



ONWARDS

OCTOBER 2004 AUTUMN TERM



Maths & Computing

The New Maths Block

The mathematics staff and all the pupils of South Wilts are delighted at their new mathematics classrooms and ICT room. The new block, completed exactly on schedule really is a first class teaching and learning area, that I am sure will inspire the Country's future mathematicians. All the classrooms are equipped with the latest technology and it is possible to interact with a computer using finger touch technology on the interactive whiteboards (or even play the latest DVD on big screen!) As the new software is mastered, topics such as dynamic geometry and graphical analysis will be explored to their full potential. Thanks to the Friends of SWGS who purchased the interactive whiteboards and projectors.

(Mr Hunt)

A thank you must go to everyone who supported the school's Mathematics and Computing Specialist School's bid, which helped made the building of these classrooms possible. There will be opportunities to look round on parents evenings.

Building Plans Sept 2004 on Back Page

Winter Uniform

Applies to year 7-11.

A reminder that girls should return to school after half term wearing their winter uniform i.e kilts.

Also a reminder that girls should not wear scarves in lessons or around school.

(Mrs Goodwin)

ICT for Parents

Why not improve your ICT skills and have an introduction to the software your daughters learn to use in Years 7 and 8. There will be free taster courses for parents in Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Publisher, email and web design. We hope to run CLAIT courses next term if there is sufficient interest. The course will start on Wednesday 10th November and will run from 4pm—5.30pm. Please telephone the school if you would like to

Fund Raising

The school wishes to voice its appreciation of all the letters and donations received from parents of ex-Year 13 students. Following the letter at the beginning of term asking for donations, we have received a large number of school fund and additional sums, for which we are very grateful. These donations will be a great help towards improving the environment of your daughters.

Open Afternoon

All open afternoons went well this term. We would like to say a special thank you to all Year 7's who helped with showing people around the school. The Open afternoons and 11+ are two months earlier this year due to the new national common Admissions.

Leavers News

Elizabeth Savage who left South Wilts in 1999 to start her gap year has graduated this summer with First Class honours in Environmental Biology at Liverpool University.

When she left South Wilts she flew off to the cloud forests in Ecuador to volunteer for a replanting scheme. She returned home and started her degree at Liverpool University. She passed this summer and is now working in Liverpool for an Environmental Consultancy. Well done, Elizabeth.

Nestlé Box Tops For Books

Help us to collect books for our library! This year our school is participating in the Box Tops for Books scheme run by Nestlé cereals, and we need your support. The scheme is a really simple and effective way for us to collect books. Just collect the tokens from the top of the Nestlé cereals packs and put them into the box in the school library. The more that we collect the more books for our library!

Our issues last year increased again by 10% , so please help us to sustain this growth. We need to buy more new book titles and replace old copies of popular titles which have worn out. Thank you



Collect Box Tops
From Nestlé



OCR National Exhibition Of Art & Design

Congratulations to Emma Boakes and Rebekah Robinson in Year 12 whose GCSE work will be exhibited in the forthcoming OCR National Exhibition. The Exhibition will be held at the Waterhall in the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery from the 18th October to the 14th November. This is a tremendous achievement to have two girls' work at the National Exhibition and illustrates the high quality and innovative of work that comes from the Art Department.

(Mrs Stratton)



Emma Boakes 12A

Year 11 Mock Interviews

Every year all students in year 11 have the opportunity to experience a formal interview. They have all used interview skills to talk to a professional interviewer about themselves and future plans. The employers try to make it as real as possible and the tense atmosphere outside the Main Hall on these afternoons shows the girls do get very nervous.

We are very grateful to the following employers and governors who have given up their valuable time on three afternoons to interview the girls : Mr Hans Dieter Scholz, Mr Peter Jenks, Mrs Tricia Dursten, Mr David Sutcliffe, Mr Martyn White (Retd Teacher), Mr Micheal Maidment (The Red Lion), Mr Duncan Macdonald (HSBC Bank), Mrs Jane Podkolinski (SDH Midwife), Mr Richard Allen (Fawcetts), Mrs Anne Reed (Rtd Teacher), Mr John Topp (Ex Boscombe Down), Mr Richard Tulloch (Community Action), Ins Christian Lange (Salisbury Police), Mr David Ridley (Whitehead V Solicitors), Mr Arthur Flood (Retd Bank Manager), Mr Gerry Russel (Shellwork Ind), Mr Chris Hewitt (St. Jame's Place), Miss Lyndsey Brown (City Centre Manager), Mr Richard Offer (Retd Teacher), Mr Darren Spreadbury (Five Rivers), Sarah Williams (Qinetiq), Linda Knapp.

All afternoons went very well and the feedback has given the students confidence to face the interviews they will have in the future.

