw the depth of the river and realised the waders provided would be needed. After settling differences and coming up with every excuse in the book to avoid the waders, those unfortunate or mad enough to volunteer hopped into the water net in hand and proceeded to jump like crazy. This is what's known as kick sampling: it collects all the organisms that are hidden from us in the net and we simply plonk them in a tray of water to count how many of each we see. There were also pH tests, as well as measuring the temperature and depth and competing to get the best catch of the day. I think everyone

will agree that the eels were a pretty impressive find, and overall I enjoyed that part of the day the best! Understandably, with the day being so busy and interesting, we got a bit tired of all the measuring but luckily Mike let us off and we spent the rest of our time trying to catch fish and even more quirky creatures (one earlier group had caught a rare white-clawed crayfish).

Overall, it was good fun and most importantly educational. It showed us a different perspective to the beach and river we realised that these habitats need to be looked after and managed to keep them healthy for all the creatures and plants that inhabit them, and for all of our future enjoyment.

(Jessica Goodwin-Percy Year 12 Biology student).



ONWARDS

Year 7 Trip to Germany

Year 7 visited Germany for five fun-filled days abroad. During this time they had a chance to speak German in everyday life, get to see beautiful views and widen their knowledge of the German language.

There were many highlights of the week, including going to an amusement park with animals, and a chairlift ride up the mountain side. Visiting Cochem Castle and having a beautiful boat ride on the river Mosel were also very interesting. We also managed to visit both a winery and a gem polishing factory which was fascinating!

This trip gave us an insight into German culture and a new understanding of diversity as well as increasing our independence and enabling us to mix with another form and make new friends.

Thank you to Mrs Tallis and the teachers who accompanied us for a wonderful trip. We will never forget our amazing Year 7 trip to Germany. (Kiera Reavill & Matilda Roylance Year7)

Year 7 Trip to France

Wow! France was amazing! We only went for 5 days, but we packed a lot in.

On Monday we spent 13 hours travelling on the coach to our holiday centre in Normandy. It was a very long and tiring journey, but we were so excited we didn't notice. Then on Tuesday we went to a French market and the Mont St Michel. The market was really cool, as I bought my own French beret there. Then Mont St Michel was really interesting. Wednesday was the day when we went to the D-day landing beaches and the Bayeux tapestry. The beaches were so sad and the tapestry was really interesting. My favourite part of the trip was going to the French school and the zoo. The school was really fun because I got to meet my penpal and loads of other kids. Then the zoo was really cool because we got to see loads of really amazing animals! (Holly Allaway Year 7)

I thought that the French trip was great fun but also educational. We went to the beach and did some yoga; we went to the French market and bought lots of nice things; we went to the Mont St Michel and the D-Day beaches to see retired veterans unveil a remembrance plaque; we went to a WW2 memorial site with all the white headstones; we saw the Bayeux tapestry; we went to meet our French pen pals; we went to the zoo and saw the animals and then we finally started the 13 hour coach ride home! I loved spending time with my friends and learning about French culture. (Anna Jorgensen-Stephens Year 7)

Bonjour! In June I went to France; it was really fun staying with my friends. I especially liked the French market. It was a good opportunity to use some French and buy some souvenirs. I used French to order a big muffin. It was interesting to be amongst genuine French businesses in the market because I got to hear them speak very fast French! We also went to a French school, Collège Les Embruns, that we had been writing to.

They were so welcoming and nice. It was lovely to talk to someone we'd heard a lot about through the letters. It was a great trip. Everyone really enjoyed it! (Lara Shavren Year 7)



ONWARDS

South Wilts Grammar School Chamber Orchestra

Following a successful performance at the Regional Festival, South Wilts Grammar School's Chamber Orchestra was invited to play at the National Festival of Music for Youth Schools' Orchestra Class held in the prestigious Symphony Hall, Birmingham. The orchestra, prepared by its musical director, Richard Parsons of the Wiltshire Music Service, played Corelli's beautiful Concerto Op. 6 No. 8. The girls were highly praised by the adjudicators for their "professional" sound, stylistic interpretation, accomplished musicianship and excellent communication and performance skills – all achieved in true chamber style without conductor. They were thrilled to be chosen as one of four schools to be given a special award for outstanding achievement. (Mrs Poppleton)



Congratulations!

Alice Phelps (ex student) has recently graduated with a First Class Honours degree from Leeds University and her band, 'Hunting Bears' is one of the five finalists in a national competition to perform at the opening of the Green Man Folk Festival. (Mrs Poppleton)

Junior Concert

On Tuesday 12th July 100 young musicians took part in the summer concert. Mrs Timperley spent her morning rehearsing the Junior Choir and Training Orchestra as well as practising the accompaniments for the solos. Then at 6.30pm everyone arrived at school and tuned up ready for the concert.

