

Dear Parent/Guardian

In the last newsletter, I announced that Mrs Pascoe was going on maternity leave; I am delighted to tell you of the safe arrival of baby Lucy, born on 14th March, weighing 7lb. We look forward to meeting her in the near future.

Free School Meals - Mrs Wybar

You may have heard that the government gives additional money to schools for every pupil who is registered for Free School Meals; this funding is called 'Pupil Premium.' The free school meals process at TWGGGS is entirely confidential; girls simply use a canteen card, as do all girls. However, you do not need to take up the entitlement if you or your daughter would prefer not to have school meals, but having registered means that we will have an additional £900 per registered pupil, in the school's budget. This funding allows us to support these girls by funding their school trips and visits, as well as providing additional resources to support girls, ranging from the provision of a school counsellor, to small group or individual teaching support when appropriate. This benefits both the girls in receipt of Pupil Premium funding and others needing additional support. Please could I urge you to apply, if you believe you are eligible?

To be eligible for free school meals the pupil's family must be in receipt of one of the following benefits.

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (not including Working Tax Credit) If the household income is below £16190.
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Asylum Seekers Proof of support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- An Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

From 7th April there is to be an improved online Free School Meals process, as Kent County Council will be launching an online application service. Parents will have the opportunity to complete an eligibility assessment to establish whether they are entitled to Free School Meals. If eligible, they can complete an application for Free School Meals via <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>. Schools will be notified of any successful applications straight away via email, so that a Free School Meal can be provided the following day.

Freight Transport Association Car Park

We have recently received the following communication from the FTA: "An increasing number of parents are using FTA car park as a pick up and drop off point for their children - the majority wearing TWGGGS uniform - no doubt in an effort to ease traffic congestion in and around Southfield Road. We are acutely aware that our entrance is already a hazardous environment due to traffic entering and exiting a busy main road, people on the pavement, and cyclists. We would prefer that parents do not use what is actually a private site, particularly when some are either inclined to park centrally in the gateway, or exit on the wrong side so that they then meet our staff coming the other way."

We would be most grateful if you could assist us by **not** using the FTA car park.

National Final of the Bar Council/Citizenship Foundation National Bar Mock Trial Competition - Amber Roche-Whitechurch (and Mrs Freeman, for the parts when Amber was on "jury service")

On Friday 21st March, fifteen L6 and U6 pupils travelled to Cardiff to take part in the prestigious National Bar Mock Trial Competition Final, having qualified at the London heat in November. The first round case centred on whether a teacher had deliberately perverted the course of justice. Prosecution barristers Elle May and Nancy Kelehar delivered outstanding speeches and their clever questioning exposed weaknesses in Mackie Academy's impressive defence team. Hannah Lindley, as court clerk, steered proceedings with authority, while witnesses Gemma Pring and Hannah Cowdell admirably dealt with interrogation in the dock! It was tense but those watching in the public gallery felt that TWGGGS had been the stronger team. The second round was a gripping trial about a nightclub bouncer. Witness Lucy Milson stood up admirably under intense cross-examination from the Upton Hall School barristers, and defendant Claire Hunt's handling of questions drew admiring gasps from the public gallery! Bethan Young acted as usher with aplomb, whilst Ellie Drewry and Laura Newton battled as defence barristers to save Claire from imprisonment. The judge, impressed with both teams, told us that only 2% separated the teams' points. Our jury team of Daisy Jardine-Viner, Henrietta Amos, Nia Lewis, Amber Roche-Whitechurch and Meg Hamilton judged other schools' cases and were complimented for giving well-reasoned verdicts. In the third trial against Queen Mary's College fought back, Ellie Drewry's closing speech was described by the judge (a Scottish Lady Chief Justice) as exceptional.

Gathering in the cavernous main hall of the court, the TWGGGS team was excited to be judged one of two teams out of the 17 finalists in the Grand Final. Taking place in the main court, and judged by the 5 most experienced judges, the TWGGGS spectators enjoyed Hannah C and Gemma giving brilliant performances as witnesses, and Elle and Nancy expertly pick apart the testimony of

their opposition, with Hannah L again performing with admirable composure as court clerk. Aquinas Grammar School were strong opponents, and when the final verdict was read out, TWGGS had narrowly missed out on winning, but as the first TWGGS team ever to reach the National Final of this competition, let alone the Grand Final, we were ecstatic to achieve second place in the country out of the 160 schools in the competition. Shadow Attorney General Emily Thornberry MP presented the awards and congratulated both teams on "exceptional performances", urging the girls to consider both law and politics as their future careers.