(Mrs MacTaggart)



Rebekah Robinson 12N



Interviews in progress

Scientists in School Day

This year's Scientist in School Day (the eleventh) for year 10 students on 24th September was the biggest and best so far. There were a record 12 'hands-on' sessions ranging from 'The wonderful world of viruses' to seeing in the dark with night vision goggles. All the favourites were back—Mrs Clayton and her Kinetic Theory demonstrations using liquid nitrogen and The Explorer Dome with Shaaron and Ben. Many of South Wilts Grammar School's former pupils were giving talks about their work—Marion Pearson talked about Plate Tectonics and Dr. Emily Harris outlined her work as an SHO in Southampton.

Huge thanks go to everyone who gave their time and expertise to enthral and enthuse Year 10, Dstl, HPA, Salisbury Health Care NHS trust, RSPB, RSOC, QinetiQ and especially Mrs Clayton for all her hard work.

(Mrs Wrighton)

Exciting Writing

Over the past half term, students from all years have had the opportunity to take part in a creative writing club during lunch hour. Each week we look at a different style of writing, which has recently included haiku, sonnets and possible ways to begin a story. If you are interested in writing, or have any original work of your own at home that you would be willing to share, please come to O7 on Monday lunchtime.

The Enigma Project at South Wilts Grammar School.

On two days last term (July) Claire Greer visited South Wilts Grammar School bringing with her The Enigma Machine. On Wednesday each Year 8 form had the chance to participate in a one hour workshop where they were introduced to a range of codes and ciphers that have been used throughout history, such as the Caesar Shift Code and the Babbington Plot Substitution Code. They were able to have a go at breaking some of these codes, using frequency analysis and Simon Singh's Code Breaking CD-ROM.



The students were able to see it working and look in more detail at the circuit boards. They were interested to work out how many different settings were possible, how the code-breakers managed to finally break the codes and to discover how much the machine is now worth!

On the Wednesday evening Claire also ran an evening talk, which was well attended by Year 8 parents and the Learning Partnership in Salisbury.

On Thursday the workshops were offered to the sixth form mathematicians and historians, who especially enjoyed hearing about the history of Bletchley Park and that the highest employment of mathematicians in this country is still in code-breaking. There was also a session run for the Gifted and Talented group of mathematicians that we had been working with throughout the year from Years 6 & 7 from across three schools in Salisbury.



The whole school benefited from the enthusiasm and interest that The Enigma Project brought to the school, reflected by the interest that we had from pupils in other year groups and from other adults who also wanted to come in and hear the talks!

If you want to find out more about code breaking and The Enigma Project, then look on Simon Singh's website at www.simonsingh.net or contact Mrs Joanna Argyle at South Wilts Grammar School.

(Mrs Argyle)

Music News

The term has begun busily with everyone working hard and our extra-curricular groups practising enthusiastically in preparation for events later in the term.

A Cappella enjoyed singing at a wedding recently. During half term they will sing Evensong in Salisbury Cathedral at 5.30pm on Thursday 21st October and we would welcome support.

On November 25th at 7.15 pm in the Main Hall we have a school concert to which a great variety of junior and senior groups will be contributing. These will include—choirs, orchestras and the wind band. There will also be some solo treats for you. Tickets are selling at £5 each and £3 for concessions and will be available nearer the time.

On December 10th at 7.30pm A Cappella will be signing 'Messiah' in St. Martin's church, very close to Exeter street where Handel composed his most famous work.. There will be a small orchestra led by Richard Parsons, our guest tenor and bass soloist will be Ian Wicks and Robert Evans and our own girls will sing, the Soprano and Alto solos.

Please come and support us. Tickets are available from the Music Department at £6 and £4 for concessions.

Our annual carol service will be on December 17th at 7.30pm in the cathedral. All three choirs, Junior, Senior, and A Cappella will be signing and enjoying being part of this festive occasion.

We should like to congratulate and wish every happiness to Cheri Basher, one of our flute teachers, who married in the summer and is now Mrs Richens

(Mrs Poppleton)

ONWARDS

Year 7 Netball Festival, 23rd September 2004 - Westwood St Thomas

On the 23rd of September South Wilts took a team of netball players to the coaching and tournament festival at Westwood Netball Centre. When we arrived we did not really know what to expect.

We found out that Geva Mentor, an England player was there. We were all surprised at her height! We then did a training session with different coaches from around Salisbury. There were three areas, the first was a dodging practise, the second a footwork practise and the third was using the ladder. We then went on to practise in our schools for the tournament in the afternoon.

After our lunch break we started the tournament. Our first match was against Upper Avon, we won this 12-0, so it was a pleasing start. Our next match was against St Edmunds A we won this also with the final score at 7-2. Next up was Wilton Middle School; we won this 13-0. Our next match was the hardest, this was against Godolphin, it was a tough match but the final score was 3 all. Next we were playing St Edmunds B we won this 7-1.

