

Dear Parent/Guardian

It has been a pleasure to welcome several new members of staff to the school this term: Miss Stephens has joined the Spanish and French departments, Miss Grove is teaching Biology and Miss Mundy and Miss Auer are with us this year, covering maternity leaves in Geography and P.E. respectively. Mrs Frame is now supporting the Technology department as Technician. We are also delighted that Mrs Waddington, who covered during Mr Speller's ill health last year, is with us part-time for this academic year, and Mrs Collard who has previously worked as a cover supervisor and administrative support on an ad hoc basis is now on the school staff. We hope that they are all very happy at TWGGS.

Examination Results

TWGGS girls and staff achieved impressive examination results this summer, with 83.6% of all A Level entries at grades A*, A and B (57.3% at A* and A grades), enabling U6th Leavers to go on to highly competitive courses at top universities. We look forward to celebrating these results with them and their parents at Speech Day in December, and to hearing of girls' first terms at university. At GCSE, the A*-C pass rate was 99.5% across 1560 entries, and 99.4 pupils attained 5 or more A*-C grades (including English and Maths). The mean grade was, once again an A, with 78.2% of entries attaining A* and A grades. Congratulations to all!

Beth Freeman - 1996-2013

It is the anniversary of Beth's tragic death on 28th October. Beth's family is organising a castle to castle walk to remember Beth; please see the poster on the TWGGS website for details, and the following link: <http://bookitbee.com/e/bgjrr>. TWGGS will be celebrating Beth's life by holding an own clothes day on 30th March (Beth's birthday) when the whole school will wear sports clothes, and a hockey match v Edenbridge Ladies on 16th December at 7.00pm at TWGGS. Funds raised from the own clothes day will go to Beth's fund, which supports local sport, both individually and at small club level.

All our thoughts and love are with Beth's family and friends at this most difficult time.

School Pick Up/ Drop Off

Please could I remind all parents that you should not drive onto the school site, or indeed down Southfield Road if dropping your daughter or picking her up, unless this is absolutely essential, for instance if she is transporting a large musical instrument or has a serious injury. It really is neither safe for, nor considerate of, other girls. We have also been asked by residents on Culverden Avenue to request that you do not park there, blocking the road by waiting in the middle of the street, whilst collecting girls. Our neighbours are very tolerant of school traffic and its pressures, however this has become an acute problem, and we would be grateful for your consideration of local residents.

Hockey Season – shin pads and gum guards – Mrs Ralph, Bursar

Time for the annual reminder that whilst shin pads and gum guards are listed as optional items on the school uniform list, it is strongly recommended that girls taking part in hockey lessons wear both of these items. Please note however, that girls will continue to participate fully in hockey lessons if they are not wearing one or both of these. For girls who represent TWGGS in hockey matches, it is compulsory that both items are worn.

Absence Policy – Mrs Holloway

With the influenza season rapidly approaching, please can we remind parents that the school's absence policy requires a telephone call or email (reception@twggs.kent.sch.uk) before 10am on the first day of absence. This must be followed by a written note (which may be in your daughter's planner) signed by a parent/guardian on her return.

"Wizard of Oz" Report - Creative Directors, Mrs Davis & Miss Dorman

The Drama and Music departments have been working collaboratively over the past few months to realise a successful interpretation of "The Wizard of Oz". The iconic musical, performed on the 15th, 16th and 17th of October in the school Hall, was a huge success owing to the combined efforts of 160 pupils and staff. All of the girls involved should feel a huge sense of accomplishment; the final result was both professional and mesmerising, showcasing TWGGS' talent at its very best.

The orchestra, beautifully led by Mrs Waddington, demonstrated unrivalled commitment throughout the entire process. Not only did they give up huge amounts of their time to whole cast rehearsals, they actively contributed to the process of cutting and transposing large sections of complicated musical scores. A special mention goes to Abby Clare, Helena Dunn, Grace Rhoden and Ellie Waddington for their collective efforts and skill in this area.

