

# SIR WILLIAM PERKINS'S SCHOOL NEWS

BUILDING CONFIDENCE, INTEGRITY & EXCELLENCE

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## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

MR CC MULLER, HEAD



It is good to be back and I hope that you will enjoy reading about the many and varied celebrations of accomplishment in this newsletter. Despite the restrictions of the coronavirus, SWPS students continue to

make the best of things, aiming high and pursuing excellence.

Like schools across the country, we are marking Black History Month. By means of assemblies and competitions, lessons and talks, including a look at the extraordinary James Baldwin, this month affords us the opportunity to explore and consider the outstanding contributions of people of African and Caribbean descent. Too often these contributions and stories are hidden, and even forgotten.

There is, of course, a private story within all of us. But some people's lives

can be so coerced, so manipulated and, in the end, so dominated that their past can be made to feel that it does not exist? What happens if this is the case? Does everyone possess the freedom to recover what is lost or hidden? What support can be provided?

And, for those whose past is well known and articulated, what does this presuppose in terms of political, material and emotional privileges?

To put it bluntly, is our story a luxury that only some of us are lucky enough to be born with? For how easy is it to dig into one's past? To bring repressed materials to light. Moreover, what is the emotional cost of doing so?

The history of the slave trade is an ever present and urgent piece of history – it is part of our story.

And the more we learn, the more fully we understand its depredations; its deliberate and systematic breaking

apart of the human family; the commodification of the human body; its denial of all forms of rights to the human subject.

Undoubtedly, slavery was one of the greatest moral transgressions.

This awful crime of owning other people changes our notion of what is normal and what is not, what can be told and what cannot, in essence what a life is and what it is not. At its heart, slavery denied freedom, self-creation and self-expression.

And therein lies the challenge for us as a school: to reflect clearly, honestly, and intellectually on our past, which, will challenge, and, possibly, change our received ideas.

It may show how privileged, complacent and constructed our current arrangements are: in short to make us rethink. It is what education is all about.



# BACK TO SCHOOL

A WARM WELCOME TO FACES OLD AND NEW

## WELCOME BACK

What a wonderful sight it is to see our classrooms full of enthusiastic students, happy chatter and smiling faces! Our new Year 7's arrived brimming with confidence, replete with sports bags and hockey sticks and ready to go!

We are happy to report that their lunchtime quad is always full of fun, games, new friendships and lots of excitement! With all of the challenges our students have experienced over the last six months, it is a joy to see them enjoying school to the full!



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



## NEW SPACES AT SWPS

Our students were thrilled to return to school to find a new Year 11 Common Room - an inside space for Year 11's to call their own for the first time. We also have a state of the art textile room, kitted out with Janome sewing machines, raised work stations, a measuring and cutting table and an abundance of storage. Both spaces have been provided thanks to generous donations from Friends of SWPS, for which we are very grateful.

## WELCOME TO CAPTAIN MIKE BANNISTER, NEW CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

We are delighted to welcome Captain Mike Bannister to SWPS to take the post of Chair of Governors. Mike Bannister was Chief Pilot of British Airways Concorde fleet, a post which he held from 1995 until its withdrawal from service in 2003. He joined the British Airways crew of Concorde in 1977 where he became its youngest pilot. In his Concorde career he accumulated around 9,600 Concorde flight hours almost 7,000 of which were Supersonic. He also captained Concorde's retirement flight, from New York to London on 24 October 2003.

Since the retirement of Concorde, Mike Bannister has contributed significantly to the raising of over £350,000 for good causes through lectures, signings and personal contributions. He is active in the Voluntary/Third Sector, having taken on roles including Corporate Non-Executive Directorships, Anglican Church Lay PCC Chair and as a Trustee of a number of organisations, including Brooklands Museum, where he was Chairman during an internal reorganisation.

Mike Bannister has 15 years of experience of governance in the Independent School sector. He is a former Chair of Governors of Staines Preparatory School and is the father of SWPS Alumna Amy Bannister; who is currently a First Officer flying for TUI.



Captain Mike Bannister, with daughter, SWPS Alumna, Amy.



# IN THE KITCHEN WITH SWPS

NEW CATERING PARTNERS CH&CO

CH  
&CO

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Our new catering partners CH&CO welcomed our students back to school with a new menu and lots of satisfied customers!