We had now finished all the matches, we had won four and drawn one, Godolphin had done exactly the same. In the end it all came down to how many goals each team had scored through out the tournament. When the results were given the difference was two goals, lucky us we had won!!

The players were - **Alicia Sherborne, Rebecca Outterside, Olivia Clarkson, Karina Roche, Margaret Adnett, Sasha Kirkham, Lucy Austreng, Grace Hampson, Alice Butler, Emily Brown**

We had a great day and I would like to thank Mrs Hole for taking us there and being a great coach!!

(Emily Brown 7N)

U 13 Basketball Team

An U13 Basketball team for years 7 & 8 has just started up at our school. The team train on Monday lunchtimes at the Five Rivers Leisure Centre. On the 10th October a team of girls participated in a Basketball tournament at Tidworth Leisure Centre. The players are progressing rapidly. This was only our second tournament. Other players that come along to training have been helping two year 11 students with their G.C.S.E studies. Although we have not yet won a game but they are working towards winning against Kennet (Katie Godber , Team Captain)

Superschools—Duaine Ladejo

Duaine Ladejo, 400m specialist, superstars champion and indoor track athlete visited South Wilts Grammar School on Thursday, 7th October as part of the Superschools fundraising promotion for emerging GB athletes. Year 11 students, who initially were reluctant to do the fitness circuit as part of Superschools, were asking for a second turn once they had met Duaine. He was very willing to share his philosophy of success with our very attentive Sports Prefects. 429 students completed the circuit and had their photograph taken with Duaine. A percentage of the sponsorship money raised will go towards paying for expert coaching during lunchtime and afterschool clubs, and also a water cooler for the changing rooms. A special thank you goes to Miss Salen, Miss Weir, and the Sports Prefects for their help on the day.



U 15 Netball Match

On the 5th October South Wilts Grammar School played convincingly against La Retraite, dominating most of the play and managed to win comfortably 30 –7!!

The player of the match from South Wilts Grammar School was Alice Judd, who is also the captain of the team. We look forward to playing them again next term.

(Team)

Windsurfing Nationals, Weymouth

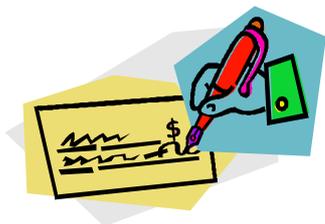
On the 25-26th September 2004 Avril Gibbons 8B took part in Royal Yachting Association + UK Windsurfing Association competition. Nick Dempsey and Sarah Ayton (Bronze and Gold windsurfing champions in Athens) were there. There were 180 competitors and this was Avri's first ever windsurfing national gold. Her current national ranking is 5th (U17 girls UK). Well done Avril.



Catherine Dunlop, Laura Partridge, Alex Teagle, Emma Pine, Becca Powlesland



Kathryn Brown, Isobel Yeung



Gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition to the Lake District

When our group started day one from the Youth Hostel in Keswick the heavens opened and we all thought that we were in for the wettest week of our lives. Fortunately, by lunchtime all the clouds had cleared and our spirits rose.

The first night we decided to wild country camp next to a beautiful stream. Despite worrying that we were totally alone we all slept well and woke at 5.30 am to the most fantastic scenery.

Day 2 was Catherine's birthday and we managed to bring her a little present and a card. That evening our assessor presented her with a chocolate cake! The camp site to our delight, had toilets and hot showers, we were also aware that we were half way there.

Day 3 was a long day and morale was, at times, quite low, however, the sun shone all day and we were very positive. By the next day we were all exhausted but we were only 16 terms away from finishing. At about 3pm we spotted the iconic yellow minibuses and somehow managed to break into a run for the last few metres. We were all so proud of ourselves for finishing and treated ourselves to fish 'n' chips that night!!

In the minibus home we realised that we had just completed our last ever D of E expedition and everyone was genuinely disappointed.

We ended our trip listening to Queen's 'Don't stop me now' and I know that song will always remind us of the friends we have made and the times we have had during the D of E awards.

(R. Powlesland)

Mayor's School Day

Councillor Jeremy Nettle, our Mayor visited South Wilts on Friday as part of his day around schools in Salisbury.

He was met by an enormous collection of food collected by the pupils. The head girls also presented him with a cheque for £1,000 which was for the Trussell trust. After lunch of curly chips a sausage roll in the canteen the Mayor left for his next school. He was overwhelmed by the generosity of our community.

Thanks to everyone who donated.