The whole team would like to thank Mrs Freeman for helping to prepare girls and organising the event, Mrs Jardine-Viner for helping to chaperone and keep spirits up, and Mr Franklin for expertly leading at the London heat. Mr Drewry also gave the team valuable time and insight into legal proceedings for which they were extremely grateful.

4th Place at National Schools Netball Finals! – Mrs Murray

Our U16 Netball Squad travelled to Liverpool to participate in the much anticipated National Netball Finals on Saturday 15th March. In similar conditions to the regional finals, the blustery wind was not on the shooters' side. Against Sheffield High School, TWGGS was quickly 3-1 down, but after a strong team talk at half time TWGGS settled their nerves, took the lead and finally won 7-4. Again, in the second game against Maynard School, TWGGS were 2-4 down at half-time, and 30 seconds into the second half Yazmin Absolon gained an ankle injury taking her out of the game, however, TWGGS came back to win the game 8-6. Against Newcastle Central High TWGGS completely dominated and won 14-3, a great result for the goal average. John Warner School had not dropped a game either and it was neck and neck during play: at half time they were up 5-3, but in the second half it was like watching a different team, and TWGGS came out on top winning 10-8. Up next was Repton, who TWGGS dominated from the start, still on a high from the John Warner game, winning 10-3. After an hour for lunch, TWGGS then came up against Fallibroome Academy who were like no other team we had come across. TWGGS were taken aback by their movement skills, especially in the shooting circle, and struggled to keep possession, losing 14-2. After such a heavy defeat TWGGS's confidence was knocked, but after a lengthy team talk, the girls came out positively against King Henry VIII school to keep in contention with a 15-4 win. The final game of the first round against Portsmouth was very tense for all players, coaches and spectators. Again, it was neck and neck, with TWGGS ahead 5-3 going into the half-time, but it was finally Portsmouth who came out on top, 10-8. This meant that TWGGS had the vital point they needed even though they had lost, and were confirmed as 2nd place qualifying for the semi-finals.

In the semi-finals TWGGS were drawn against the other group winners Grammar School at Leeds: quick passing and effective tactics in the circle characterised Leeds' very impressive netball and TWGGS lost 13-4. In the 3rd/4th play off against Abbey, the girls seemed nervous and, despite their efforts, went behind quite heavily; despite a determined come back, when the final whistle was blown, TWGGS lost 8-12. So the medals were not meant to be this year; however the girls should be extremely proud of their achievements. Only a few selected pupils in the country can ever say they were in the top 4 best schools in the country. The team have really done themselves and Mrs Murray proud to show such commitment and dedication to their netball all year, and to continue our recent netball successes on the national stage! TWGGS have now progressed to the national finals for 6 years in row, which is incredible for the school and all involved. Congratulations go to Captain Kath Taylor, Vice Captain Ellie Durr, Katie Exall, Yazmin Absolon, Sophie Hannam, Sophie Morris, Beth Moriarty, Emma Wadsworth and Margot Roberson-Leech.

Music Department – Mrs Waddington

In March, TWGGS Senior String Quartet competed in the first round of the Pro Corda Chamber Music Festival for Schools. This is a prestigious, national competition in which TWGGS is proud to be one of very few state schools taking part. We were delighted when we were selected to perform in the semi-finals at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. This was a tough round and the girls played brilliantly, tackling one of the cornerstones of chamber music repertoire with immense skill and maturity. A huge amount of work has been done by the girls involved in the competition and we are incredibly proud to announce that TWGGS was selected to play in the Finals Concert in Birmingham. This is an incredible achievement as TWGGS was the only state school to be selected. Congratulations go to Elizabeth Millar, Olivia Ziani, Ellie Waddington, and Catherine Millar, who displayed incredible motivation and perseverance. *Update 2nd April - We have just heard that our Chamber Music girls have been selected to receive scholarships to attend the Pro Corda Senior Course in August. This is an amazing achievement for the girls and justly deserved.*

On Saturday 22nd March the Senior Quartet played in a charity concert for Burrswood Hospital, Groombridge. Despite having limited access to music stands and cellist, Catherine, losing her voice, the girls played brilliantly. The audience certainly enjoyed their performance.

Earlier this month, TWGGS were once again hosts for the Beginner Recorder Festival. This is an event where budding recorder players from local primary schools come together to play the pieces they have learnt in class. Nearly 200 Year 3 & 4 pupils took part and they were delighted to be conducted by Helen McGregor and accompanied by a live band, ably provided by TWGGS 6th formers. Thank you to all those girls who gave up their study time to help inspire a future generation of musicians: Elspeth Collard, Abby Clare, Natasha Smith, Ellie Waddington, and Catherine Millar.