A project of this magnitude can only succeed with the support of an enthusiastic team. A number of girls worked alongside dedicated staff to ensure all aspects of production were managed effectively. Emily Dobson and Anna Smith deserve recognition for their professionalism; responsible for lighting and sound respectively, the girls did a fantastic job on a challenging production in record time under the leadership of Mr Bartlett and Mr Speller. Breeze Cockburn, Holly Saw and Sophie Thornhill also worked imaginatively, choreographing mesmerising dances with the support of Miss Guy to inspire them. Backstage, Megan Moore and Becky Rogers, Ella Decelis, Phoebe Moss and Gemma Pring skilfully managed a number of slick set changes, ensuring the large cast were supported at all times. Miss Newby's impressionistic set, lifelike chickens and flying cow were another highlight; the backdrop revealed the harshness of Kansas during the Great Depression, a stark contrast to the humorous, glittery and magical world of Oz. Mrs Norman-Read's props, many of which were homemade by her helpful team of girls in Year 9 and 10, looked delightful in this setting. Ms Hogben's contribution as costumier was invaluable; not only did she oversee the creation of the beautifully homespun costumes for the four principle characters (crafted by her talented Year 10 Textiles class), she facilitated swift changes backstage, resulting in a highly professional end product. Ellie Spink, an ex-pupil, made an outstanding contribution to the final production as make-up artist- her designs were stunning! The caretakers, Mr Buttery and Mr Molloy, were invaluable members of the team – we are so grateful to you for all of your help over the past six weeks.

We must also recognise the talent of the cast. The girls worked courageously, no matter how big or small their part, both on stage and behind the scenes. The cast of 90 did exceptionally well to sustain their energy across all three nights, delivering highly professional and enjoyable performances. It was hugely impressive to see so many girls, across years 8 to 13, working harmoniously together. Their dedication resulted in a set of polished and genuinely comedic performances as Munchkins, Flying Monkeys, Ozians, Jitterbugs, Poppies, Winkies, Gangster Crows and Feisty Trees! A special mention must go to the following girls for their contribution to this project: Vanessa Burns (Dorothy on Wednesday and Friday), Sabrina Carlton (Lion), Kathryn Djemai (Dorothy on Thursday), Ollie Howitt (West Witch), Eloise Martin (Scarecrow), Hannah Rayner (Glinda) and Lily Wadsworth (Tinman). Carrying large sections of the show, these pupils worked tirelessly to sustain the audience's attention for long periods of time – a commendable achievement in such an iconic musical.

We would also like to thank the girls' families - we are so grateful to you for ensuring your daughters were able to make rehearsals and commit to the demands of the project.

Last, but definitely not least, we would like to thank Holly Hamilton and Millie Everett, for their dog-handling skills! Toto (Daphne) has made friends for life!

DVD of "The Wizard of Oz"

We filmed two of the performances (Thursday 16th and Friday 17th) for the school archive featuring both Kathryn and Vanessa respectively. A letter will be going out shortly, requesting written permission from ALL parents, before we can legally sell any copies of the DVD. If everyone gives their consent, a professionally edited and packaged DVD will be made available at £10 per copy. Please keep a close eye on parentpay for any further correspondence on this matter.

TWGGGS Win Vocabexpress League of Champions - Herr Link

As part of the celebrations around European Day of Languages on 26 September Vocabexpress organised a competition for vocabulary learning in a variety of languages. The competition started on 25 September and finished on 1 October. Girls competed with over 600 schools worldwide and over 33.000 students from the Caribbean, Brunei and India to Prague in the Czech Republic. They also had the opportunity to try out other languages like Portuguese, Italian, Urdu, Mandarin, Japanese, Latin and Arabic. TWGGGS won the competition 3 years ago but has come third in the last 2 years. Our sights were set on winning again and so we set ourselves a target of 1.5 million points. In the end TWGGGS thrashed the competition and won the overall Challenge Cup Grande for schools over 501 pupils with 1,670,445 points and the Genius Cup for the 25 best scoring pupils of all schools.

