



SWPS NEWS



MR C C MULLER—HEAD

Amongst all the political turmoil, independent education has been in the news lately. Indeed I cannot recall a time when there has been so much written about private schools. I am sure that all SWPS parents will have their own views on this issue, and none of you will be surprised that it has featured as a discussion point recently at school. Here are highlights:

The debate began with the word choice. In any free society, individuals should be able to spend their money as they see fit. Inevitably some people will have more money to spend than others: some will be in a position to pay for more expensive meals or holidays; likewise others may have larger homes or more luxurious cars. In this respect, payment for a service is not necessarily wrong nor is it objectionable that some can pay whilst others cannot.

So parents ought to be free to do what they want with their own money as long as it causes no harm to others. This is John Stuart Mill's principle of liberty – parents can spend money on their children's education in the belief that this will be a benefit to them, as long as it does not harm other people.

Yet the response to this first position was that the role of private education in providing an advantage to some and not to others is simply unfair and, therefore, morally wrong. After all to state that something is unfair is to argue that it is morally wrong. All should be equal.

The discussion then moved to consider equality – is equality always a good thing? It was pointed out that making people's lives and their opportunities more equal does not necessarily bring about a benefit to anyone at all. An example was helpful: if the state school provision remains the same, and the "better" provision in private school is reduced by 50%, no one benefits from this move. So if any action is to have ethical value, it must surely benefit at least one person, but, in the case of the abolition of private education, that is not the case.

So what is the problem? The conclusion increasingly was reached that the problem of social mobility lay more with poverty in itself rather than with the existence of private schools. If it is poverty that needs to be addressed, then politicians should spend more time and effort looking for ways to reduce it, rather than be concerned about how much better other people are doing.

It was an excellent, lengthy and thoughtful discussion and one which will undoubtedly continue. In the meantime I personally am hugely proud of everything SWPS is doing at the moment to support our local schools and area, through bursaries and other outreach programmes.

Upcoming Events

28 Sept	Y7: Isle of Wight Trip
29 Sept	SWPSBC: Parent 'Have a Go' Day
29 Sept	German: Bocholt Disco
30 Sept	German: Bocholt Students Depart
	Careers: Y10-S6 Workshop
2 Oct	Sixth Form: Visiting Lecturer Rich Penney
3 Oct	Classics: Y11 trip to British Museum
	Year 10: '4 Year Journey to University', MDV & Oxbridge Info Eve
5 Oct	Friends of SWPS: Quiz Night & AGM

Entrance Exam Registration

If you are looking for 2020 entry for a sibling for Year 7, or have a friend who is looking, the deadline for registrations is Thursday 31 October 2019.

Registration is quickest and easiest through our online registration form:

www.swps.org.uk/registration-form

Y8 Lunchtime Concerts

These concerts begin at 12.55pm. All students participate in their teaching 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. Please note 8Y's concert will take place on Wednesday due to Junior Drama rehearsals.

8Y	Wednesday 16 October
8W	Thursday 14 November
8Z	Thursday 21 November
8X	Thursday 28 November



**Friends of
SIR WILLIAM PERKINS'S
SCHOOL**

Family Quiz Night

and AGM

Saturday 5 October

Click here to sign up

LIFE IN THE SIXTH FORM

The sixth form PSHE lessons have been dubbed "life skills" and are all about how to survive and indeed succeed during A Levels. They've been very informative and eye opening as we've been learning about how many independent study hours are needed to achieve the best grades at A Levels and when we are most productive.

I have to admit I am not doing 20 hours of independent study a week (which is the amount that A and A* students study on average) but I am making an effort to use what we've been taught, so on the weekends I am going to commit to finishing my study before 2pm because studies indicate that you are most productive in the morning, four hours after waking.

Another thing we got taught in this lesson was "*eat the frog*" which is an interesting phrase when used without explanation. Fortunately here is an explanation: The phrase refers to tackling the worst task first to increase your productivity and motivation as you go through the rest of the tasks.

Liberty (Lower Sixth)



Concorde 50 Gala Dinner, 21 September

Thanks to all who joined us in our high-flying event at Brooklands Museum last Saturday. Our birthday celebrations for Concorde took off in style as we drank our fizz whilst looking around the Aircraft Factory, before boarding Concorde for a fascinating insight by the Brooklands volunteers to her history – and another glass of fizz! It was a perfect evening to board such an iconic aircraft, just as the sun was setting on a beautiful summer's evening. Our dinner was followed by a fascinating and moving talk by Capt. Mike Bannister, before the Silent Auction closed (final figures still awaited!) and we took to the dance floor.

It was a memorable evening, enjoyed by all, and thanks to Mrs Chris Bannister, Governor of SWPS, and Mrs Sheila Hallsworth for organising a wonderful event.

MDV

If any parents/carers have experience in the Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary field and would be happy to come in to speak to our potential applicants we would love to hear from you! Please email cworman@swps.org.uk if you are able to help in any way.



PERKONIANS



Christmas Comeback

Classes of 2017, 2018 & 2019 are invited for drinks and food at The Hand & Spear, Weybridge.



Come and catch up with your friends and former teachers on Friday 3 January 2020 from 7pm.

Y10 BP Portrait award at the National Portrait Gallery

Last week our new Year 10 GCSE Art students visited the National Portrait Gallery to view this year's BP Portrait Award. The annual award showcases the very best of contemporary portraiture and it was a fantastic opportunity for our students to view the artwork first hand.



The students were incredibly engaged and made detailed sketches and studies in the gallery.



The trip was an invaluable experience, which will greatly enrich their future work.



SPORT

Netball—St Teresa's

On Wednesday we took our first group of excitable Year 7s to St Teresa's for their first fixture! There was some excellent netball on display across all A—D teams. The As won 12—9. After a slow start, the team clicked in the second half and the whole team effort to help that ball to the goal helped us to eventually pull away and take the win! Anna was awarded player of the match.

