



SWPS NEWS



MR C C MULLER—HEAD

It is good to be back for the summer term. It will be undoubtedly a busy one, with GCSEs and A Levels taking place, together with numerous sporting, dramatic and music activities and events. I am sure that our future newsletters will be full of the brilliant achievements of our wonderful students, rightly and appropriately celebrated.

Over the past few weeks it occurred to me (belatedly and unoriginally) that our young people have rarely lived through more turbulent political times. Brexit (yes I have said that word), climate change and the seeming paralysis of our political process all have impacted on our well informed students. Correspondingly we also seeing a number of young people become more politically engaged and influential: Greta Thunberg springs instantly to mind.

I believe all schools do have a duty to prepare and support their students in their own understanding of current trends as well as enabling them to articulate their views informatively and coherently; and to do so with consideration and courtesy. In short, we want our young people to be able to disagree without being disagreeable.

Debate and discussion are of course crucial underpinnings of our democratic society. But our conversations need to be inclusive so that we can live and work together despite our differences. There should be an acceptance that the school society to which all of us belong is for everyone and this assurance is the essence of SWPS. It is within this context we can argue, discuss and debate even the most sensitive of topics.

Robust debate, always welcome, being both intellectually rigorous and a driver of progress, should challenge and test all ideas, views and assumptions but it should never be used as an excuse to vilify, exclude or denigrate.

Staff Changes

We sadly bid farewell to our Receptionist, **Mrs Jackie Samuel**, who many of you will know from your contact with the school, who leaves us today for pastures new.

However, we give a big welcome to our incoming Receptionist, **Mrs Jacqui Parker** who will now be your first point of contact with the school.

Regrettably, we also say goodbye to **Mrs Peri Wragg** who has chosen not to return from maternity leave to spend time with her recently increased young family. We wish her the best of luck with her next adventure as mother of two.

GET PREPARED AND GET EMPOWERED READY FOR YOUR GAP YEAR OR UNI LIFE!

Gain peace of mind that your child is going off next year with some vital skills in looking after themselves with this invaluable session.



We have a fantastic opportunity for L6 students. Debi Stevens, Inspirational Role Model of the Year Winner will be coming in on 15th May 1.45—4.45 pm to empower our Sixth Form and refresh their self-defence techniques in a three hour workshop, building on their confidence and life-skills.

The cost is £45/head.

To book your place visit

www.swps.org.uk/selfdefence



Upcoming Events

27 April	Perkonians: Alumnae Netball Tournament
	SWPSBC: GB Trial Regatta (invited Y11-13)
	SWPSBC: Junior Sculling Regatta, Dorney Lake (Y9-13)
30 April	Maths: UKMT Junior Challenge
	Geography: L6 Royal Geographical Society Revision Event
1 May	Physics: L6 BP Engineering Scheme Graduation
	Sport: Athletics KS4 Championships at Hoe Valley School
	German: Y9 Bocholt Exchange Parent Info Evening
2 May	Computer Science: Y8/9 Cisco Girls Power Event
3 May	Y11 Breakfast & Exam Leave begins
	Sports: Y10-13 trip to Women's Hockey GBR v China Match

Open Evening

This year's Open Evening will take place on Thursday 27 June 2019 and, as in previous years, there will be no afternoon school on that date. Years 7-10 and the Lower Sixth Students will be able to leave school at 12.35pm - school coaches will depart at 12.45pm - and are then expected to return to school at 6pm, given this is a formal school session, and stay until 8.40pm that evening, when lessons, demonstrations and displays will be on view. Full uniform is expected to be worn in Years 7-10 and the Lower Sixth students should be dressed in smart attire.

Please note that school lunches will not be charged to fee bills on this day, and you are therefore advised to make alternative arrangements for lunch as no lunches will be served, however a packed lunch may be ordered. A letter will be sent out to all parents/carers next term with full details, along with a return slip to confirm student attendance and packed lunch request.

DofE Gold Award: Snowdonia Expedition

Twenty four Gold DofE students met up at school with their volunteers leaders, in the first week of the Easter holidays, for their practice expedition in the Snowdonia National Park. Conditions were forecast to be cold following a fall of snow the previous week, which proved to be very accurate as there was still plenty of snow visible as we arrived at the hostel for the first night. This year we have four teams, two will conduct their final expedition in the Lake District National Park and two will visit the Triglav National Park, in the Julian Alps of Slovenia. The practice expedition is designed to challenge the students, preparing them for their final expedition and hopefully instilling a love of the mountains and wild areas.

Day one dawned clear and cold with a strong biting Easterly wind. The Slovenia teams scaled Mount Snowdon, the highest mountain in the UK south of Scotland, in preparation for trekking up to altitudes of 2000m. The UK teams took different routes more akin to the conditions they will find in the Lakes but all groups made their own way to our campsite next to the beautiful lake Llyn Gwynant at the foot of the Snowdon range.

