



SWPS NEWS



MR C C MULLER—HEAD

What do we mean by responsibility? For what are we ourselves responsible and to whom? What responsibility should we place on our students?

I have been thinking more about this concept of responsibility and what it means in education and schooling.

But first things first - let me come then to the word itself "responsible" and to its etymology. The meanings of words, naturally, change over time and use but the derivation of a word can give us, at least, its original meaning. The word responsible comes from the Latin word *respondere*: to answer, to render account. Therefore, in origin, "responsibility" means accountability, and to be responsible means to be accountable.

Only human beings can, in any meaningful sense, be accountable, so people must always be implied whenever the word responsibility is used, even when the word is applied to a thing or in the abstract.

I have found this way of looking at the word responsibility useful in my attempts to ground more clearly what responsibility means in practical life. We teach our children that they have responsibilities - responsibilities which will grow with time and age. Yet we too rarely explain in practical terms what we mean by the word responsibility. It is this sense of accountability which can be missed; of having to answer for what one has done, is doing, and will do in life.

As our students grow and become adults, we at SWPS understand that they become more responsible to themselves and others - in essence, more accountable to their friends, to their families, to their school for what they do.

Responsibility enables them to enjoy the rewards of their choices and hard work; to be applauded for their kindness and generosity as well as to be disciplined for their transgressions and misdeeds. To accept accountability and take responsibility is the mark of maturity. It can be, for many, an uncomfortable and frightening prospect - but it is the hallmark of adulthood.

Upcoming Events

21 & 22 Jan	Drama: A Level Exam Performance
22 Jan	Chemistry: S6 Olympiad
23 Jan	Sixth Form: Parents' Study Skills Workshop
23 Jan	Sixth Form: L6 Higher Education Info Eve for Parents & Students
26 Jan	Y7 Self-Defence Workshop
27 Jan	Y9: FSB/Men ACWY Vaccinations
29 Jan	Sixth Form Lecture
31 Jan—2 Feb	MUN: Y10-S6 @ LEH

Music Concerts

Click the links below to reserve a seat at any of these events

23 Jan	Scholars' Concert
30 Jan	ZM
6 Feb	ZL
13 Feb	ZP
5 Mar	ZQ

MDV

The Sixth Form Medics, Dentists and Vets Society meets every week to hear talks from people working in these fields, conduct interesting experiments, and discuss ethical topics related to human or animal health. It is great preparation for a University application for one of these competitive courses. From time to time, talks take place after school and anyone in Year 10 and above thinking of a career in Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science is encouraged to attend.

There are two talks this term:

13 Feb 2020 3.50—4.50pm	Ms Katrine Peterson on 'Treating Chronic Pain'
26 Mar 2020 3.50—4.50pm	Mr Tim Husselbury on 'ECG machines & the Heart'

The venue will be confirmed once we know the numbers of interested students, so please sign up on SOCS.



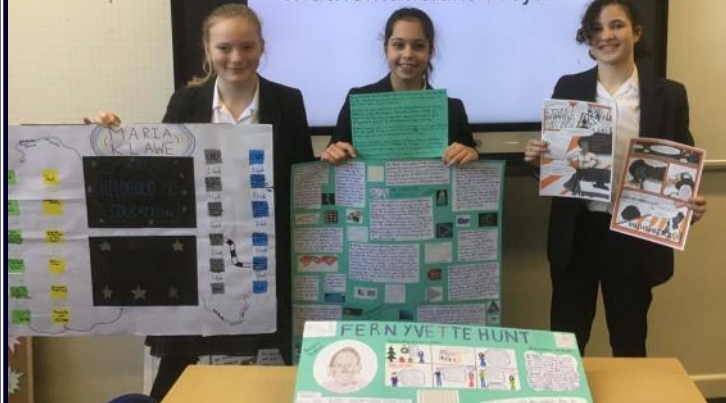
Perkonian Netball Tournament

Our annual Perkonian Netball Tournament is taking place on Saturday 29 February 2.00—5.00 pm, followed by Afternoon Tea in the Sixth Form Centre.

We invite you to come along to be part of a team or get a team together, or just come along and support, we would love to see you at this fun event.

[Click here to Sign-Up](#)

Year 8 Mathematicians Project



Y8 Mathematician Project Competition

Over the Christmas holidays, Miss Holmes' Year 8 class all completed a project on a modern mathematician. The standard of projects was incredibly high, and in joint second place were Feirin Hay who made a board game, and Serenna Copsey who made a graphic novel.

In first place was Amelie Houghton who made an incredibly detailed poster about the life and work of Fern Y Hunt, including a poem, artwork and a comic strip.

The Maths department were highly impressed with the quality and creativity of these projects.

Y7 Mission to Mars Project

The Year 7s continued their cross-curricular Mission to Mars project this week.

In Physics, they were planning the landing stage of their mission by

designing, building, and testing parachutes to safely land their oval astronauts on the 'Martian' surface.

The final of 'MtM' is in only two weeks' time so the pressure's on to make sure their projects are...out of this world!



MUSIC

Music Scholars' Concert

Thursday 23 January

12.55pm in the Jarvis Room

Join us in a treat of musical performances as our music scholars take to the stage.

Parents, friends and relatives are all welcome to attend.

To reserve your seat please

[REGISTER HERE](#)



Year 7 Lunchtime Concerts

Thursday 30 Jan - 7M
Thursday 6 Feb - 7L
Thursday 13 Feb - 7P
Thursday 5 March - 7Q

12.55pm in the Jarvis Room

Join us to watch our Year 7s perform either as a group or playing their chosen solo piece.

Parents, friends and relatives are all welcome to attend these informal concerts.

Please reserve your seat by clicking [HERE](#).



ABRSM Music Exams

Huge congratulations to all the following students for their fantastic results in the Autumn Term 2019 ABRSM Music Exams.

As always, this is a testament to their hard-work, dedication, and talent they develop through hours of practice and study.

Name	Yr	Instrument	Grade	Result
Sachi Takyar	7	Piano	3	Pass
Erin Boon	7	Clarinet	4	Merit
Isla Wood	8	Singing	1	Pass
Alisiya Sekhon	8	Theory	5	Distinction
Charlotte Duggan	9	Piano	4	Merit
Jessica Wilkes	9	Piano	4	Merit
Kate Napier	9	Theory	5	Pass
Rebecca Owen	9	Saxophone	4	Pass
Ria Patel	9	Singing	4	Distinction
Lorna Adamson	10	Percussion	3	Merit
Imaan Siddiqui	10	Theory	5	Merit
Erin Bambury	10	Singing	5	Merit
Emma Currier	10	Theory	5	Pass
Amelie Christian	10	Cello	7	Merit
Eleanor Monk	10	Saxophone	2	Merit
Sophie Schofield	10	Piano	8	Merit
Natalie Clarke	11	Piano	7	Distinction
Maya Freeman	11	Cello	5	Merit
Isla Galpin	11	Violin	8	Distinction
Nikhita Joshi	11	Violin	6	Pass
Sarah Johnson	S6	Singing	8	Merit
Mirren Black	S6	Clarinet	6	Pass
Caitlin Pittol-Neville	S6	Trombone	8	Distinction

What kind of social event would you like to see at SWPS on March 7th?

Friends of SWPS are raising money for an exciting new project with school so stay tuned for more news about this soon and help us to put on an event that will raise money toward it.

Take our survey and have your say...

Click Here or go to

<https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/tXZBIUFW>

Acts of Kindness

Lonsdale

"Ava helped me with my maths homework and she was very helpful."

Montagu

"When Tegan in the year above me helps me revise for my tests and helps me get a good score even though she needs to revise as well!"

Pankhurst

"When I was ill my friends were so kind and helped me catch up with my work."

Quant

"Zoe always has my back!"

DRAMA

Booking for the two productions below opens next week so make sure to save the date and act quickly when booking opens to secure your place to these fantastic shows!

Senior Production presents... Adults £5/Students £4

National Theatre connections

When They Go Low & Forty Five Minutes

Double Bill Drama Studio
Wednesday 5th Feb 16:00
Saturday 8th Feb 18:00

When They Go Low
A play about everyday feminism and the changing face of teenage sexuality in an online world. When they go low, we go high.

Forty Five Minutes
The deadline was wrong, so now there's just forty-five minutes till the bell goes and the UCAS forms must be sent and futures secured...

Both plays contain strong language. Only suitable for students in year 9 and above.



Girls like that

Drama Studio

Friday 7th Feb 19:00

Saturday 8th Feb 14:30

Adults £5/Students £4

A naked photo of Scarlett goes viral. Rumours spread across smartphones like wildfire and her reputation becomes toxic, threatening to shatter the fragile unity of the girls she has grown up with. But how long can Scarlett remain silent? And why isn't it the same for boys?

Girls Like That is an urgent and explosive play that explores gender equality and the pressures on today's digital generation.

Contains strong language. Only suitable for year 9 and above.

SPORT

Netball

Year 9 v Tomlinscote

Well done to the Year 9 A team who beat Tomlinscote 21-16 on Monday. The team played brilliantly and the full team effort from defence through to attack was consistent and clear. Lucy was awarded player of the match.

Year 8 A-D v Gordon's

A great set of results for the Year 8 netball teams on Thursday evening. All the teams played excellently, despite the wet, cold weather.

The results were:

As: 25 - 13 Player of the match - Feirin

Bs: 7 - 8 Player of the match - Alice

Cs: 3 - 6 Player of the match - Poppy

Ds: 13 - 0 Player of the match - Maya



Taekwondo Achievement

A big congratulations to Sofia Davies (Y8) who is a National and England Open medallist in Taekwondo who was awarded her 1st degree Black Belt earlier this week!

Well done Sofia!

Ice Skating

Well done to Bella in Year 9 who came 3rd in the British Synchronised Ice Skating Championships last weekend. Such a fantastic achievement and we are excited to hear about your progress!!



Magic - 3rd Place
Britannia Cup 2020

Synchronized skating is a discipline where up to 20 skaters (depending on level) skate as a team, moving together as one unit. All the skaters in the team must be similarly competent at a wide variety of skating skills. The team performs a program to music including specified elements and step sequences.

The first synchronized skating team was formed in 1956 in Michigan in the USA and the sport has been growing in popularity ever since. The ISU held the first Synchronized Skating World Championships in 2000 in Minneapolis, USA.

Synchronized skating is not currently an Olympic sport, but this is under review due to its growing popularity.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Design of the Week

This week's Design of the Week in the Technology Department has got to be the table made by the three members of our senior sixth class. Sophie, Brooke and Charlotte worked as a creative team; designing, testing, modelling and making this elegant coffee table for the school reception. Every step of the way they consulted with Mr Muller to ensure their design met his requirements as well as gathering opinions from fellow students and staff members who have a keen eye for design. Their hard work, resilience and creativity has really paid off as the outcome is stunning. Overcoming these challenges, thinking sometimes very quickly on the spot and working in a team as they have so well will be a fantastic transferable skill as they progress through further education and into the world of work. The timbers used for the table are all sustainably sources, the table top design includes some of the willow tree which was cut down when building the SWPS boat house meaning that this piece will soon become a unique part of our school's history.



Year 9 end of rotation

Next week, Year 9 are in their final DT / textiles lessons before they swap over to experience the other area of the technology faculty.

We have been very impressed as a department by the hard work, creativity and attitude of the classes so far where we have seen them learn how to use sewing machines for the first time, how to bend plywood, and how to use the laser cutter in a different way. Here are some examples of the snack cushions made so far and lamps from current Year 9 groups. We look forward to seeing what our classes do next as they swap over.



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

LIBRARY

Book of the Week

This week's BotW is 'Machines Like Me' by Ian McEwan, selected by Mrs Vidgen.

Book of the Week

IAN MCEWAN

MACHINES LIKE ME

In a world not quite like this one, Margaret Thatcher battles Tony Benn for power and Alan Turing has achieved an astonishing breakthrough in artificial intelligence.

In an alternative 1980s London, Charlie, drifting through life and dodging full-time employment, is in love with Miranda, a bright student who lives with a terrible secret. When Charlie comes into money, he buys Adam, one of the first batch of synthetic humans. With Miranda's assistance, he co-designs Adam's personality.

This near-perfect human is beautiful, strong and clever – and soon a love triangle forms, which leads Charlie, Miranda and Adam to a profound moral dilemma. What makes us human? Our outward deeds or our inner lives? Could a machine truly understand the human heart? Provocative and thrilling, "Machines Like Me" warns of the power to invent things beyond our control.



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 is the second of our Artworks of the Month for January, selected by the Art & Design Dept staff.

It is by Annabel (L6)

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