There were 22 solos and duets on many different instruments including cello, clarinet and saxophone. Training Orchestra played 'My Heart Will Go On' followed by the flute band and guitar group and finally the Junior Choir sang 'The Lion King'. Lots of work had gone into organising the concert backstage so thank you to Mrs Timperley and to Mrs Poppleton for making the concert run smoothly, along with the sixth form helpers who ferried us back and forth from the Main Hall. We are grateful to all the peripatetic staff who prepared each ensemble particularly Mr Dutfield and Mr Wilkinson who were present. Thank you also to the music teachers who accompanied some of the soloists. It made a brilliant night. (Lara Bonney & Emily Walker Year 8)

Forthcoming Events for 2011-2012

17th October 5.30pm

A Cappella sing Evensong, Salisbury Cathedral

22nd November 7.00pm

School concert, Main Hall

13th December

School Carol Service, Salisbury Cathedral

28th January

A Cappella Concert, St. Martin's Church

3rd March

A Cappella sing Evensong, Portsmouth Cathedral

13th March 7.00pm

School Instrumental Concert, Main Hall

Piano Recital

Caroline Halls gave a piano recital in aid of the school charities (Star's Appeal and Teenage Cancer Trust). A portion of the funds will also go to SANDs (Stillborn and Neo-natal Deaths). She raised over £100 and gave her audience a stunning, accomplished performance of a beautiful and exciting programme. Thank you Caroline. (Mrs Poppleton)



ONWARDS

Sports Day

Another fantastic Sports Day: thank you to everyone who helped make the day run so smoothly. The Tutor Group winners were:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
7A	8B	9B	10E

Athlete of the Year awards are given to individuals who achieve the most points within the limits of sports day, ie, 2 track, 1 field and a relay or 2 field, 1 track and a relay.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
1st Rachel Lang	1st Alice Smith	1st Molly Judd	1st Lizzie Clifford
2nd Celeste Conn	2nd Georgina Holman	2nd Catherine Lethbridge	2nd Jerry Edwards

Records

Bryony Osbourn equalled Imogen Wolsey's 800m record.

County Athletics

After the first round of Area Sports in May, 16 girls qualified for the County Round to represent Salisbury:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Hannah Williams	Alice Smith	Sophie Kalik	Bryony Osborn	Flo Powell
Amy Webster	Hannah Richards		Lizzie Clifford	Ellie Ingram
Celeste Conn	Phoebe Kalik		Jenny Snell	Rosanna Grant
			Jerry Edwards	Hannah Brown

Regional Round

Athletes who finished 1st or 2nd in the county round went on to the regional round to represent Wiltshire: Anastasia O'Connor in Javelin, Lizzie Clifford in 300m Hurdles, Ellie Ingram in Javelin, Imogen Wolsey in 1500m Steeplechase.

English Schools

Athletes who recorded a National Time/Distance went on to the next round to represent the South West at English Schools: Lizzie Clifford Year 10 and Imogen Wolsey Year 12. It is a fantastic achievement to reach the English Schools finals and we are very proud of Lizzie and Imogen.

Lizzie is new to the 300m Hurdles and has only competed in a handful of events which makes this an even bigger achievement; Lizzie came 4th in her heat. She now hopes to continue with this event and achieve even more next year.

Imogen (picture right) is also new to her event, the 1500m steeplechase. She was hoping for 5th position at best based on her personal best time; however she beat this by 17 seconds and finished 2nd in England improving on the national standard time by 19 seconds. An outstanding achievement. Well done to all the girls involved. (Miss Dew)



Tennis

Year 8 Team winners of the first round of the Division 1 AEGON Cup beating Dauntseys, Godolphin, St Mary's and Sheldon (conceded match). The girls will be playing the next round in September. Congratulations go to Anna Rolfe, Izzy Dickson, Hannah Richards and Millie Watson. (Mrs Darby)

ONWARDS

NSEA Jumping With Style Qualifier held at Bryanston School

On Saturday 18th June Bethany Puzio and her pony Rookie (Rookwood Dundoolie) competed in the NSEA qualifier at Bryanston School.

They jumped well to come 2nd in the warm-up scurry class which boded well for the next class, the qualifying class. The qualifying class had gone up in height and was a challenging and technical course.

Bethany and Rookie jumped a fabulous clear round and despite a strong contingent from schools such as Godolphin, Gillingham, Bryanston, Leaden Hall and Blundells, Bethany and Rookie's performance was good enough to win the class and the style award and so qualify for the National Championships later in the year at Addington!