TWGGGS were also successful in many languages and won the Challenge Cup and Genius Cup in German as well as the competitions in Italian, Arabic, Japanese, Portuguese and Hebrew and coming second in Polish. Sally Connell from 10W narrowly missed out on the top ten of the overall competition ending up in 11th place. Lily Braham 10W won the competition in Japanese, Eleanor Schone 10I won Arabic, Isobel Lester 10W, Jessica Williams 11W, Emily Williams 11S came joint top in Hebrew. There were, of course, a number of high placings from other pupils – too many to mention them all. As an additional motivation we added an internal competition and the winners are: Year 7: 7W, Year 8: 8T, Year 9: 9S, Year 10: 10K French, Year 11: 11A German, L6: L6 German, U6: U6 French. Sally Connell 10 W won the pupil competition at TWGGGS followed in second place by Hannah Naismith 9S and Shekina Chocoury 8G in third place. This is a most impressive achievement for our girls and reinforces their commitment to language learning. They will receive their prizes and certificates in the next few weeks.

TWGGGS Old Girls

For those unaware, there is a large network of TWGGGS Old Girls from all years past, many of whom now have their own daughters at TWGGGS. If you are a TWGGGS Old Girl or know someone who is, please tell them about our new website which has recently been incorporated into the school website. We are making plans for our next five yearly reunion (110 years) which is due to take place next summer and is always a very popular and well attended event. A provisional date of 27 June 2015 has been set for this. We are actively looking to boost the numbers on the committee, either to help on a one-off basis towards planning the next reunion or to help with general management of the association. If you would like to be kept informed directly of reunion details, or are interested in getting involved TWGGGS Old Girls in any capacity, please contact us directly on oldgirls@twggs.kent.sch.uk.

Carrot Wood Trip - Chloe Boakes, Carla Bone, Laura Williamson and Lily Zelezetskii , 7W

Going to Carrot Wood was the first thing that Year 7 had really done as a group. The whole goal of the day was to make new friends and to have some fun and break the ice. We were all split into groups with new girls from our form and each group did different team building exercises. All the instructors were very patient with us and took the time to make us feel safe and confident with what we were doing. Some of the exercises we did were very challenging and rather scary, but once you had done them, you had a rush of pleasure and felt proud; after all, you would probably only get one go. We had the opportunity to do abseiling, rock climbing, archery and even the leap of faith! It looked such great fun that even some of our teachers joined in but they seemed to miss out the leap of faith! We all returned to school feeling so lucky to have had such a fun day, make new friends and try some new activities!

"Remember" – National Poetry Day Creative Writing Competition - Mrs Mattheus-Ratcliffe, Librarian

A Hero of the Great War

Remember me as brave,
Remember me as strong,
Remember me, a hero of
A war long since gone

...

And now a hundred years have passed,
But remembrance is alive,
Please keep us in your thoughts,
As you get on with your lives.

(Grace Coleman, 8I)

"Remember", a very topical but difficult subject for our 2014 National Poetry Day Competition. But as always our girls did us proud. We didn't limit the competition to writing poems about World War I but many accepted the challenge and submitted beautifully crafted, reflective and touching poems about war, suffering and remembering. The poems are genuine showpieces for the emotional intelligence of which even our youngest creative writers at TWGGGS are capable. We had so many moving entries from pupils that it was very hard to choose one above another. However, needs must, and after much deliberation we agreed that the winners of the 2014 Poetry Competition were:- Eleanor Herman 7G, Grace Coleman 8I, Hannah Godsmark 7I, Isobel Poland 8W, Maddy Ironside 8I.

Unfortunately we do not have enough room to print all the winning poems, but I will leave you with a very moving sample of another one of the works we had the privilege to read. It describes the loss of memory in old people suffering from dementia.

Who I Was

Grey.
Grey and foggy.
That's what my mind is like.
I can't see into it and I can't remember anything.
It's scary.
It's scary not knowing who you are.
I can't remember my memories of the past.

...

Each day I fight a losing battle.
I reach for the memories as they float further away from
my grasping hands and are sucked into the deepest, darkest
hole, never to be seen again.
I just can't remember it.

...

And right now, I can't remember who I am or where I am.
I can't remember who I was. (Maddy Ironside 8I)

Author Julie Hearn visits TWGGS - Mrs Mattheus-Ratcliffe, Librarian

Acclaimed teen author Julie Hearn left a deep impression on our Year 8 girls when she talked to them about creative writing and her publishing career during our annual Year 8 author visit on 10th October. A former journalist she took a Master's Degree in Women's Studies at Oxford before throwing herself into writing exciting, fast-paced but hard-hitting historical novels for teenagers. Given her background it is not surprising that her female heroines are strong and resilient and she certainly does not sugar-coat her stories. Her novels deal with slavery, witchcraft, madness, suffragettes and many more interesting subjects; they are critically acclaimed and have put her on the shortlist, amongst others, for the Carnegie Prize and the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize.