This term girls from Years 7, 8 & 9 were given the opportunity to perform in two small, informal concerts in the Performing Arts Centre. It was lovely to see such enthusiasm from the girls who took part and there were some stunning performances. Our thanks go to our Lower 6th Music Prefects Abby Clare and Ellie Waddington, who singlehandedly organised the Year 8 & 9 Concert. Thanks also to Silver Arts Awards pupils, India Fraser-Attewell and Anna Ballara who, with support from Miss Andrew, organised the Year 7 Concert. 6th Formers Catherine Millar, Natasha Smith and Abby Clare also gave their time to support Miss Andrew and the girls on the night, serving refreshments and stewarding.

Francesca Johnson 10G: Young Human Rights Reporter of the Year – Dr Ward

Congratulations to Francesca Johnson (10G), one of only ten out of over 2700 pupils across the UK who has been shortlisted for Amnesty International's Young Human Rights Journalist of the Year 2014 award. Francesca's piece called *Is this situation Korearing out of control?* looks at prison camps in North Korea. In her own words, "Under what is known as a total control zone, the prisoners are bound by the chains of forced labour, treated with the upmost disregard ... Used, bruised and abused, the prisoners are known to have been forced to dig their own graves before they are terminated by the guards." The shortlistees will be whittled down to a top three who will then be invited to attend a prestigious ceremony at Amnesty International's headquarters in central London on 30th April, where the overall winner will be announced. We wish Francesca the very best of luck.

Drama Report – Mrs Davis

The Drama Department has been extremely busy this term. The A2 Theatre Studies examinations started the term off triumphantly! Two groups performed in front of a live audience for friends and family on the 28th February, achieving excellent results. For the first piece, girls worked in the style of Narrative Theatre, combining multi-role, physical expression and direct address to deliver a truly unique experience for the audience. The cast of five (Grace Connell, Eleanor Fitzgerald, Lucy Maunsell, Polly Murdoch and Madeleine Nagel) worked tirelessly to produce a highly inventive piece, generating a sophisticated balance of comedy and pathos. Their concept, set in the 1980s, was visually impressive, subtle and moving. The second piece challenged the audience by exploring the silencing of women through the ages. Working in the style of Physical Theatre, the cast of four (Elizabeth Spink, Sophia Wallace, Beth Wright and Matilda Wood), made the audience reconsider how liberated women feel in modern society by looking back at four pivotal moments in history. Their impressive use of physical skills and verbatim techniques saw the ensemble move seamlessly back in time. Congratulations to all of the girls involved; you should be extremely proud of your impressive achievements. We sincerely hope you continue to engage with theatre and performance at university.

On a very different note, girls lower down the school worked alongside our Senior Drama Prefect, Eleanor Fitzgerald, to put together an afternoon of theatrical fun at the Year 8 and 9 "Teatime Theatre". Girls worked for several weeks to prepare for this showcase, sharing work that they have been doing in their weekly Drama Club. Eleanor worked tirelessly with the girls to help them polish their performances. Parents, friends and staff enjoyed their pre-show tea and cake, before enjoying three very different pieces of theatre. The first piece, written and conceptualised in Year 9, took the "Adams Family" as their stimulus; they subverted expectation by writing their own script, presenting "slightly strange" family in a stylised manner. The second piece, produced by Year 8 girls, presented a comic scene from "Ernie's Incredible Illucinations", entertaining the audience with absurd situations and outlandish characters. Finally, another Year 9 group worked hard to revise the Grimm fairy-tale, "Hansel and Gretel" by utilising imaginative narrative techniques. All girls should feel very proud of the work produced. I am sure girls doing their Bronze and Silver Arts Award will have lots to write about in their portfolios as a result.

Finally, to round off the term, we were able to enjoy an original piece of theatre, "The City and Iris", by the Glass-Eye Theatre Company on their European tour. Pupils studying Drama for GCSE and A Level (at both TWGGS and Skinners), along with girls doing their Arts Award in this field, were invited to watch their demanding physical production in the Performing Arts Centre. The Leqoc trained actors delivered a highly entertaining production enjoyed by all. The post show discussion was also useful for the girls about to embark on devising their own drama.

Watch this space...

We are delighted to announce the upcoming, whole school production of "The Wizard of Oz", which will be taking place next October. Auditions will be held after the Easter holiday. If you can sing, dance or act (or do all three!) we would be delighted to see you at the auditions. Keep a close eye on the Drama notice board for details.

