



## SWPS NEWS



### Head's Piece

Media reports are regularly indicating the decline amongst girls in the uptake of Computer Science. A report in 2017 by the BBC found that only 10% of those who took A Level Computer Science were girls. In a similar fashion, as I tweeted only this week, an article in the magazine *Schools Week* described not only the worrying lack of participation by girls in GCSE Computer Science, but also potential changes to the syllabus to attract greater female uptake. Of course on the back of these figures comes the economic reality that there are too few women employed in the tech industry as a whole

Yet, the irony of this state of affairs is that women have had a long history of participating in Computer Science, even if their contribution is less visible than those of some more familiar male names. Only last year I gave an assembly on Ada Lovelace - regarded by many as the creator of the first ever computer algorithm. It is often forgotten that NASA employed many female computer scientists to develop and operate software used in the space programme, and throughout the 1960s, 70s and 80s, Computer Science enjoyed a steady increase in female participation. Increasingly, studies are showing that part of the problem of low uptake comes down to stereotypes and what sort of students are thought to study Computer Science.

So where does the school stand? In stark contrast to the national trend, Computer Science at SWPS, a relatively new subject (it was only introduced here three years ago), is not only growing but thriving. By taking the subject seriously, giving it valuable and sufficient time in the school curriculum, by breaking down stereotypes, and having excellent and enthusiastic staff, we have seen such an extraordinary uptake with the result that over 1 in 4 Year 10s opted for it as a GCSE whilst 1 in 6 of our Lower Sixth are taking it as an A level.

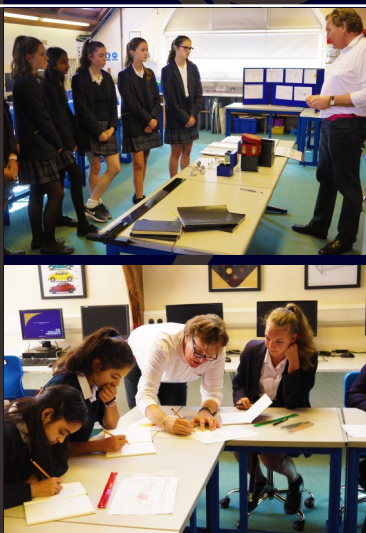
It is, without doubt, an exciting moment for the school.

**C Muller  
Head**

### Theo Fennell Master Class at SWPS

As we prepare this newsletter, Theo Fennell, the iconic British jewellery designer of amazing and unique designs, is spending time with some of our students in a Master Class. Having shown them some of his pieces, he has set them the challenge of designing a locket for/based on their favourite person; he is currently talking to each student about their idea, suggesting some thoughts of his own, and giving them his own sketches and tips on how best to develop them. To say the ideas so far are diverse is an understatement - from romantic silhouettes to animals being eaten at a water hole....our students' imagination is running wild!

Students will now research and finalise their designs, handed into our Design & Technology team next week, and sent off to Theo for his consideration. The designers of the eight winning ideas will be invited to visit his workshop - an experience in itself. There is more news to come...watch this space...!



### Upcoming Events

22 Sept	<b>Model United Nations:</b> Y10-12 at Reigate Grammar School
23 Sept	<b>German:</b> Bocholt Disco
24 Sept	<b>German:</b> Bocholt Students Leave
	<b>Year 8 &amp; 9:</b> HPV Vaccines
26 Sept	<b>Admissions:</b> Prospective Pupil Information Morning
	<b>Year 7:</b> Team building trip to British Wildlife Centre
27 Sept	<b>Geography:</b> River Fieldwork Trip
28 Sept	<b>Alumnae:</b> SWPS hosting IDPE Surrey Regional Forum
29 Sept	<b>Friends of SWPS:</b> Quiz Night
1 Oct	<b>Maths:</b> Area Maths Challenge

### Y8 Lunchtime Concerts

These concerts begin at 12.55pm in the Jarvis Room. All students participate in their group's concert.

Parents, relatives and friends are most welcome to attend to support the performers. Please sign in at the Main Reception and you will be guided over to the Music Department.

8 Nov	8W
15 Nov	8Y
22 Nov	8X
29 Nov	8Z

### Entrance Exam

Any current parents who wish to register a younger sibling for the Entrance Exam, please ensure that you register before the deadline of Wednesday 31 October 2018.

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION FORM](#)



### Geography London Trip

On Thursday, nine Senior Sixth Geography students ventured into London for a day of experiential learning. It was a great opportunity to bring to life topics they have

been studying at A-Level, from climate change to health and disease.

The day began with a tour of the Olympic Park, looking at how parts of the East End of London have been transformed since the Olympics in 2012. Hats off to our guide for the morning: a literal walking/talking encyclopaedia of facts; if she did not have the answer to a question, it was not worth knowing!



In the afternoon we visited two exhibitions at the Crystal and the Wellcome Collection. Despite being at opposite ends of London with a fair bit of walking and public transport involved (it's a good job we know how to use maps!), the exhibitions turned out to be very entertaining.