Julie's talk to our Year 8 girls was full of practical tips on how to get a story started. In her presentation she traced back her books to the visual images that inspired them. We saw a woodcut of the Witchhunter General, a picture of a giant's skeleton and another one of a boy in a gas mask., all of which then linked into one of Julie's books. The girls were fascinated by how these diverse but simple image can inspire a whole novel and took away a lot of tools to get their own creative writing started. Julie also talked about her life, her work, on how to become a published author and was happy to take lots of questions from the floor. At lunchtime the whole school had the opportunity to meet her in the School Library and have their books signed with personal messages.

Adoption and Fostering Information Evening

We have been asked to publicise this event is to be held from 7.45pm at St Peter's Church in Southborough on Wednesday 12th November, hosted by adoptive/foster families from local schools, and with representatives from local adoption and fostering agencies, including KCC and "Home for Good" (a new Christian charity championing adoption and fostering). At this informal evening it is hoped to raise the profile of adopting and fostering. The event is open to any who wish to find out more about adoption and fostering, or how to support friends who are adopting/fostering. To register your attendance in advance, please email adoptfosterkent@gmail.com This is not essential, but very helpful.

German Department On Tour Again – Herr Link

The Autumn Term will again see our traditional visits to the Cologne Christmas Markets from 27-29 November for Year 9 girls and the long running German Exchange (now over 62 years) to Bonn-Bad Godesberg from 4-10 December for Year 10 girls. The excitement among the participating girls is already rising. We have also managed to secure bigger coaches and additional accommodation this year to be able to take 96 Year 9 girls to Cologne (instead of 89). Unfortunately, there are still some disappointed girls as we could not take everyone who wanted to go for safety and transport reasons.

European Day of Languages - Language Prefects (Hettie Morgan-Jones L6W)

On 26th of October, the Language Prefects of Lower Sixth at TWGGS gave a short assembly put together for Key Stage 3 to celebrate European Day of Languages. We aimed to spread awareness about the importance of learning languages whilst also teaching some amusing phrases in European languages. The assembly began with a short speech about the importance and benefits of learning foreign languages, such as the ability to communicate with many more people and also being more employable. This was then followed by an entertaining video, demonstrating the typical stereotypes which exist with the German language. Whilst being amusing, we hope this made pupils consider the great diversity of European languages by listening to the pronunciation of the same word in British, French, Spanish, Italian and German.

Whilst planning the assembly, we came up with the idea of finding songs in the charts of various European countries for the students to guess in which language the song was sung. This was a great success with Key Stage 3, as the songs - whether in Swedish or Portuguese - sounded very funny and so it was amusing to guess in which language they might be singing; the Haribo prizes also proved very popular, so much so that almost every hand was raised to answer the questions. The final part of the assembly involved a quiz on idiomatic expressions in different languages in which the pupils were given an idiom and its literal translation and had to guess its meaning from 3 options. This gave the pupils an insight into how interesting learning languages is, as the same thing can be said in so many ways. Overall the assembly was a success: the lower school enjoyed the quizzes greatly and participated enthusiastically whilst learning some fun facts and phrases about European languages. We even ended up learning a few things ourselves!

French News - Miss Lloyd-Jones

Mon Quotidien, our authentic daily French newspaper is available on Fronter and a printed version is on the newspaper stand in the library every day.

Le Septième Art is our French film club aimed at Key Stages 4 and 5. We show a range of French films from cult classics to more traditional films and dramas. The day of the club has changed this year and it is now after school each Monday, week 2 in A6.

Year 7 French Club, run by our Sixth Form French Prefects, is on Monday, week 1, at 1pm in A6. We are looking forward to more fun with French and hope to encourage even more girls to join us!

Careers Department – Mrs Vallely

The year has got off to a fine start in the Careers Department. I am pleased to support the Art Department in launching a series of Creative Careers talks with a lunchtime talk given by old girl, Lucy Hayes, who runs her own fashion design company. Abi Booth, also an old girl, and a practising artist, is booked for the next talk, on November 4th. Other lunchtime talks planned include a historic buildings/conservation surveyor organized by the History department, and one from Christina Astin, an old girl, advertising her Young Scientist's Journal, in which she encourages the girls to publish their scientific work. This last is in response to a request for speakers by Lower Sixth Biology Club run by Amy Shaw and Amber Davison.

The Lower Sixth Teambuilding trip to Caroty Wood very early in the term, was a great success. It was a good opportunity to welcome the new girls, with staff members and girls getting to know each other better. Their first PSHE lesson gave them the chance to learn and practise new study skills in their forms, and in October we welcomed a speaker from the University of Surrey to give a talk on the topic "Why Go To University?" Feedback was positive, with a lively question and answer time at the end. At the same time, the Upper Sixth girls were given the opportunity to use their first two PSHE lessons to finish their UCAS applications and personal statements, and in October a speaker from the University of Kent gave a presentation about "Best Practice In Interviews" at the end of which she gave individual interviews to brave volunteers, Hattie Montgomery and Gemma Pring, in front of the group. They were very fluent, accomplished interviewees, and were given an enthusiastic round of applause.

Mrs Bridget Elinson, Independent Careers Advisor, has been coming into school every Tuesday, carrying out one to one interviews with Year 11 girls, and speaking to other girls during drop-in sessions at lunchtime. Any pupil who would like to see Mrs Elinson, or to have a chat with me, is very welcome to drop in and/or make an appointment at any time.

Physics D&T Bloodhound SSC Trip - 15 September – Mr Speller

The Lower Sixth classes from both the Physics and D&T departments went on a trip to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Faversham for a day of activities organised by the Bloodhound SSC team. Bloodhound SSC is the successor to the Trust SSC project and is aiming to break the land speed record next year, by reaching speeds over 1000mph. The day was targeted towards allowing pupils to see the how their chosen subjects are being applied in the real world by engineers. Amongst the highlights of the day was a tour of the full scale model of the car, including a driving simulator. The day culminated with a competition between the attending schools to design and construct a scale model of a car to travel as fast as possible across a 15 metre track using compressed air. This competition was narrowly won by one of the TWGGS teams made up of Ellis Fish, Jessica Horsley, Rebecca Rogers, Megan Tucker and Eleanor Newman. It was calculated that if their model were life size, it would have easily exceeded 1200mph! As reward for winning the competition, the group will have their names printed on the top wing of the actual car when it breaks the land speed record next year. The whole group really enjoyed the day and a few have been inspired to become engineers in the future.

Psychology Department – Mrs Burgess and Miss Paterson

This year's World Mental Health Day on 10 October shone a light on schizophrenia, a major topic in A Level Psychology. As part of their learning the Upper Sixth classes have been producing educational posters and presentations to explain the causes of distressing symptoms such as hallucinations and delusions. They have been examining the latest treatments offered to people with a diagnosis of schizophrenia, including psychologically based 'talking' therapies as an alternative to biologically based drug therapies. Pupils have also been exploring the more controversial issues surrounding the classification and diagnosis of schizophrenia, including the anti-psychiatry movement which is campaigning for the abandonment of the label 'schizophrenia' in favour of concentrating on symptoms experienced by individuals. We have discussed NHS funding, including the 'poor relation' status of mental compared with physical health. Some pupils in both the Upper and Lower Sixth classes have expressed an interest in the fundraising activities suggested on the Mental Health Awareness Day website:-

<http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/world-mental-health-day/world-mental-health-day-2014/?view=Standard>

Megan Bruce-Smythe, L6W

Congratulations to Megan Bruce-Smythe, who has been selected to play stoolball for the England U21 team.

Molly Sacker, 10I

Congratulations to Molly Sacker, who was placed 4th in the U15 girls' Zhik Topper Sailing World Championships.

Harriet Montgomery, U6G – JRPC Hockey

Congratulations to Harriet, who has reached Tier 2 and could access selection for England if she is successful in the next few months.

Caitlin Fearon 10S – British National Swimming Championships

Caitlin Fearon competed in the ASA British National Swimming Championships in July 2014, held in Sheffield. She achieved a fantastic silver medal in the 800m Freestyle, only 0.4 of a second behind first place! She then gained a bronze medal in the 400m Freestyle. What a way to start the new school year. Fantastic result, Caitlin!