TWGGS Gym and Dance Workshare 31st March and 1st April 2014 – Miss Guy

The 11th Biennial Gym and Dance Workshare was a superb event, with 39 varying gymnastics and dance performances and over 500 girls taking part from ages 11-19, one of the biggest activities of the school calendar: both evenings were 'sold out'. In the first half there were many gymnastic routines from recent medal winning competitions and the event was kicked off to a dramatic start by a gymnastic display, which included the entire squad who performed with elegance and poise. A range of Year 7 and 8 class dances had some very creative themes, such as Bollywood, the Haka, African Safari and Morris Dancing; the theme this year was Countries & Cultures, with cross-curricular opportunities including Art, History, Geography, Languages and Music. Girls in each class made their particular theme suit them, designed their own costumes and added their own twist which was evidenced within

the performances. The Year 9 class performances were choreographed by silver Arts Awards leaders who had to come up with the choreography and costumes for their dance, fulfilling the brief with confidence. In the second half the inter-year dance winners performed having choreographed the pieces themselves; these were truly outstanding. Sixth formers Emma Court, Eleanor Fitzgerald, Lucy Talbot and Charlotte Torode took us across the continent; passing through many Broadway classics, whilst Lucia Battain and Olivia Capon-Russell, aged 15 captured the audience with their powerful, yet graceful performances.

The evening culminated with a spectacular finale dance taken from one of Rambert Dance Company's current dances 'A Linha Curva' containing 26 of the school's most gifted and talented dancers. This was adapted and set into the finished dance during a 2 day workshop taken by one of the company's educational choreographers, Marie Lawrence. The highly energetic piece has a rhythmic, carnival feel and was set to energetic music with Brazilian and Samba-inspired lines and curves, the perfect way to round off such a colourful, vibrant and successful event.

Poetry by Heart Competition – Dr Blanch

TWGGGS pupils have made an impressive debut appearance at the national Poetry By Heart competition this year. The school-based Lower School final saw a very close contest between Year 8 pupils Imogen Ellis and the eventual winner, Hannah Naismith. Both recited a demanding collection of poems in front of the judging panel of Mr Walker, Mr Russell and Miss Dorman. In a similarly close final for Upper School girls, Coco Collard offered a powerful challenge with her choice of ambitious poetry readings, before Polly Smythe secured her place in the county finals. On February 8th, Polly braved the storms to travel to the Jubilee Library in Brighton to take her place alongside an impressive line-up of finalists from schools across Kent and Sussex. The pressure of reciting a word-perfect poem from the pre-1914 category resulted in two competitors leaving the stage before being able to utter the first line. Polly proceeded with confident, expressive performances through the remaining rounds, which saw pupils from Brighton College and Roedean School leave the competition. In the final round, commemorating poetry from the First World War, Polly recited "Train" by Helen Mackay, securing her place as a very close runner-up to an equally commanding performance from Moira House School. Many congratulations to Polly and to all four finalists from TWGGGS, who brought Poetry By Heart to life this term. We look forward to more compelling performances next year.

Watch out Tonbridge School! Captain Aimee Reynolds, TWGGGS CCF OC

A number of our cadets were given the responsibility to be enemy on a cold and rainy recent weekend at Crowborough Camp. The objective of the weekend was to take on some senior patrolling and then to strategically attack the junior NCO graduating class from Tonbridge School. We managed to harass them throughout the weekend and staged an impressive ambush, several attacks and then allowed them to practise some of their fieldcraft skills with our section pretending not to notice them! It all ended with a rather impressive final battle where we held the bridge for a long time - thanks to the thousands of rounds we had and the use of a machine gun! Despite the horrendous conditions, all of the girls acquitted themselves admirably. Sgt Fraser and Mr Granatt ran the HQ while Lcpl McCaul and cadets Capon-Russell, Bartlett, Wood, Youlton, Tester, Goad and Fish made life a misery for our neighbouring CCF boys. Great job, girls!

In immediate recognition of their magnificent efforts in the field, under the most testing of conditions, Iona McCaul was promoted to Sgt., Olivia Capon-Russell and Ellis Fish were pushed up to Lcpls, and the rest of the section were all awarded their Army Proficiency Certificate and given the right to wear a PWRR badge and cloth on their berets. What a challenge it was for everyone! Many thanks go to Captain Scott, 2Lt Guy, 2Lt Collard and Sgt Price (our regular soldier from the Cadet Training Team) because without their support and sacrifice, this weekend would not have been possible.

Calling for CCF Helpers! Captain Aimee Reynolds, TWGGGS CCF OC

Despite the challenges of fieldcraft there are many other areas where the burgeoning TWGGGS CCF needs some support from parents and/or the community of TWGGGS. We are the largest all female state school CCF in the country and the accomplishments of the girls are truly inspiring. However, there are activities we regularly need to cancel or curtail because we do not have enough adult cover.