Day two found the tents covered in a thick frost after a beautifully clear night, followed by wall to wall blue skies, not the normal weather for Wales in April! The teams were dropped off at various locations for a day in the high mountains, perfecting their navigation, team work and ability to move efficiently over steeper rocky ground. The UK team 2 climbed onto the Glyders range of mountains finding snow to make snow angels in and the famous Cantilever stone to stand on, for the best photo opportunity in Wales. All the other teams had equally challenging routes in the same area before walking back to the campsite.

Day three was another cold start with teams having to strike camp, pack up their kit and carry it all to the finish point in Capel Curig. The clear weather continued allowing the leaders to supervise remotely, whilst still ensuring their teams progressed steadily. Tired and happy smiling faces turned up at the finish point, which just happened to have a café for the students to replace all the lost calories.

Special thanks must go to the volunteer leaders, who safely lead their teams in beautiful but challenging terrain, ensuring the students were as well prepared for their summer adventures as possible.



History department battlefield trip April 2019

After an early, bleary eyed meet on the final day of the spring term the History department's battlefield tour party made their way across the channel for a two day tour of World War One's infamous killing grounds.

Day one was spent in the area around the Ypres salient in Belgium. A number of cemeteries were visited including Tyne Cot, the largest Commonwealth War Graves cemetery in the world and the German cemetery at Langemark, as well as preserved trench systems and memorials such as Vancouver Corner, the scene of the first gas attack in 1915.

With a focus on medicine on the Western Front to support their GCSE, the students began to discover the wide range of dangers that the soldiers faced and the systems that developed to remove casualties from the battlefield and treat them. The day finished in the town of Ypres itself where the party attended the Menin Gate memorial ceremony. Sophie Hawken, Niamh Moynihan and Poppy Gofton represented the school superbly as they laid a wreath to commemorate those who lost their lives in the conflict.

After a night at the Peace Village Hostel the party headed for France and the Somme battlefield. Several well-known



sites were visited such as the Loch Nagar Crater as well as a number of cemeteries and the famous Thiepval memorial. The evacuation procedures for the wounded were further investigated on day two, with Gemma Thorpe volunteering to be a casualty. She was carried by other willing stretcher bearers along a route actually used during the battle in 1916 to remove the injured from the front line to regimental aid posts and advanced dressing stations. The group also learned about innovations that developed to help preserve life, such as the Thomas splint, which was expertly demonstrated on Mr Jones.

The whole group conducted themselves in exemplary fashion and hopefully learned a great deal from the short trip. They showed great respect at all the sites they visited and were a credit to Sir William Perkins's School. Many thanks to them, Ms England and Mrs Synge for contributing to another successful excursion by the History department.

SPORTS



SWPSBC Training Camp || Lago di Pusiano, Italy

Each year the Easter break sees the rowers from SWPSBC head off on the annual training camp to Italy. This year the 35 strong group headed to the international standard venue at Lago di Pusiano, Italy for 10 days of rowing training in an extremely picturesque location.

With the National Schools Regatta only 5 weeks away on their return, all of the crews showed real purpose in developing their boat speed moving toward the regatta season. The display of commitment to raising their standards on the water was also mirrored in the commitment to work and revision with the crew relaxation area becoming a permanent study room for the duration of the camp.

Alongside the Italian training camp a significant number of the J14 squad were very busily doing some impressive work of their own back in Laleham as they too are looking to move forward into their first ever National Schools Regatta, which they are extremely excited about!

The first test of the improved speed and endurance they developed on camp comes this Sunday at The Junior Sculling Regatta held at Dorney Lake and with 16 crews out racing from all age groups the SWPSBC team will be in great voice along the banks!

Rounders

The Year 11 Rounders Team played their last District tournament as SWPS students on Thursday evening. They beat St John the Baptist School in a great game, however unfortunately lost to Gordon's, placing them in 2nd place in the tournament.

The team did really well, considering there was minimal time for any practice after the Easter holidays!

Well done Year 11s, we will miss you for Rounders next year!

MUSIC

ABRSM Exams—Spring 2019

Congratulations to all the students below who undertook their ABRSM exams last term. Everybody did fantastically and worked hard for their achievements!