Cue various old surgical instruments (many of which we are still none the wiser as to what they were used for) and a giant box projecting videos on the floor and walls warning of the impacts of climate change. A great day had by all!

M Dodd

### SWPS Sixth Form SkyDive

On the 31st August 2018, five courageous Sixth Formers made our way (nervously) to Swindon DropZone where we then did a skydive from 10,000ft for the Anthony Nolan Charity.

Some of us were more nervous than others, but we got up into the plane and made the jump.



Anthony Nolan is a charity close to our hearts, as family members of the team have been affected by Blood Cancer, so raising money for the treatment and research into this disease is something we are really passionate about.

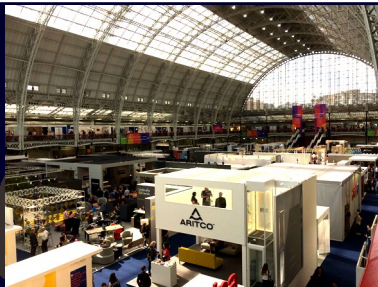


We have raised just under £3000 so far and would really appreciate it if you could help us get to this milestone. The link is: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/skydiveswps](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/skydiveswps)

Jess Condron, Jess Stamford, Lauren Paling, Yasmin Baker-Marshall & Emily Clarke (6F)

### London Design Festival 2018

To celebrate the annual London Design Festival the Design Technology A Level classes from the L6 and S6 went to 100% Design on Wednesday 19 September. On display were examples of design classics and new products coming to the market this year.



The students enjoyed a talk from designers working in product, architecture and interiors fields discussing ways of overcoming those 'oops moments' when designing and how to meet the needs of the client.



Common themes across the trade fair were interesting joining methods, bright pops of colour and high quality finishing. We hope as a department this has inspired our A Level students and they will inject some of these features into their future creations.

J Blackman

### TEAM SWamPieS



# COMMANDO

THE ROYAL MARINES CHARITY

SAT 10 & SUN 11  
NOVEMBER 2018

Team SWamPieS are at it again, this year undertaking the Commando Series Challenge at Hever Castle. A gruelling course that guarantees they'll get muddy!

SWamPieS are supporting Woking and Sam Beare Hospices again this year and donations are gratefully received for this worthy cause offering palliative care and support to patients and their families.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)

SWamPieS' previous adventures:





## Karate

We are very proud to be celebrating yet another fantastic achievement for Maddie Jones. Last weekend Maddie competed at the UK International Karate Open Championships in Dudley and won a Gold and two Silver Medals in her events. Well done Maddie!



## Netball—U16

The first match for the U16s against Notre Dame. Our team that qualified for the Surrey finals last year got off to a slow start, however after the first quarter really kicked into action and won the match 28-18. Fran did an outstanding job standing in as our new shooter and the through court play from the whole team was excellent. Well done Year 11s.

## Netball—U15

This was a solid performance from the U15 team in their first match of the season. Facing a dynamic and assertive Notre Dame team, they started well and led initially with decisive movement up front and strong defence in the first quarter. The match got away from the girls in the second quarter, so some team changes were made, which helped to lift the energy and scoring of the SWPS team, with the shooters achieving 100% of their shots and coming within one goal in the third quarter. The fourth quarter was tight but with a few mistakes creeping in, SWPS weren't able to close the gap this time. Excellent effort from the players against a fit and dynamic opposition. Final score 16-27.

## Netball—U13

We had our first U13 A-D fixture on Thursday against St Teresa's. On a very windy day we had a bunch of excellent results! 2 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss made a great start to our season. Well done to Ella, Arissa, Tegan and Megan who all got Player of the Match. With plenty to work on for the rest of our season, we are excited for the next match! Well done Year 8s!



## Netball—U12

Well done to the Year 7 C & D team for their first ever SWPS fixture! We had a long journey to Priors Field School where we came up against two strong teams. Unfortunately we lost 8-1 and 7-3 but we played some great netball and most importantly had fun! Plenty more matches to come, so loads of time to improve and win some games!! Jimena from the Cs and Isla from the Ds were awarded Player of the Match! Great job!

Thanks also to all of our senior volunteers who come out at lunchtime and after school to help at the clubs for the younger years!



## Inspire Nutrition Talk



### Inspire Talk - Nutrition

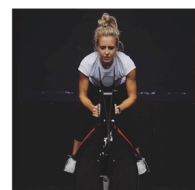
Surbiton Hockey Club have offered an amazing opportunity to hear first hand from a professional athlete how best to fuel your body for optimum performance.

Iona Stephen - International athlete at 5 different sports, (squash, lacrosse, hockey, athletics and golf) and now professional golfer, will be the guest speaker.



Iona will discuss how taking care of her nutrition has helped her perform at her best and develop as an athlete over the last 10 years.

She will share her best tips and strategies to optimise health and well-being for sport and for life!



Date: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept

Time: 7pm

Location: Surbiton Hockey Club

*It is your responsibility to make your own way to and from the talk. Your parents/ carers are very welcome to attend with you.*





## ARTWORKS OF THE MONTH

Here are two of our four Artworks of the Month, for September, selected by the Art & Design Dept staff.