Have you ever thought about a challenge like this? It could entail taking a commission in the TA with our CCF and becoming an officer with the contingent, or simply being an adult who stays in civilian clothing and is willing to come along on a day or two per year to ensure our training ratios are legal. To have an attachment with the unit, it would simply entail a few forms to fill out and completion of a school DBS check. More is required to be commissioned, but that would mainly suit those with previous military experience. (Having said that, I have learnt it all on the job and through the wider cadet organisation). Do you have some time to devote to some novel and challenging outdoor pursuits?

Realistically, you only need to have a sense of fun and energy. Recently, we have taken on Mr Granatt and Mr Bubb, who help us out with Signals tuition. We also have Mr Bourne, one of the school governors, who leads our fledgling band. One of our current officers is a parent without teaching responsibilities at the school. There are many opportunities for you to be as involved as you want to be and we can work out any commitment according to your home life. With more than 170 girls currently registered within

the unit, we are especially keen to hear from any women as we seem to always lack enough females to cover the activities. If you would like any further information, please call school 01892 520 902 x 239. We would love to tell you more!

Careers – Mrs Vallely

We have held a number of lunchtime Careers talks this term. Dr Ricardo Tavares, from Medic Journal International was particularly engaging and informative in his talk on “Getting Into Medical School” in January. In early March we heard Ms Husnara Begum, from the University of Law, speaking about “A Career in Law”, providing very useful information, and entertaining the girls by involving them in the debate about whether a Jaffa Cake is a cake or a biscuit. On Monday we welcomed Professor Grayling, from his New College of the Humanities inspiring the girls with his talk about “The Importance of Studying the Humanities”. These talks were rather more geared towards the senior girls, but I am hoping to organise some more general careers lunchtime talks which will be of interest to a wider range of year groups.

World Book Day – Mrs Mattheus-Ratcliffe

After last year’s “Blue Period” (remember the Smurfs?) our World Book Day 2014 seemed to have gone into a “Golden-Brown” period thanks to inspiration by Roald Dahl’s *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. The most frequently seen costumes this year all came from his book, and 7G’s whole-form coordinated dressing up as all the characters from Willy Wonka, even included a golden ticket for each girl. This gave them the well-deserved TWGGS “golden ticket”, the 2014 World Book Day form prize. In hot pursuit of *Willy Wonka* was *Alice in Wonderland*, another classic of literature. Many wonderful groups of Alices and friends could be seen all over the hall, but the judges decided that the prize for best small group should go to Madeleine Sanderson, Morgan Bradley, Xenia Hartlev, Hannah Uddin, Grace Worsell, and Maya Paulsen in 7S for their inspired interpretation of the book’s characters. Finally, the first prize for individual costume went to Mia Wheeler-Wakeman in 7I for her artistic, detailed and imaginative interpretation of the giraffe from the well-loved children’s book *The Giraffe Who Couldn’t Dance*.

West Kent Schools’ Teen Book Awards – The Gala Evening – Mrs Mattheus-Ratcliffe

“Going Places” – a challenging and wide-ranging theme for our 2013/14 reading list. And after 5 months and 10 different books which took us to different geographic, literary and emotional places, we had finally arrived: on the 25th March it was time for our annual Gala Evening at Kent College Pembury. We met up with 12 other schools in this reading group to celebrate our 2014 book winners and, after all the reading, treat ourselves to an enjoyable evening with author Tanya Landman. Sadly her book, *Apache*, did not win any prizes but was beaten by Michael Morpurgo’s *Alone on a Wide Wide Sea* and Erin Morgenstern’s *Night Circus*. The TWGGS readers were very happy with that choice, as we had thoroughly enjoyed these books. Now we are looking forward to choosing a new theme for our 2014/15 WKSTBA reading journey.

Year 8 Shakespeare Festival 2014 – Mr Russell

The 2014 Shakespeare Festival was a superb occasion this year, full of high quality performances. Here one of 8G’s directors, Hannah Naismith, outlines the preparation and the excitement of the evening:

We had only heard rumours about the Year 8 Shakespeare Festival. It sounded strange, yet we were in awe and so when the time came to be given our plays, everyone was buzzing with curiosity and anticipation. “The time will pass quickly,” our English teacher warned, once we had been allocated ‘The Tempest.’ After many arduous rehearsals and envious glances at the other forms, the day finally beckoned. Looking back, the day itself involved substantial dashin, coupled with incessant squawkin, although the pre-performance dress rehearsal tempered our nerves.

At 6:40pm we were back to school for the main production and returned to our familiar state of panic. Homemade cupcakes, adorned with confident graffiti messages, helped induce a temporary lull but then the storm, the tempest, was upon us. We were second on and by a combination of design and good fortune, everything ran like clockwork and a wave of relief washed over us. We huddled nervously, hoping the fairy cakes would work their magic. Everyone performed stupendously but it was us, 8G, who the judges crowned as winners! Best overall performance, best sound and lighting and best overall actress with the outstanding Imogen Ellis whilst Emily Arnold swept up our best supporting actress chocolates!