Name	Year	Instrument	Grade	Result
Silvia Eleftheriadis	Y7	Clarinet	2	Merit
Ananya Ganveer	Y7	Violin	3	Pass
Heather Young	Y7	Clarinet	2	Distinction
Alisiya Sekhon	Y7	Piano	5	Pass
Sofia Davies	Y7	Violin	5	Merit
Claudia Frasier	Y7	Singing	1	Pass
Leena MacNicol	Y7	Singing	2	Merit
Nicole Tridico	Y7	Violin	1	Distinction
Maya Daniel	Y8	Singing	5	Pass
Hanna Devlen	Y8	Piano	2	Pass
Isabel Lowery	Y8	Saxophone	4	Merit
Taban Mazloom	Y8	Violin	3	Pass
Charlize Butcher	Y8	Piano	2	Merit
Kate Napier	Y8	Singing	5	Pass
Carys Poole	Y8	Piano	7	Merit
Ciara Fettes	Y8	Piano	1	Pass
Sophie Koram	Y8	Piano	3	Distinction
Amelia Baker	Y8	Singing	5	Merit
Rebecca Owen	Y8	Alto Sax	3	Merit
Tilly Cunliffe	Y9	Singing	3	Pass
Olivia Dyball	Y9	Piano	1	Pass
Emma Currier	Y9	Singing	5	Merit
Harlie Curtis	Y9	Singing	3	Pass
Kaji Jeyaram	Y9	Singing	5	Pass
Katie Knott	Y9	Flute	4	Merit
Isabelle Solomons	Y9	Singing	5	Pass
Ishanya Bhalla	Y9	Singing	3	Pass
Amelie Christian	Y9	Jazz Piano	5	Merit
Kaashvi Talwar	Y9	Flute	4	Merit
Caitlin Alden-Patel	Y9	Singing	4	Pass
Sophie Luo	Y9	Piano	3	Merit
Sophie Bishop	Y10	Piano	7	Pass
Alice Cope	Y10	Piano	6	Merit
Zara Cope	Y10	Piano	6	Merit
Erlanka Millea	Y10	Piano	7	Pass
Merle Mowbray	Y10	Oboe	5	Merit
Mary O'Donnell	Y10	Singing	6	Pass
Ela Singh	Y10	Violin	4	Pass
Natalie Newell	Y10	Flute	6	Distinction
Monica Chawla	Y10	Theory	5	Merit
Lucy Porter	Y10	Singing	4	Merit
Ayra Tengku	Y10	Violin	4	Pass
Sarah Biswas	Y10	Piano	5	Distinction
Niamh Moynihan	Y10	Singing	6	Pass
Sophie Young	Y10	Theory	5	Pass
Anna Chidwick	Y11	Singing	8	Merit
Bee Cook	Y11	Flute	6	Merit
Avisha Gill	Y11	Violin	5	Pass
Kiera Knott	Y11	Theory	5	Distinction
Lucy Reynolds	Y11	Oboe	7	Distinction
Mirren Black	L6	Theory	5	Merit
Isobel Eriksen	L6	Singing	6	Merit
Dani Bae	L6	Clarinet	8	Merit
Charlotte Handley	L6	Trombone	6	Distinction
Lauren Christian	L6	Oboe	8	Distinction
Charlotte Marr	S6	Piano	8	Merit
Megan Graham	S6	Singing	8	Pass

SUMMER CHAMBER CONCERT

Thursday 9 May, 7pm
Jarvis Room

Join us to hear impressive performances from our more advanced students.

Tickets are free but please register your seat(s) by clicking here.



Year 5 Taster Days 2019

We are now in the process of arranging this year's Taster Days, which many of you will remember from previous years.

If you or a friend have a child in Year 5 and have not yet expressed an interest in applying for a place here, [please click here for more information and to book a place](#)

These days are always over-subscribed, and places will be offered on a first-come-first-served basis, so early booking is recommended.

For any enquiries, please contact the Admissions Department.



Careers—Y8 NHS Competition

Congratulations to Aisha Ahmed, Olivia Sibley, Katrina Boffey and Sophie

Fletcher who achieved a highly commended recognition for an excellent entry to the NHS competition. They produced an innovative board game advertising the role of a Clinical Psychologist in the NHS.

ARTWORKS OF THE MONTH

Here is our third Artwork of the Month, for April, selected by the Art & Design Dept staff.

It is by Alex (Y11)

Take a look at more of our students' artwork on the Art Dept website: artdesignswps.org.uk

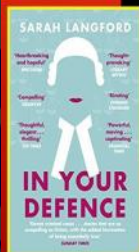


LIBRARY

Book of the Week

This week's BotW is 'In Your Defence' by Sarah Langford, selected by Mrs Vidgen.