Empty plates speak volumes and our students are always left full of energy for the afternoon ahead. CH&CO is home to a group of chefs and nutritionists with a shared passion for food that fuels emotional positivity as well as physical wellbeing.

CH&CO manage the catering at a number of independent schools, including Box Hill, St Paul's Boys School and Westminster School. They also hold a royal warrant and manage prestigious venues such as Kew Gardens, Hampton Court Palace, and the Buckingham Palace Garden Parties.

To find out more about their ethos and food offering visit their website: [www.chandcogroup.com/about-us/](http://www.chandcogroup.com/about-us/)



## WORLD'S BEST HUMMUS!

When pea hummus is on the menu at SWPS you won't spot a dirty plate anywhere! Why not try a batch at home with this delicious recipe...



Our Seasonal Vegetable this month is peas and our chefs have put together a delicious recipe for you to try at home.

Peas

DID YOU KNOW THAT ON AVERAGE EVERYONE IN BRITAIN EATS NEARLY 9,000 PEAS PER YEAR! THIS TINY LITTLE GREEN VEGETABLE IS PACKED WITH FIBRE AND PROTEIN AND BECAUSE PEAS ARE FROZEN WITHIN TWO HOURS OF HARVESTING, THEY ALSO GIVE YOU VITAMIN C

### PEA HUMMUS

Serves 10

Recipe

#### INGREDIENTS

400g cooked peas  
2 garlic cloves, crushed  
2 tbsp tahini  
Squeeze of lemon  
2 tbsp cooked cannellini bean  
4 tbsp olive oil

#### METHOD

1. Blend all the ingredients together using a hand blender or food processor. Add 1-2 tbsp water, then blend again.
2. Transfer a portion to a pot and add to a lunchbox with pitta bread strips, vegetable sticks or nachos.
3. Keeps chilled for up to 3 days
4. Variations, add cumin, chilli, coriander, mint or lime.



You can tuck into peas as a 'veg on the side' of your main course as well as adding for instance, to soups, curries and risottos, paellas, omelettes and delicious winter casseroles and stews.

And if you want to win the world record for eating peas, you will need to beat Janet Harris who in 1984, ate an astonishing 7,175 peas in one hour...using chopsticks!



# SIXTH FORM

## PREPARING OUR SIXTH FORMERS FOR FUTURE CHALLENGES



### A LEVEL RESULTS 2020

Following an extraordinary few months, and the unprecedented cancellation of exams, Senior Sixth students, were rewarded with excellent A level results in 2020. Following two years of hard-work and commitment, SWPS Senior Sixth demonstrated maturity and resilience throughout this challenging period - receiving grades that were richly deserved.

Head, Mr Muller, commented, "In spite of a very difficult year, I am proud of the tremendous dedication and hard work of our students throughout their time at SWPS. These excellent results reflect their efforts across two years and they are all well deserved."

89% of students were awarded A\*-B at A Level, with 53% gaining all A\*-A and moving on to their first-choice of course at University.

### SWPS TECH SUCCESS

Launched in 2015, SWPS Computer Science Department was introduced to inspire our students to continue Computer Science into A Level study, in the hope that they would apply for and accept places onto traditionally male dominated courses at University.

Despite difficult circumstances for our 2020 cohort, we saw great success, and five of our six A Level Computer Science Students have taken Computer Science Degree positions at University!

### OUTSTANDING DESIGN

Sophie, Brooke and Charlotte from the Senior Sixth class of 2020 gained 100% A\* - A grades in A Level Design Technology: Product Design.

All three designed, made and tested products which solved the problems of their users, working with passion and empathy for their clients to solve the problem in the most effective way possible. All three have gone on to study creative courses at University and we are very proud of their achievements.

### OXBRIDGE SUCCESS

Each year some of our highest performing students take the next steps in their educational journeys to the venerable colleges of Oxford and Cambridge.

We are always delighted to receive their insights into life at University, as well as updates on their extraordinary successes!