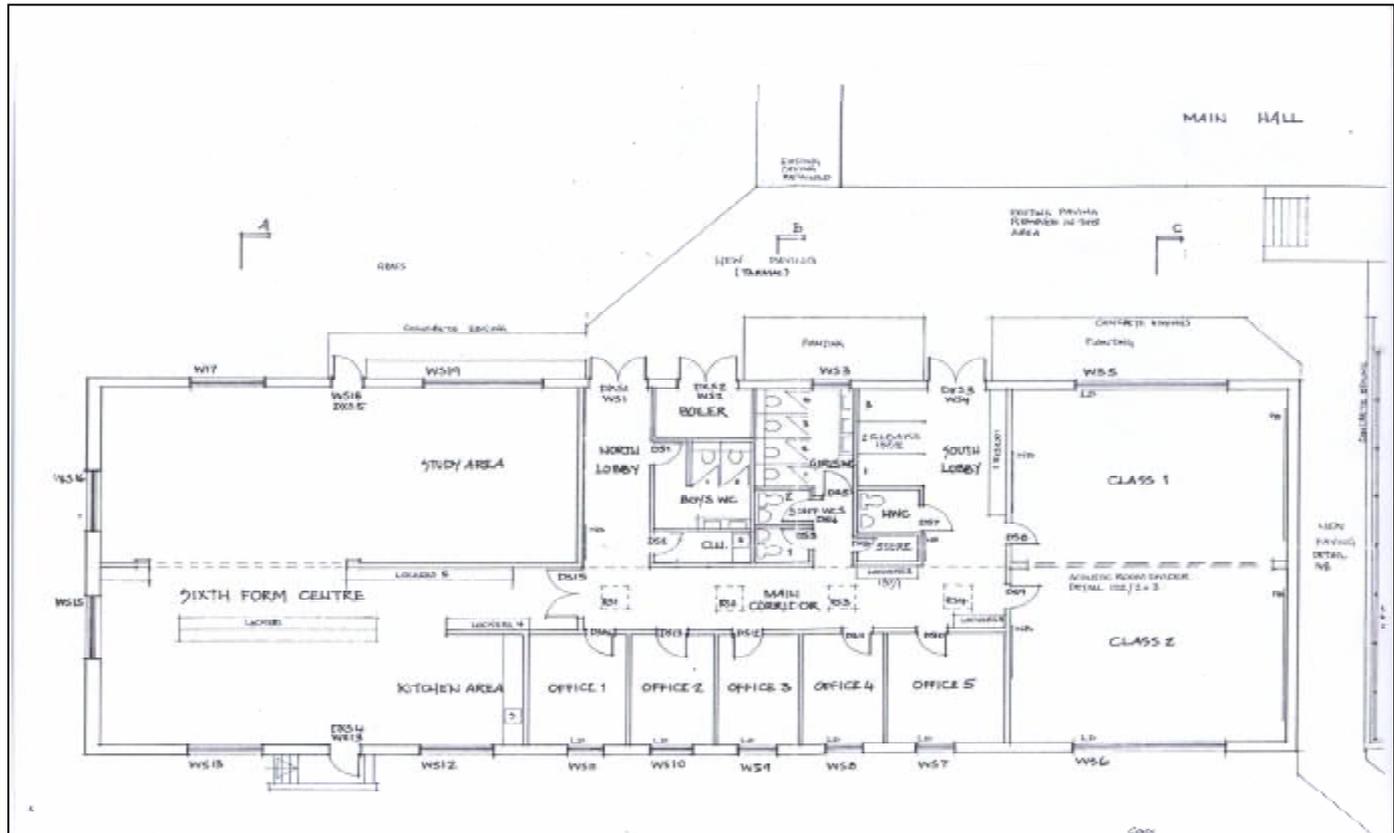
(Mrs Vaughan)

Building plans for Resources Sept 2004

Phase One 2004

The Sixth Form block is due to be completed March 2005. This includes two classrooms to replace the huts P9 and P10, and 5 offices for the sixth form staff, careers and psychology.

Then the last two huts will be demolished Easter 2005.



Phase Two 2005

1. In April / May 2005 there will be a **Technology extension** starting. This will be funded partly by the £100,000 grant from WCC. The extension will provide a CAD/CAM facility, an office for the Technology technician, a large storage area for projects and dust extraction for all the machines in three rooms.

2. We have also applied for permission for an **additional classroom** which will be sited in one of the quads and attached to the English corridor. This would become an English room which is needed due to the expansion of English in the sixth form. An extra benefit would be raising the English corridor floor so that there are no steps into the classrooms.

3. The old Sixth Form Common Room will become a **drama studio / lecture theatre**. It will need carpeting, redecorating, new ceiling and lights, stage lighting and curtains at an estimated cost of £15,000. In addition the FOSWGS will provide raked seating.

4. The **PE changing rooms** still have 1927 showers and need a major update to provide safe storage and adequate changing facilities. As toilets and showers will need to be moved the estimated cost will be £30,000.

(Mrs Stratton)