This is an incredible achievement for Bethany and we were very proud to have her competing for the school and representing South Wilts Grammar School so successfully! Well done! (Mrs Penwarden)



County Cricket

South Wilts fought off tough opposition to beat Hardenhuish in the final at Chippenham on Monday 27th June. Congratulations to the whole squad:

Hope Mayhew, Clover Crosse, Lizzie Jacobs, Ellie Wolverson, Bryony Osbourn, Zoe Maylin, Georgia Smith, Alice Elgar, Emma Blackburn.

A big well done to the U13 squad too who finished a credible 3rd in their bigger group losing only to the final winners Matravers. A really great team effort:

Lara Mayhew, Lily Jackson, Sammy Cole, Emily Oswell, Juliette Glennon- Alty, Anastasia O'Connor, Hannah Richards, Frances Elgar. (Mrs Darby)

Athletics Success

City of Salisbury's young track athlete Lizzie Clifford was the weekend's star performer at the south-west schools' inter-county championships in Exeter where her personal best win in the under 17 300m hurdles pushed her up to seventh in her age group across the UK.

She also clocked her best ever time for third place in the 80m hurdles, while big sister Millie Clifford continued her upward course with 56.7sec for first place in a regional championships under 20s 400m.



County Cricket



Ex South Wilts Students

Congratulations to this group of ex South Wilts students, (Gemma Thomas, Clare Flippance, Susie Cooke, Liz Kay, Alex Powell and Camilla Axtell) who conquered Snowdon and raised over £1000 for Andover Mind in the process. The fund raising page at www.justgiving.com/bigsnowdonadventure2011 is still active if you would like to help out.

ONWARDS

Microsoft Office 2010 & Windows 7 at Home

Parents and students can purchase software such as Microsoft Office 2010 at significantly discounted prices by visiting the school's website and clicking on the "RM Basement" link in the bottom left of the homepage. For example, Microsoft Office 2010 Professional is £36, which saves you over £390 off the RRP!



With the school currently running Office 2010 and planning to upgrade to Windows 7 over the summer, now would be an ideal time to upgrade your home system. (Mr Handford, Network Manager)

Lost Property

Parents are reminded to name all property belonging to their daughters which comes into school.

All named items brought to Lost Property are returned to girls quickly. However, anything unnamed remains until it is claimed, or is kept for two terms and then disposed of. (Mrs Taylor)

New Year 7 Parents

Hello if you are reading this newsletter for the first time – I did so myself a year ago as my daughter prepared to join the school. After a wonderful first year, she will be returning to school as a Year 8 pupil in September.

One of the things that has made her - and my - transition to South Wilts so enjoyable is the fact that we have made good use of our class contact list.

One enterprising mother arranged a series of get-togethers – at Moors Valley Country Park and Paultons Park – for the children about to join 7N during the summer holiday before we started. They proved to be wonderful opportunities for the children and parents to meet and get to know each other before the start of term.

Since then, we have taken it in turns to organise Mums' Nights Out, a barbecue, a trip to the theatre and holiday activities. What I have found especially supportive is that I recognise the parents of my daughter's classmates, so there is always someone to talk to at school events. I would urge any soon-to-be Year 7 parent reading this to consider signing up to the contact sheet, and then using it. It just takes one person to email those on the list to get things started. I know that many of us with daughters in 7N are extremely grateful that we did! (Mrs Cross)



Uniform

If you are buying uniform in preparation for the new term in September, please can I ask you to take the following into account:

A school fleece is appropriate to wear to and from school as are plain coats in dark green, black, navy or grey. Hoodies, denim and coats with logos are not acceptable. Shoes for school must be black, low heeled and plain, it is not appropriate to come to school in boots, trainers, sandals, cloth or canvas shoes of any kind.

Tights for the winter months must be navy, dark green, black or flesh coloured but not grey. We always appreciate your cooperation in ensuring your daughter comes to school in the correct uniform, with a skirt of a decent length and without jewellery or make up. Thank you. (Mrs Stammers)



**South Wilts Grammar School for Girls
SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES
2011 - 2012**

	August/September					October					November				
Monday	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
Tuesday	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
Saturday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	
Sunday	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	

	December					January					February				
Monday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	
Tuesday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
Wednesday	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
Saturday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
Sunday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	

	March					April					May				
Monday	5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	
Tuesday	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29
Wednesday	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25	
Saturday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26	
Sunday	4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	

	June					July					August/September				
Monday	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	
Tuesday	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	
Wednesday	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Thursday	7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	1
Sunday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2

	TD Days		Monday 23rd July Disaggregated into 3 twilight sessions – staff and students do not attend school		Bank Holidays
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Thursday 1st September Year 12 in school am Year 13 in school pm Years 7 – 11 studying at home
 Friday 2nd September Year 7 only in school All other years studying at home
 Monday 5th September Years 7 – 11 and 13 in school
 Tuesday 6th September All years in school

Dates are correct at the time of publication