They're by Grace Bradshaw (S6)*top* and Millie Lawlor (Y11)*bottom*.

Take a look at more of our students' artwork on the Art Dept website (*Artworks of the Month* are on the *Spotlight page*): [artdesignswps.org.uk](http://artdesignswps.org.uk)



## LIBRARY

### Banned Books Week

**BANNING BOOKS PREVENTS LEARNING!!!**

Visit the Library to show your support for the freedom of expression.

**And come to the Atrium at lunch on Friday, the 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss censorship.**



The week of 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of September is celebrated by libraries around the world as Banned Books Week.

Throughout this week our library will host a book display and facilitate discussions on the subject of freedom of expression and censorship.

Also during the lunch break on Friday, the 28<sup>th</sup>, we have scheduled an event in the Atrium, featuring history of banned books and wider discussion about censorship.

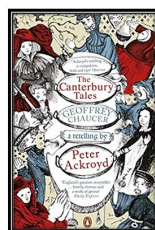
Please visit the library and come to the Atrium to voice your opinion.

**SPEAK OUT!!!**

### Book of the Week

This week's BotW is 'The Canterbury Tales' by Geoffrey Chaucer, selected by Mrs Vidgen.

**Banned Books Week  
"The Canterbury Tales"**



On a pilgrimage to Canterbury, a group of travellers agree to a storytelling competition. As they make their way on the road, they drink, laugh, flirt, argue and try to outdo each other with their tales.

From the exuberant Wife of Bath's Arthurian legend to the Miller's worldly, ribald farce, these tales can be taken as a mirror of fourteenth-century London.

Incorporating every style of medieval narrative - bawdy anecdote, allegorical fable and courtly romance - the tales encompass a blend of universal human themes, retold here for our times by bestselling author Peter Ackroyd.



### What's on in the Library

Follow [@SWPSLibrary](https://twitter.com/SWPSLibrary) to keep up-to-date with what's happening in the Library!

### Art Trip to the National Portrait Gallery

On Wednesday 19 September the Art & Design Department took their Year 10 students to visit the National Portrait Gallery in London. In the morning, the students viewed the permanent collection, the most extensive collection of portraits in the world - over 210,000 works of art dating from the 16th Century to the present day.

After lunch, the students explored the BP Portrait Award Exhibition. This is the most prestigious portrait painting competition in the world, representing the very best in contemporary portraiture, attracting over 40,000 entries from more than 100 countries.

The students were tasked with choosing at least two paintings from the exhibition and collection, to make pencil studies of them. This offered the students the chance to focus in more detail on the finesse and intricacies of each of the artworks.

Everybody left the exhibition feeling greatly inspired by the works they'd seen, and excited to get stuck in to their GCSE projects.



K Burton



# Let's Get...

Adults £12  
Children £10



Supper  
Included

29 September  
at 6:45 for  
7:00 sharp

Pay Bar  
Available

## Quizzical!

With Friends of SWPS

AGM  
postponed to  
November -  
date to follow

I \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name), \_\_\_\_\_ (email)  
parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ in form \_\_\_\_\_ would like \_\_\_\_\_ adult  
tickets @ £12 and \_\_\_\_\_ child tickets @ £10 for the

Friends of SWPS Quiz Night, to include \_\_\_\_\_ vegetarian meals.

NB teams must be no more than 8 people. Groups of less than 8 will not be split up but we  
will try to group people into teams of 8 on the night.

Cash or cheque ("FOSWPS") only please via your child to the Friends of SWPS box at school.

RSVP ASAP but latest by 25 September 2018! No ticket sales on the night...

We had to turn away lots of people last year – DON'T MISS OUT!

## Bring in your used Duke of Edinburgh kit all next week



and make money  
by selling it on with  
Friends of SWPS...



Would you like to sell your used D of E kit that you  
bought and have only used for Duke of Edinburgh?  
We are having a kit sale for potential D of E students  
who need to buy their kits for this year.  
So now is the time to send in your used kit  
to make some money!



Friends of SWPS will be collecting kit all next week  
in the student entrance (September 24th-28th).  
Bring in your labelled kit and put it in the box in the  
pupil entrance where we will sort and store for the sale.



Please read the terms and conditions enclosed in this PDF.  
Then print out the form and labels, fill them out  
and attach the labels to the items you wish to sell.  
Once we sell your items, we then will  
send you a bit of money in return.



**Please take this opportunity to return any unwanted D of E kit  
that was issued by the school. We won't resell these, but will  
keep as spares (Compass, Map Case, Survival Bag)**



## Sir William Perkins's School Annual Christmas gift Fair 2018

Join the Christmas team to help  
organise the newly revamped  
Christmas fair!

Elves of the parental variety are needed  
- no experience necessary



Come and make a difference at the biggest Friends fundraiser of the year.  
New location, new stallholders and new live entertainment programme.  
With only 2 months to go, your help will be invaluable.  
Please contact [samanthabarry@btopenworld.com](mailto:samanthabarry@btopenworld.com) to register your interest.

Sam Barry  
Christmas Team  
Friends of SWPS