For making the evening such an entertaining experience, thanks go to: guest adjudicator, Mr G Henry, Head of Drama at Sevenoaks School; Eleanor Fitzgerald (Senior Drama Prefect), Vanessa Burns and Eloise Martin (Lower Sixth Drama Prefects) for judging with our guest; Mrs G Norman-Reade, Mr T Bartlett and Erin Rutter for their technical assistance; all the Year 8 English and Drama teachers and finally, of course, the girls who did so well in so many ways.

The full list of winners and prizes is:

8T “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”.	Best actress: Hannah Roberts	Best supporting actress: Annabel Willmont
8G “The Tempest”.	Best actress: Imogen Ellis	Best supporting actress: Emily Arnold
8I “Much Ado About Nothing”.	Best actress: Georgia Casimir	Best supporting actress: Ruby Llewellyn
8W “Romeo and Juliet”.	Best actress: Lucia Caligaris-Adams	Best supporting actress: Mia Lennon

8S "Macbeth".

Best actress: Imogen McArdle-Hodge

Best supporting actress: Romane Balcolm-Nevill
Evangeline Landi and Imogen Smith

Best Set, including model box set: "A Midsummer Night's Dream" 8T

Best Costume and Make-up: "Macbeth" 8S

Best Programme and Foyer Display: "Romeo and Juliet" 8W

Best Sound and Lighting: "The Tempest" 8G

Best Ensemble Performance: "Much Ado About Nothing" 8I

BEST OVERALL PERFORMER: Imogen Ellis 8G

BEST OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF A SCRIPTED EXTRACT: "The Tempest" 8G

3D Printing, Design and Technology – Mrs Bence

On Friday 7th March a 3D Printing demonstration took place in Design and Technology. Tim Elderton from Techsoft visited TWGGS to demonstrate how this manufacturing process can be used in industry. We were fortunate to see the machine in operation, and Tim clearly explained how this relatively new manufacturing process is helping designers to realise their concepts quickly and efficiently. He explained how innovators are using 3D printers to turn computer data into physical objects for a variety of disciplines, discussing the use of this technology in medicine, for replacement hip joints for example, and in building parts for aeroplanes. Some of the largest brands such as Coca Cola and Nokia are all currently utilising 3D printing technologies and the possibilities are captivating. NASA is planning to introduce a 3D printer into space in 2014 to assist astronauts in producing parts and tools in zero gravity; scientists are developing a 3D printer able to withstand vibrations from launch and differing air pressures. It was a great opportunity to understand this technology and gain an insight into how 3D printing is currently being operated in the world of business.

German Exchange 2014 – Alex Bartlett, 10W

On 7th March 2014, a group of very excited Year 10 girls waited nervously at the Tunbridge Wells Boys' Grammar School car park for their German exchange partners to arrive for their return visit to England. We had previously been to Germany the December before, so we'd already met (and hopefully made friends with!) our exchanges and weren't as nervous as we would have been otherwise, rather excited for what we were sure would be a fantastic week, and it was. We had the exchange students in our families over the weekend and many people met up with each other – we went to Brighton on the Sunday, which was really fun. On Monday they came to school with us and had lessons and lunch in the canteen – apparently very different from Germany – and for the rest of the week went on a variety of daytrips to London, Bateman's, Hever Castle, and of course the Pantiles. We were lucky enough to go with them to London, where we visited the Tate Modern and Covent Garden. At the end of the week we got up at what felt like the crack of dawn to see them off. We were sad to see them go and there were some tears, but many of us have made long-lasting friendships and are planning to go back to visit them in Germany in the summer. It really was a fantastic trip: thank you to those who organised it – we had a brilliant time!

Spanish Trips - Mrs Rodríguez

This has been a busy term for the Spanish Department with a Sixth Form trip going to the beautiful region of Andalucía during February half term and the Year 10 girls going on our annual exchange visit to southwest Madrid. Both trips were a huge success and this was thanks to the positive attitude and impeccable behaviour of the girls involved.

Andalucía, February 2014 – Sixth Form Spanish Trip with Miss Spokes & Ms Rodríguez – Georgina Fooks L6S

On the 13th February, Spanish students from the Lower and Upper 6th met at the unearthly hour of 3:45am to go to the airport to go to Andalucía, in the south of Spain. When we arrived in Málaga we were pleasantly surprised to see the sun, a welcome contrast from the rain in England! There we visited the Picasso museum, which was an incredible display of some brilliant art. That day we also visited the hillside town of Mijas, with a beautiful view of the Costa del Sol. In Córdoba we saw the Mezquita, a fascinating place full of history, and we spent two days in Granada, enjoying the Alhambra, a captivating flamenco show, the teterías - where there was a wide selection of teas, including gunpowder tea - and good shopping. In Sevilla, we climbed La Giralda, a clocktower, and enjoyed some incredible views, and went on a quest to get our own oranges from Seville! However, one of the best parts was food – the tapas were delicious and the meal on the last evening was a lovely way to end the trip. The trip to Andalucía was honestly the best trip I have ever been on, and I hope to return there in the future.