The B team won their match 9—7. A slow start for the B team too, however some really excellent defence and fantastic shooting from Emily helped the team to a strong win. Kate was awarded player of the match.

The C team lost their match 10—3. A tough game for the C team, however after some excellent half time coaching from Miss Law, the team began nailing their centre passes and moving the ball through court as a team. Sofia was awarded player of the match.

The Ds also lost their match 9—2. The team worked really hard and put together some excellent passages of play, however were unlucky to get the score to reflect their efforts. Fiona was awarded player of the match. Well done to all who took part, it was a fantastic first fixture!

Hockey: Salesian 3—2 SWPS

In the 1st Senior fixture of the year SWPS made the long journey west and started the match slowly, probably due to the effects of the travel. SWPS were forced into playing without a keeper and were quickly 2 goals down and it remained that way to half time. With a short rest and a new energy (sweets!) SWPS began well and were level through goals from Olivia and Vicky but as the energy (sweets) wore off Salesian scored a late winner. A great effort from the team and lots of positives for the next game.

Cricket

A huge congratulations to Chloe in 6th Form who has been selected for the England Women's Winter Training Squad for this season. This is a massive achievement and we cant wait to see how this will benefit Chloe's game going forward! Well done Chloe!



MUSIC

AUTUMN CHAMBER CONCERT



Thursday 17 October 2019
Jarvis Room, 7 pm

Join us for a fantastic evening of music with
performances from our more advanced
musicians.

Everyone is welcome!

8Y's Lunchtime Concert

Wednesday 16 October

12.55 pm

Jarvis Room

Everyone welcome!

Parents and relatives are most welcome to
join us for this informal concert.

Please register your place via Eventbrite.

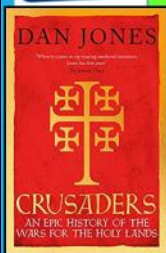


LIBRARY

Book of the Week

This week's BotW is 'Crusaders' by Dan Jones, selected by Mrs Vidgen.

Book of the Week



Dan will visit SWPS on the 27th of November.

Dan Jones, best-selling chronicler of the Middle Ages, turns his attention to the history of the Crusades - the sequence of religious wars, in which armies from European Christian states attempted to reclaim the Holy Land from Islamic rule, and which have left an enduring imprint on relations between the Muslim world and the West.

From the preaching of the First Crusade by Pope Urban II in 1095 to the loss of the last crusader outpost in the Levant in 1302-03, and from the taking of Jerusalem from the Fatimids in 1099 to the fall of Acre to the Mamluks in 1291, Crusaders tells a tale soaked in Islamic, Christian and Jewish blood, peopled by extraordinary characters, and characterised by both low ambition and high principle.

Dan Jones is a master of popular narrative history, with the ability to write page-turning narrative history underpinned by authoritative scholarship. Never before has the era of the Crusades been depicted in such bright and striking colours, or their story told with such gusto.

Submit your entries to the Librarian before **18th of October**. Winners will be announced and rewarded in November.

For more details visit the library



Haiku competition

To celebrate National Poetry Day on 3rd of October the library announces a competition open to everyone.

Enter your poem to gain eternal fame as the SWPS Haiku Competition Winner!



What's on in the Library

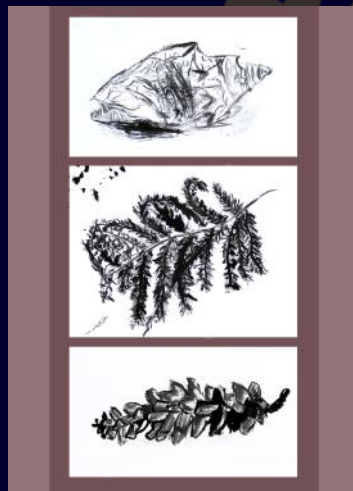
Follow [@SWPSLibrary](https://twitter.com/SWPSLibrary) to keep up-to-date with what's happening in the Library!

ARTWORKS OF THE MONTH

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

The first is by **Ellie, Isabelle and Hanna (Y9)** and the second by **Emma (Y11)**.

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



TECHNOLOGY

The Flat Pack Challenge

Following doing some theory work on brought in components and knock down fittings it seemed only right to have the Year 13s put the theory into practice. We gave them a pile of parts and fixings and an hour to work out what the product was and how to put it together...with no instructions! Sophie, Brooke and Charlotte showed an excellent level of collaboration, grit and creativity to assemble their bedside table in the time given. Well done!



Tasty Designs

Year 9 are the lucky year group who are the first students to use our new textiles studio. Since the beginning of term the year group have been learning various techniques such as heat transfer, applique and batik to decorate the textile surface and taking inspiration from designers such as Nikki McWilliams and Lucy Sparrow to design their own snack based cushion. We have been thrilled to see the creativity and original designs produced over the last couple of weeks, here are some examples from Rushali's folder in class 9X:



Theo Fennell Masterclass

Today we were thrilled to welcome back World renowned jewellery designer Theo Fennell to the Technology department. A master class in jewellery design was given to Design Technology students from Year 10, 11 and 13 where groups were given the challenge to design a pendant for someone to show they care about the planet and a talisman or good luck charm for a professional making their debut.

Theo spoke with each student about their designs and how they could develop them further; the students now have two weeks to fully develop their ideas before they are sent off to Theo for judging.

From the 19 students who took part in the master class he will narrow the group down to eight who will come and visit his workshop and store and then from this eight, two will be offered work experience.



Follow the SWPS Design Technology department [@SWPSDesign](https://twitter.com/SWPSDesign) to keep up with all of their creations and activities!