#### 2015:

**Eloise Roberts**, Economics & Management, Oxford: **FIRST**

**Lucy Jarman**, Engineering, Cambridge: **FIRST**

**Ellie Lane**, History, Cambridge (Queen's): **FIRST**

**Hattie McLoed**, Geography, Oxford (TBC)  
**Beth Lambert**, Chemistry, Oxford (TBC)



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE



UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD

#### 2016:

**Megan Black**, German, Oxford: **FIRST**  
(First in Course)

**Lucy Cairns**, Human Sciences, Oxford: **FIRST**

**Natalie Harrar**, Chemistry, Oxford: **FIRST**

**Annabel Williams**, Classics, Oxford: **FIRST**  
(Third in Course)

**Janelle Xiao**, Medicine, Cambridge  
(Pembroke), (Still studying)



Megan Black,  
first in course at Oxford



Annabel Williams,  
third in course at Oxford



# LEAVER'S DESTINATIONS 2020

Following another year of outstanding results, a high percentage of our leavers have gone on to their first choice destinations. In addition to the wide range of exceptional placements at high ranking universities listed below, this year we also have students pursuing professional careers in cricket, transport and the performing arts.

Bournemouth University	Psychology with Forensic Investigation	University of Exeter	Medicine
De Montfort University	Design Crafts		Economics
Durham University	English Literature		Business and Management
	Natural Sciences		Business and Management
	Biological Sciences	University of Glasgow	Modern Languages
	Geology		
Imperial College London	Medicine	University of Leeds	Nursing
	Computing		Theatre and Performance
King's College London	Physics with Astrophysics and Cosmology	University of Leicester	Medicine
Newcastle	Psychology	University of Liverpool	Politics
Nottingham Trent University	Product Design	University of Nottingham	Biochemistry
	Law with Psychology		
Queen Mary University London	Economics with Integrated Foundation Year	University of Oxford	Biology
	Computer Science with Management (ITMB)	University of Plymouth	Dental Surgery
Palacky University (Czech Rep)	Medicine	University of Sheffield	Business Management
Royal Veterinary College	Biological Sciences	University of Southampton	Psychology
Swansea University	Computer Science	University of Surrey	Accounting and Finance
			Music and Sound Recording
The University of Edinburgh	Biomedical Science	University of Warwick	Computer Science
	Computer Science		
	History	University of Western Ontario (Canada)	Biomedical Sciences
	History		
	Economics	University of Worcester	Physiotherapy
University of Birmingham	Business Management		
	Philosophy	Art College Destinations	
	Criminology	Kingston	Art Foundation
	Dentistry		Art Foundation
University of Brighton	Law		
University of Bristol	Law and French	UAL	Art Foundation
	Law and Spanish		
	Medicine (MBChB)		
University of Cambridge	Geography		



**VIEW SIXTH FORM  
PROSPECTUS**



# NEWS IN FULL

THE LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS FROM SWPS



## SWPS STUDENTS SUPPORT CHARITIES DURING PANDEMIC

We are very proud of those of our students who have used their skills to provide help and support where it is most needed during the ongoing pandemic. From supporting foodbanks, to mass producing facemasks, charitable fundraising and caring for the vulnerable, they have sought to help those who are most in need.

SWPS student Anika P with sister Anushka, met with Richmond Park MP Sarah Olney recently, to discuss their distribution of 10,000 bottles of hand sanitiser to food banks. Ms Olney said: "What the girls have done is really amazing and I was thrilled to hear about their project. For charities, having a bottle of hand sanitiser can be the difference between being able to open and offer services, or not. As such, a ready supply of hand sanitiser is crucial."

## LOWER SIXTH STUDENT NATALIE JOINS SHAKESPEARE YOUTH COMPANY

Congratulations to Natalie N on her recent theatrical triumph. Natalie performed a successful audition for Guildford Shakespeare Youth Company, impressing the panel with her delivery of one of Viola's speeches from Twelfth Night. Natalie will be participating in the company's performance of Macbeth in April next year. Natalie said: "It's an amazing opportunity and I can't wait to work with such talented, creative and experienced actors!"

## WATCH OUR NEW SIXTH FORM FILM ON YOUTUBE



If you're interested in finding out more about Sixth Form at SWPS, take a look at our new [Sixth Form film](#). Featuring our current A Level students the film gives a great insight into life at SWPS.

## EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

Fifteen Senior Sixth students recently presented their Extended Project findings to their supervisors, friends and other members of staff.