Book of the Week



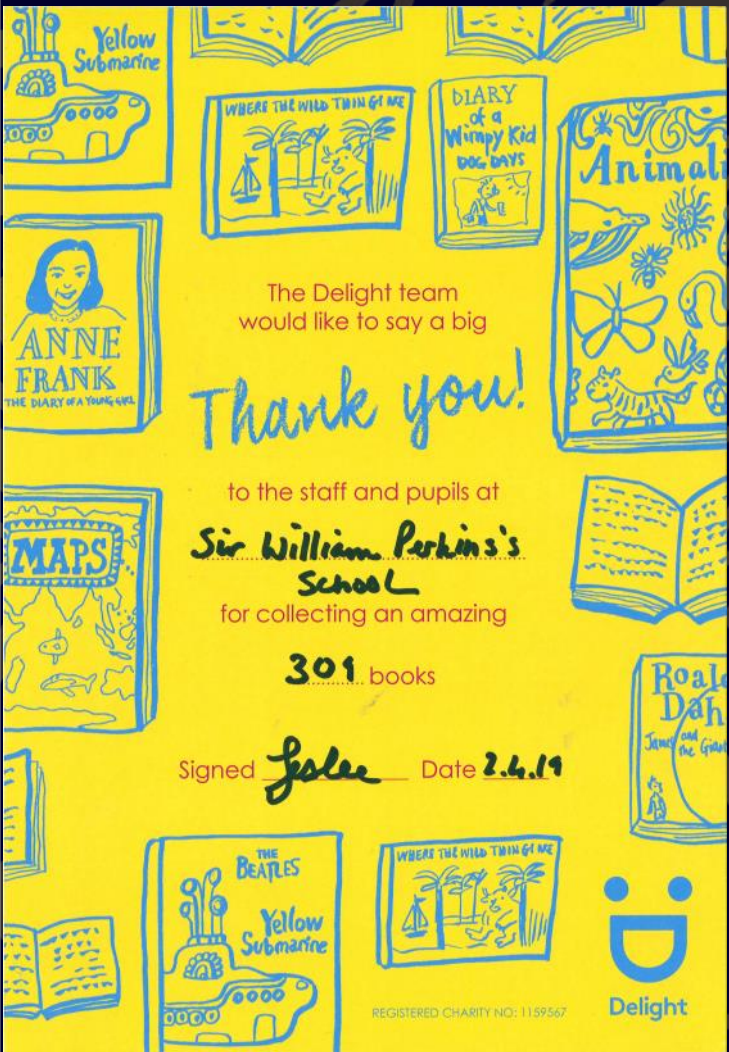
Sarah Langford is a barrister. Her job is to stand in court representing the mad and the bad, the vulnerable, the heartbroken and the hopeful. She must become their voice: weave their story around the black and white of the law and tell it to the courtroom. These stories may not make headlines but they will change the lives of ordinary people in extraordinary ways. They are stories which, but for a twist of luck, might have been yours.

Sarah describes eleven cases which reveal what goes on in our criminal and family courts: these are tales of domestic fall out, everyday burglary, sexual indiscretion, and children caught up in the law. They are sometimes shocking and they are often heart-stopping. She examines how she feels as she defends the person standing in the dock. She also shows us how our attitudes and actions can shape not only the outcome of a case, but the legal system itself.

International Book Giving Day

Our book collection for charity in aid of International Book Giving Day back in February has been sent off to Delight and SWPS donated 301 books!

A fantastic effort by everyone and thank you all for your generous book giving!



What's on in the Library

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

TEAM SWAMPIES ARE BACK!

On Sunday 19 May 2019 a brave (and misguided) group of

SWPS staff known as team SWamPieS are taking on their 6th year of charity challenges and return to - Dragon Boat Racing (sorry - no mud this year!).

The SwamPieS team are Dragon Boat racing at Goldsworth Park, Woking and need your support. This is a fun day and friends and family are welcome to cheer on the participants so please come along to support team SWamPieS!

Once again, SWamPieS are fundraising for Woking & Sam Beare Hospices and are gratefully receiving donations on their justgiving page.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)



**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Concorde 50 Gala Dinner:

We are proud to be celebrating Concorde's 50th birthday with a Gala Dinner in aid of the school's Bursary Fund.

Date: Saturday 21 September 2019

Venue: Brooklands Museum:
the birthplace of Concorde.

- ◆ Drinks in the Aircraft Factory – a walk through history.
- ◆ Hosted on-board visit to Concorde Delta Golf.
- ◆ Three-course meal including wine.
- ◆ Silent Auction.

Guest speakers:

Capt. Mike Bannister, ex-Chief Concorde pilot
&

Mr Geoff Want, Chair of SWPS Governors and former Brooklands apprentice.

Details to follow – watch this space!

Perkonian London Networking Event



Alumnae, Staff, Parents and S6 Students are invited to attend our London Networking Event to be held at The Union Club, Soho on Wednesday 22nd May, 6.30 pm – 9.00 pm.

We are very excited to welcome our speaker Helen Fospero, who is currently filming Watchdog and The One show.

Canapes and wine will be served during the evening. Cost is £25 per head.

[BOOK YOUR PLACE BY CLICKING HERE!](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

for a fantastic fund-raising event hosted by Friends of SWPS



**Friday
14th of June
7:30-10pm**

Put the date in your diaries and watch this space for further details soon!