Nicola Dawson, 8W

Congratulations to Nicola Dawson, 8W, who came 3rd in Table Tennis England's South East Regional qualifier in the U15 age group, held on 4th October. This takes her through to the National Table Tennis Finals which will be held in Preston in November.

U19 Group Winners at the County Netball Tournament – Thursday 2nd October – Miss Auer

TWGGGS U19 team members were keen to start this year's campaign to get to the County Netball Finals. They started the tournament with a bang by beating Simon Langton 23-0. Shooters Lily Wadsworth, Katherine Taylor and Harriett Gomersall set the tone for the tournament with consistently accurate shooting and excellent movement skills in the circle. Once the first game was out of the way, there was no stopping the girls. Against Highworth TWGGGS won 15-2 and demonstrated excellent defending skills throughout the court. Hattie Montgomery, Georgie Bailey, and Eleanor Durr were inspiring to watch throughout the day, with some vital turnovers to keep TWGGGS in complete control. Centre court players Emma Johnson, Antonia Murray, Lydia Slaughter and Rose Hairs played with excellent agility and speed to get free from opponents and linked the play between defence and attack smoothly. There were some excellent feeds into the circle which the shooters were able to convert with ease. The girls went on to beat Cranbrook 17-4, Walthamstow Hall 17-4, Hayes 31-0, and Dartford Grammar Boys 2, 22-4. All players played exceptionally well together, with TWGGGS only conceding 9 goals over 6 matches and scoring a total of 125 goals. The girls thoroughly deserved to win all of their matches in the group and have now gained a place at the County Finals on 6th December.

HOCKEY – County Tournament Results – Miss Parkinson

The U16 Hockey Team

TWGGGS started well beating Colfes 2-0 with goals from George Cremin and Helena Weatherseed. TWGGGS then drew with Kent College Pembury 0-0, despite having most of the possession during the game. TWGGGS played fantastically well against Kings Canterbury and secured a 0-0 draw. Finally they drew 1-1 with Highworth, thanks to an excellent strike from George Cremin. TWGGGS narrowly won the group on goal difference and met local rivals Tonbridge Grammar in the quarter final. This was a tense match: George Cremin gave TWGGGS the lead but TGS fought back to earn a draw. Penalty flicks followed. TWGGGS held their nerve and excellent flicks from George Cremin, Lucy Fyson and Miar Murphy, along with three excellent saves from goalkeeper Maddy Wood, sent TWGGGS into a semi-final against Cranbrook. TWGGGS battled hard in this match and it was an excellent game of hockey. Cranbrook scored only one of two goals against a solid TWGGGS defence all day, but it was enough to win them the game. TWGGGS should be very proud of their performances throughout the day; they only lost to Cranbrook who went on to win the tournament. Well played to everyone in the squad:- Maddy Wood, Miar Murphy, Bethany Hemsley, Genevieve Hull, Emma Wadsworth, Lucy Fyson ©, Immy Cowdell, Iszy Furminger, Lottie Bishop, Annie Godfrey, Helena Weatherseed, Katie Nunn, Lucy Sandeman, Emily Shailer, George Cremin, Molly Sacker.

The 1st X1 had a tough section. They started well, beating Kent College Pembury 2-0; they then drew with St Lawrence 1-1 and lost narrowly to a strong Kings side 1-0. TWGGGS progressed to the quarter finals on goal difference where they met Sutton Valence. It was a close game but TWGGGS just lost out to two excellent strikes from the Sutton Valence strikers. Captain Hattie Montgomery led the side very well, scoring vital goals. The defenders stuck to their task well and the midfield showed great energy levels. Well played to everyone in the squad:- Lizzie Bishop, Eirllys Withers, Hattie Montgomery©, Claire Hunt, Grace Paul, Maddie Groom, Esther Edwards, Rose Hairs, Sophia Wilson, Ant Murray, Amy Byers, Katherine Taylor, Hannah Lutch, Jess Cameron, India Hicks.