This year's cohort deserve extra praise for continuing with their projects over lockdown and producing some outstanding work. Projects cover a vast range of topics and titles include: 'Do we sufficiently support the Deaf community in the UK?', 'Should there be a time limit in which to save premature babies?', 'A piece of creative writing in French drawing upon the life of Andre Gide in his writing style' and 'An analysis of the relationship between Chinese cinema and the socio-political climate of China between 1976 and the mid-1990s.'

EPQ Supervisor Mrs Lawrence said, "I have been impressed with the profound knowledge of students and the confidence they have exhibited when presenting their conclusions to their teachers and peers. Congratulations to all those students submitting an EPQ this year!"





# NEWS IN FULL

THE LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS FROM SWPS

## BUSINESS STUDENTS MEET AMV BBDO MARKETING EXPERT

Thank you to David Murray, a SWPS parent, who joined our A Level Business lesson virtually recently to talk about his role in at AMV BBDO, the UK's biggest ad agency.

Whilst in class covering the topic of Marketing in Business, David gave a presentation to our students about what the different departments in agencies do, why brands and advertising matter in the world, and how a career in creative industries is a more stable career choice given the need for human input. It was a fantastic lesson and the students were able to link their learning in the classroom to a real world business.

# AMV BBDO

## 2020 POPPY APPEAL

Poppies will be on sale during morning form time.

**Year 7** - Tuesday 3rd November.

**Year 8** - Wednesday 4th November.

**Year 9** - Thursday 5th November.

**Year 10** - Friday 6th November.

**Year 11** - Monday 9th November.

**Sixth Form** - purchase at Reception.

Poppies can be purchased from Reception during break and lunchtime any day.



## SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL.

We are currently collecting for the Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal. Please leave your unwrapped gifts inside the box provided at the Pupil's Entrance by 4th December 2020.

All gifts should be new and any toiletries or make-up should be non-allergenic where possible. Over the years, millions of children and young people have benefited from gifts donated to The Salvation Army. By giving a gift to our Christmas Present Appeal you can make a real difference in someone's life at Christmas.



## HISTORIAN DAN JONES TALKS CAREERS IN JOURNALISM

We were very fortunate to welcome SWPS parent Dan Jones to our online careers seminar this week, to talk about careers in Journalism and TV presenting.

He provided a fantastic insight into the reality of Journalism as a career and he was able to relay his background as well as giving students valuable guidance on how to get into such a competitive industry. A big thank you to Dan for giving up his time to help and support the students in their career choices.



## DARCIE EARNS ROTARY YOUTH INITIATIVE AWARD

Year 8 student Darcie B has been given a Rotary Youth Initiative Award for her initiative to raise money for Cancer Research over lockdown. Darcie painted and sold stones to raise awareness - raising over £100 in the process!





# NEWS IN FULL

THE LATEST NEWS AND EVENTS FROM SWPS

## CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS WHEN TO GET A TEST



If you are unsure about whether to get a test for your child, check the [official list of symptoms on the NHS website](#):

- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. All members of the household should self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.
- If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and only get a test if they develop symptoms.
- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.

## REMINDER: YEAR 6 REGISTRATION DEADLINE 31 OCTOBER 2020

If you have a sibling in Year 6 who you would like to start at SWPS in 2021, or if you have any friends who are thinking of joining us, the registration deadline date is 31st October 2020. For further information visit: [www.swps.org.uk/admissions/registration](http://www.swps.org.uk/admissions/registration)



## A PLEDGE FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

This week in Technology lessons students were made aware of global issues as part of Citizenship week, and were asked to pledge to make one change to live a more sustainable lifestyle. In Design Technology students have been finding out more about the 8 billion tonnes of plastics waste in the ocean and finding out ways to reduce their use of single use plastics with a little help from Sir David Attenborough.

In Textiles students have looked at the historic links between exploitation and the fashion industry and the more recent Clean Clothes Campaign asking our fashion designers and retailers to sign up to make a difference. Students have made some thoughtful pledges from using a reusable water bottle to sourcing preloved clothing or using a bamboo toothbrush. See @swpsdesign on twitter and Instagram for more pledges.

## SWPS LIBRARY RECOMMENDS... BOOK OF THE WEEK

Each week SWPS librarian Mrs Vidgen recommends her top reads for Sixth Form students and beyond. Here are her latest recommendations:

### **Rocket Billionaires by Tim Fernholz**

For the personalities staking their fortunes on developing rocket ships, the new space race could be a dead end, a lucrative opportunity or the key to humanity's salvation...