Year 10 Spanish Exchange – Sophia Rolf

On the morning of 13th March a group of 22 Year 10 girls accompanied by Miss Spokes and Mrs Rodríguez travelled to El Escorial in Spain, a region near Madrid in central Spain. We stayed in the homes of welcoming Spanish families in order to practise our Spanish and learn about the traditional Spanish way of life. Before meeting our exchanges for the first time most of us were quite tense and very nervous but by the weekend everyone had settled in well and participated in activities planned by the host family. During the days that our exchanges were in school there were organised trips to Madrid and Segovia. Both were definitely enjoyed by the entire group and everyone learnt lots of interesting facts about the history and culture of the two cities. One of the highlights of the visit to Spain was the traditional Spanish food, which was truly delicious, and churros with chocolate proved to be especially popular. The whole trip was a wonderful experience and everyone is looking forward to May when the Spanish exchange pupils visit

England and stay with us in our homes for a week. On behalf of all of the girls, a big thank you to Mrs Rodriguez and Miss Spokes for organising the trip.

Zimbardo Conference, 24th March 2014 – Miss Paterson

On Monday 24th March, Miss Paterson and Mrs Vallely took 53 AS Psychology students to a conference at the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster, London. Headlining was a world renowned psychologist, Dr Phillip Zimbardo, talking about his famous research, the Stanford Prison Experiment. Students cover this experiment as part of their AS Level examination, therefore it was extremely exciting to get to meet this psychologist and hear his account first-hand, of the experiment for which he is so famous. We started off the day with an eye-opening talk from Phil Banyard, a former Chief Examiner for the Psychology A Level. Cara Flanagan then followed, discussing concepts related to the research methods topic of the exam. It was fantastic to gain tips about how to tackle some of the trickier aspects of the exam, from the author of our class textbook! After a short break, we then listened to Professor David Wilson, Professor of Criminology from Birmingham University, who recently presented the Channel 5 Series, 'Killers Behind Bars'. He discussed the context in which murder often happens, relating to concepts such as 'saving face' and 'shame', providing examples of case studies in which he has personally been involved. After a break for lunch, girls returned to listen to Dr Phillip Zimbardo, who gave an inspiring talk about his research, which has proven to be one of the most controversial studies conducted in the field of psychology. He and his wife, Christina Maslach, discussed the ethical issues associated with the Stanford Prison Experiment and the reasons behind the decisions he made. We really were exceptionally lucky to be able to gain tickets to this sell-out conference, and I would like to thank all the Sixth Formers for their impeccable behaviour during the day. It was a fantastic event which really inspired girls as they approach their AS Level examinations.

UK Intermediate Maths Challenge – Mr Jamieson

In February, 60 TWGGS girls entered the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge, together with around 200,000 pupils from other schools across the country. This annual event is run by the UK Mathematics Trust from the University of Leeds, and is aimed at pupils in Years 9 to 11. Many of our girls performed very well, and we achieved 11 silver and 21 bronze awards. The highest score was achieved by Kerensa Froome in Year 9, who not only won a gold award but was also invited to participate in the follow-on Kangaroo competition for the highest scoring pupils. Very well done to Kerensa and all our girls.

For those wishing to test themselves, here are a couple of the questions:

- If $8^m = 27$, what is the value of 4^m ?
- Just one positive integer has exactly 8 factors including 6 and 15. What is it?

Kent School Games Finals - Sportshall Athletics – Mrs Murray

The Year 7 & 8 Indoor Athletics team were victorious in the first round of the Sportshall Athletics competition held at Skinners' School. TWGGS dominated the track and performed very well in the field events to win both year groups. The girls then went onto represent the Tunbridge Wells Area at the Kent Finals on Wednesday 12th March.

Both teams performed well under pressure against some very strong opposition. The Year 7s came 5th overall in Kent and the Year 8s were runners up winning Silver Medals. Congratulations to:-

Year 7 Team – Captain Jasmine Lewtas, Zaina Nassman, Georgia Pragassen, Molly Sinclair, Lottie van der Zanden, Izzy Porter, Thea Pengelly and Becca Gritt.

Year 8 Team – Captain Ayesha White, Alice Waters, Freya Zaborski, Romane Balcomb-Neville, Imogen Ellis, Georgie Newman, Amira Carew and Elena Holland.

Equestrian Success at Golden Cross – Mrs Murray

TWGGS's Equestrian Team have had recent success at Golden Cross with some fantastic results. Sophia McDonald came 5th in Class 1 60cm with a borrowed pony as hers is just recovering from an injury. Emily Dodd-Pacitti won Class 2 70/75cm. The TWGGS team of Micky Holding, Emily Dodd-Pacitti and Megan Bruce-Smythe came 3rd in Class 3 80/85cm with Megan winning the class and Emily came 3rd individually. Megan came 2nd in Class 4 90/95cm, just pipped by 100th of a second!

As a non-equestrian school, to be placed in every class entered is really quite fantastic! A team 3rd, plus individually a 5th, a 2nd and 2 class wins are superb! Very well done to the girls and thank you to the parents for their continued support at these events.

Debating – Mrs Johnstone

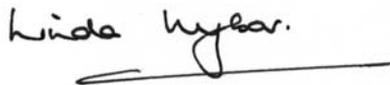
The world of debating is becoming increasingly competitive, with a number of the top private schools engaging professional coaches - but the TWGGS teams have been maintaining their high level of achievement, reaching the finals days of all the major competitions, and coming 13th in both the Oxford and Cambridge competitions. Special thanks go to Elle May, who has been an energetic and effective Debate Prefect this year, both in competitions and helping with the younger debaters' coaching. Our most recent outing was to the Durham University competition, run by one of our ex-debaters, Harriet Tooze, who now debates at

international level for her university; Y11 pupil Phoebe Segal distinguished herself in the novice competition, open to all year groups, coming third overall after six hard debates.

The debating clubs will continue to run throughout the year - and it is never too late to join!

Finally, may I remind both parents and girls that summer uniform regulations apply after the holiday. In particular, would you please check the length of your daughters' dresses and skirts? There has been a considerable improvement in girls being dressed appropriately this year, however, they do have an alarming tendency to grow, and dresses which were suitable in October may now not be long enough. The new uniform regulations will apply to **all** year groups 7 to 11 from September, and Year 8 and 9 parents (previously still on the "old" system) should be aware of this if making any uniform purchases. Should you be in any doubt, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Wishing you all a happy Easter. With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Wybar." The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mrs L Wybar
Head Teacher



FUNDRAISING SUMMARY

It has been a relatively quiet term this term, with our fundraising/social events being the Y7/8 discos and a general-knowledge quiz for the adults. Together these have raised in excess of £3500, taking the academic year's total to £13,000. A huge thank you to all the committee who worked so hard in running the events and to all the pupils, parents and staff who support by their attendance.

NETBALL COURT REFURBISHMENT - £40,000 NEEDED!

We are delighted to be able to reveal that this year's fundraising will go towards the long-overdue refurbishment of the netball courts.

The netball courts are widely used by the entire school - besides being used for sports lessons and matches, the CCF use them for drill practice in the summer months. They also provide an outdoor area for extra-curricular clubs and for outdoor 'ad hoc' teaching for all TWGGS pupils.

Exact costs are still being determined, but we anticipate raising around £40,000 to contribute towards this project; our first major fund-raiser towards this target will be the **Charity Auction on April 25th**. 30% of the moneys raised will go to the school's chosen charity, the Ghana Education Project, with the remaining 70% planned for the netball court refurbishment fund.

If your child is involved in sport or the CCF at TWGGS, we would urge you to attend the auction and help us raise these funds. If you are unable to attend, then please feel free to submit a sealed bid and also to circulate the auction catalogue amongst family, friends and work colleagues, as the auction is open to everyone. Auction catalogues and ticket forms are available by emailing pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk.

100+ CLUB LUCKY WINNERS THIS TERM

The winning numbers for January, February and March 2014 are as follows:

January: First prize £75 - ticket 258 bought by CY, Second prize £50 - ticket 253 bought by CW

February: First prize £75 - ticket 250 bought by HP, Second prize £50 - ticket 235 bought by IW

March: First prize £75 - ticket 359 bought by EPA, Second prize £50 - ticket 458 bought by SJ

SAVE THE DATE

Our final fund-raiser this academic year will be a 'Round the World in Eighty Days Quiz' on **July 4th**, so please keep this date clear and look out for ticket application forms!

Wishing you a happy Spring holiday and hoping to see you at one of our events.

Karen Dodd & Judy Barrett (PTA joint chair)
pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk

For 100+ club registration and information, email Kathleen on 100club@twggs.kent.sch.uk

For second-hand uniform (sales and donations), please email Fran on uniform@twggs.kent.sch.uk