The U14 Hockey Team

The U14 Hockey team beat St Edmunds 1-0; St Lawrence 1-0 and lost to Sevenoaks 2-0 and drew with Simon Langton 0-0. Goals were scored by Olivia Sherry, Connie Howard and Jemima Morris. They met Kent College in the quarter final. TWGGGS went behind early in the game but they showed tremendous determination and perseverance and scored a late goal through Olivia Sherry to earn a draw. The final whistle went and TWGGGS had to take part in a penalty flick competition to decide who went through to the semi-final. Goalkeeper Rosie Neville made 2 good saves and Connie Howard and Amber Maywood held their nerve to score the 2 vital goals for TWGGGS to win 2-1. TWGGGS met Sevenoaks in the semi-final and despite their best efforts were beaten. Sevenoaks were the only team that TWGGGS lost to all day, and did go on to win the tournament. Well played to everyone:- Rosie Neville GK, Kate Daw, Beth Slatter, Emma Akers-Douglas, Mimi Franklin, Ayesha White, Jemima Morris, Connie Howard ©, Holly Challingsworth, Imogen Smith, Olivia Sherry, Amber Maywood, Elise Overd.

The U13 Hockey Team

The U13 team played in their tournament which is 7-a-side for this age group. The team beat Duke of York and then lost to Tonbridge Grammar. TWGGGS went through to the quarter finals but they had to play against Kings Canterbury, an extremely strong

side. TWGGS did their best but Kings were excellent and deserved to win the game. TWGGS gained a great deal of experience which will help them to improve. Eleanor Godfrey was outstanding in defence, Jasmine Lewtas showed brilliant stamina midfield and striker Tatiana Sneddon had some good shots at goal. Well played to all:- Olivia Moran, Tatiana Sneddon, Rosie Peacock, Jasmine Lewtas, Eleanor Godfrey, Florence Byers, Sarah Barnaby, Rachel Moran, Scout Duthie, Rosie Crotty.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

Please can I remind you that we do collect clothes, books, music and accessories for the British Heart Foundation. Their recycling bins can be found at the back of the school site, in the car park beside the Performing Arts Centre.

PTA NEWS

Our main target this year continues to be to raise funds to cover the cost of the new floodlights for the netball courts (estimated to be £40,000). These are being installed during the October half-term break; school funds have covered the long-overdue refurbishment of the courts themselves and the smart replacement fencing, and the PTA has committed to cover the cost of the floodlights. These will benefit the whole school, enabling outdoor sports lessons throughout the year in all periods and after-school CCF parades /cheerleading practices and netball/hockey practices and matches all year round.

We have started the fundraising year with a very enjoyable fancy dress sponsored walk. Thanks to all the staff and parent helpers who helped make the event a success. It is lovely to see the whole school come together for such events. If you haven't yet sent in your sponsor form, please do so, or donate online at mydonate.bt.com/events/twggs2014. The prizes for the forms returning the most sponsor forms will be awarded just after the half term break, so please ensure your daughters have handed in any sponsor forms that may be lurking in their school bags!

On the social front, in September, the PTA held the first in the series of KS3 discos – restricted to Y7 only. It was a well-attended enjoyable event (for both girls and parent helpers!) and provided the Y7s with a chance to get together and meet up with old friends from Skinners and TWGGSB. The next disco will be on November 28th for Y7 & Y8 and tickets will go on sale in the week leading up to the disco. We are also investigating the possibility of a 'parent and daughter' social event on November 21st– please watch out for a parentmail regarding this.

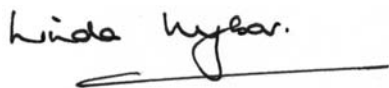
On December 12th during the school lunch hour, we will be holding a Christmas bring and buy sale and chocolate tombola (for the girls only), so please take the time to look out donations of good as new unwanted gifts – we will be sending out a request for these and chocolate for the tombola nearer the time - again, please watch out for the parentmail.

As always, we are in need of parents to help at our events – if you are interested, then please sign up to help at <http://twggspta.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=6728> We have a very dedicated committee who manage all the events, but are always on the lookout for parents who are prepared to turn up and help on the night as a one-off commitment.

Thank you for your support in getting this academic year off to such a fantastic start. - pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk

Finally, may I just remind you all that girls must be in winter uniform after the half-term holiday. We would be particular grateful if parents could please check the length of skirts, in order to ensure that these meet our uniform requirements.

With best wishes,



Mrs L Wybar
Head Teacher