### **A is for Arsenic by Kathryn Harkup**

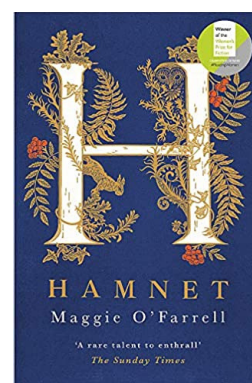
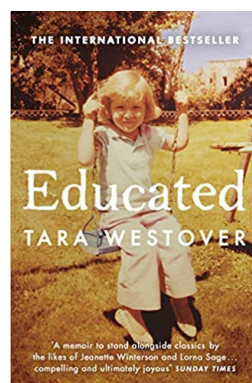
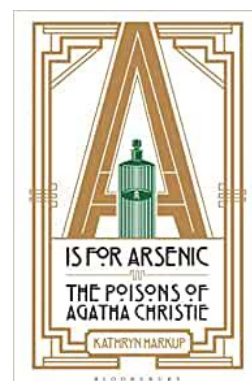
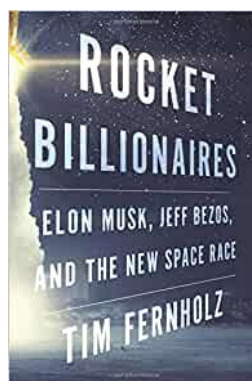
Christie's extensive chemical knowledge provides the background for 'A is for Arsenic', in which the author investigates the poisons used in 14 of Christie's mysteries.

### **Educated by Tara Westover**

Westover grew up preparing for the End of Days but, according to the government, she didn't exist... From one of TIME Magazine's 100 most influential people of 2019.

### **Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell**

Inspired by the son of a famous playwright, Hamnet is the story of a bond between twins and a marriage pushed to the brink by grief.





# SWPS DRAMA

## A ROUND UP OF THE LATEST FROM DRAMA



## DIGITAL THEATRE+

### TREADING THE BOARDS AT SWPS

#### JUNIOR DRAMA REHEARSALS ARE UNDERWAY!

Year 8 have been busy rehearsing for the hotly contested Junior Drama competition. Our directors from the Senior Sixth have independently written the scripts after being inspired by the quotes “Not to *speak* is to *speak*. Not to *act* is to *act*” and “To bring about change, you must not be afraid to take the first step. We will fail when we fail to try.” Whilst the characters and plot lines are shrouded in secrecy we can report that there will be the usual high standard of creativity and humour.

#### YEAR 11 AND SENIOR SIXTH DEVISING PROJECTS

Our GCSE and A level students are working hard to finalise their devised pieces in preparation for their non-examined assessment after half term. Year 11 are working on performances linked to ‘Power’ and the seniors are producing a creative adaptation of Alice in Wonderland. All of the students have been incredibly positive and proactive despite the challenges the current circumstances bring to practical work. We are really looking forward to seeing the final results and sharing those with you via digital streaming.

#### DIGITAL THEATRE SCREENINGS

Current restrictions mean that theatre trips are on hold, but the drama department have secured access to a fantastic theatre streaming platform called ‘[Digital Theatre Plus](#)’ and we have already held two screenings for A level and GCSE students – turning the drama studios into a theatre with a huge screen, pop-corn and other snacks included! We are delighted to be able to recreate a theatrical experience for the students within the comfort and safety of school so that we can keep their passion for performance alive until we can get back out to theatres again.



# SWPS SPORT

## NEWS FROM OUR SPORTS PITCHES



## THE LATEST FROM SPORT

Sport at SWPS has been challenging, rewarding and great fun since our return in September. Year 7-9 students have focused on hockey and netball during curriculum lessons, and hockey, netball and badminton for co-curricular provision. We are delighted with the attitude and resilience of our students and have enjoyed seeing so many participating in co-curricular clubs. Year 10 and above have an options-based programme in PE, it has been great to see so many students enjoying rounders after missing out on it in the summer term!

### INTER-HOUSE COMPETITIONS

We are excited to announce a new programme of inter-house competitions which will occur in year group bubbles during co-curricular provision. This will provide a great opportunity for both participation, competition and house spirit to develop through sport. Sports on offer will be netball, hockey, badminton, dodgeball, and benchball. A full programme of house activities and dates for the diary will be provided after the holiday.

### SPORTING PODCASTS

We recommend ['The Moments That Made Me'](#) podcasts from GB athletes, including Matt Whitlock, Ellen White, Maddie Hinch, Ellie and Beckie Downie, who provide an insight into the elite world of sport and the significant moments that supported their success.

### REMINDERS

- After the holidays all students should have their wet weather sporting attire available for all PE lessons. If for any reason students are unable to participate practically in a PE lesson they will still participate in a coaching/officiating role so it is essential that they are in full PE kit and wet weather clothing.
- We have a no jewellery in PE policy. Could you please ensure that if your child has recently had their ears pierced that they are confident to remove these at the start of lessons when we return.



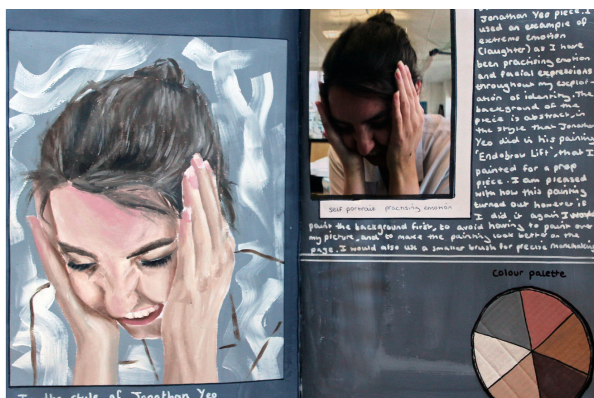
# ARTWORKS OF THE MONTH

A SELECTION OF THE BEST ARTWORKS FROM AUTUMN 2020

EVIE - YEAR 10



MAEVE - YEAR 11



AVA-MAE - YEAR 9



BURDOCK - YEAR 12



CHARLIE - YEAR 8





# HAPPY HALLOWEEN

SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES...



## YEAR 7 DRAMA STUDENTS BRING THE HORROR TO SWPS

Year 7 turned up the fear factor this week by performing a dramatised horror poem... 'The Haunted Castle' by Jack Prelutsky.

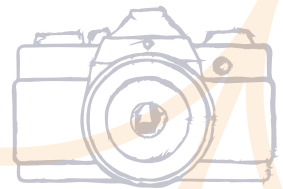
The students really entered into the spirit of the affair, terrifying everyone they came into contact with!

**On a hilltop bleak and bare  
looms the castle of despair,  
only phantoms linger there  
within its dismal walls.**

**Through the dark they're creeping, crawling,  
frenzied furies battling, brawling,  
sprawling, calling, caterwauling  
through the dusky halls.**

## HAPPY HALLOWEEN COMPETITION

Take a picture of yourself in your Halloween costume and send it to your Head of House by the 31st Oct via Teams. House points will be awarded per entry. A winner per year group will be selected by Mr Muller and more house points will be awarded. By submitting your photos, you are giving the school permission to display on the school's social media and internal displays. The winning entries will be announced on **9 November**.



## SIXTH FORM HALLOWEEN HI-JINKS... MEET KENNETH

In an unexpected turn of events Kenneth pumpkin descended upon the Sixth Form this week, causing havoc on the terrace.

Featured here with Lower Sixth students Niamh M, Mary O'D and Emma Q, the ghastly gourd ran amok, eventually spawning ghoulish scion, Gareth.







# ICON COMPETITION

**In celebration of Black History Month tell us about an important BAME icon who you feel deserves more recognition - they can be from any field.**

## COMPETITION DETAILS

Your entry should be 300-500 words long. It should outline the individual's contribution and explain their importance.

The two winning entrants (Junior category Years 7-9 and Senior Category Years 10-13) will be published in the SWPS School Magazine.

Every entrant will receive housepoints. The best entrants will receive Amazon vouchers.

Entries in the Junior Competition will be via your Class Civilisation/ Latin, History or RS teachers. Entries in the Senior Competition should be emailed to [rwillis@swps.org.uk](mailto:rwillis@swps.org.uk)

**DEADLINE 6 NOVEMBER 2020**



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH