

Dear Parent/Guardian

Sadly, it is time to say goodbye at the end of this year to several members of TWGGGS staff: Miss Auer and Mrs Kimber have covered maternity leaves in P.E. and Geography respectively, and we have hugely appreciated their dedication and enthusiasm. Miss Auer leaves to teach P.E. at St Leonard's Mayfield and Mrs Kimber embarks on an exciting challenge as Chief Executive Officer of Rwanda Aid; we wish them both every future success. Miss Paterson plans to marry next year and, in advance of that, she and her fiancé are relocating to Manchester, their home area. She will be hugely missed for her inspirational teaching and dedication to Sixth Form girls in particular. Miss Guy also leaves this year, having decided to pursue a career teaching fitness; we are especially grateful to her for introducing cheerleading to TWGGGS, for masterminding the gym/ dance workshare and for her enthusiasm and commitment. (The staff will miss their Friday fitness sessions after school!)

Mrs Curtis joined TWGGGS 8 years ago, and was quickly promoted to Curriculum Leader in Art, where she has encouraged and inspired girls to some amazingly creative, risk-taking artistic ventures. She is stepping out of teaching for a while in order to spend time with her family, and we wish her well. Mrs Wilson has taught KS3 Food Technology here for 11 years, and anyone who has experienced Mrs Wilson's lessons could not fail to be impressed by its focus and pace! She is retiring from teaching, but can so do confident in the knowledge that there are hundreds of TWGGGS girls competent in essential life skills, thanks to her.

22 years ago, Mrs Lodge joined TWGGGS as a French teacher, later being promoted to Curriculum Leader in 2008, a role she has fulfilled admirably. It was Mrs Lodge's determination and enthusiasm that ensured, for example, we secured a new French exchange, when the previous one withered, forging strong links with our exchange school in Bordeaux; and she has enthused and encouraged a great many girls to pursue their love of languages well beyond TWGGGS. Mrs Lodge leaves us to retire, living between France and her new home on the south coast; I know she is particularly looking forward to being able to spend more time with her family in France, and we wish her every happiness.

Earlier this week, we held a special assembly to say farewell to Mrs Newton, who has taught at TWGGGS her whole career, a very special 37 years of service to the school. Throughout this time, she has assumed an impressive range of roles, having been, for example, Head of Year in KS4 and in charge of Careers, and she is an exceptional form tutor; what has been completely consistent is the fact that she always puts girls first, with their best interests at heart. She is, quite simply, an outstanding Chemistry teacher, who has led the department to its present very successful position, where girls excel in their academic study, uptake at A Level is high, and Sixth Formers are enthused to pursue related courses and careers beyond school – what a wonderful legacy. At a recent Old Girls' reunion, women who had been taught by Mrs Newton in the mid-1980s were overheard to reminisce that, "Mrs Newton was scary, but absolutely **the** best Chemistry teacher;" little has changed! We struggle to imagine TWGGGS without Mrs Newton; it truly is the end of an era, and we are delighted that she has offered to spend a little time here next year, supporting the Chemistry department under Mr Jones' leadership. We wish her the very happiest of retirements.

Georgie Grant, L6T – Mrs Wybar

Many congratulations to Georgie, who has been selected to represent Great Britain at rowing in the Junior World Championships in Rio de Janeiro in August. As I write, she is with the GB team in Molesey training hard; we are very proud of her and wish her lots of luck.

Bethan Harvey-Little, 10W, Trampoline Success – Miss Guy

Bethan has had an absolutely amazing year in trampolining. She has not only competed for the school, she has also competed at National club level, as well as assisting with coaching and admin for the sport. Bethan started this year's National trampolining league in 5th place, then in her first competition in Burgess Hill, she came 1st out of 45. In Hull, Bethan then came 1st out of 35 in both competitions: she went into first place after completing her set routine, and after her voluntary routine she went into the finals in 1st place, holding on to win both competitions. Bethan also competed in the Regional trampolining competition in April where she again came 1st and qualified up to regional open. Meanwhile at school, Bethan qualified with some of her team mates to the Kent School Trampolining Finals at Gillingham back in March. Here she demonstrated her amazing talent and took 2nd place. To top off such an amazing season Bethan was nominated for an award at the Kent Sports Award, as U16 gymnast of the year. Bethan must be congratulated on her achievements this year and thanked for her outstanding attitude and commitment to trampolining. Sian Harvey-Little (Bethan's mother) must also be mentioned and thanked for her role as volunteer coach this year at TWGGGS. She has given up many evenings after school, voluntarily, to coach and prepare the TWGGGS team for competitions.

Thank you – Mrs Wybar

A very big thank you to Steve Daly of ID&C Ltd, who kindly produced free lanyards and name cards for our recent Old Girls' reunion. He has also offered to produce bespoke lanyards for the school at no cost to us. We are very grateful to him.

Kent Psychology Teacher of the Year – Mrs Burgess

When the invitation came through for nominations for 'Teacher of the Year' I had no hesitation in putting forward Miss Paterson, in the Psychology category, which she won. The ceremony at Leeds Castle was suitably grand, with a plaque and certificates to mark Miss Paterson's achievement, presented by David Starkey. Since her arrival two years ago as a newly qualified teacher, she has worked relentlessly, and with great care for our AS and A Level pupils. Her creative use of a plastic fly swat in the aptly named game of 'Splat', 'Geek of the Week' certificates to reward excellent work, and countless other Miss Paterson innovations will be remembered long in the TWGGS Psychology and Sociology department. As well as her teaching, we will also miss her excellent home baked cookies; with such a range of talents, she is sure to have an equally successful time in her new school.

Budding creative writers scoop top prizes in National Short Story Week Young Writer 2015 competition

We know that we have a lot of creative literary talent in our school, but it is nice to have that externally validated. Amber Lahdelma in Year 7 was chosen as the overall winner AND the winner of the "Year 7 girls" category for her short story "The Promise" which we submitted to the 2015 National Short Story competition. She beat some 2500 competitors to win the prestigious top prize and her story will be published in an anthology. But TWGGS did not just win one prize – Abigail McDougall scooped the runner-up prize in the "Year 8 girls" category and will have her story published too; whilst Anne de Putter received a special mention for her story and Lauren Grant and Hannah Godsmark were both considered to be creative writers of a high standard. And last but not least, TWGGS has received a "special commendation" for the quality of the work from all our entrants.

Indian Exchange – M Anupama (Teacher at Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Girinagar)

The Programme for Educational and Cultural Exchange (PEACE) 2014-2015 between TWGGS, The Judd School and Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Girinagar has been a great success. It has been a wonderful experience playing the role of a host and, even more exciting, that of a guest. Our three-week long stay in the UK has whizzed by in a jiffy, making us leave it with a heavy heart, filled with beautiful moments to cherish for a lifetime. Now that it is close to the time to head back home to India, it feels like we are going to be detached from our 'new' families who have looked after us so well. The evenings spent together with our hosts and guests for shopping, sightseeing and dining, made us feel as if we were a part of a global family, so tightly bound, that it will be hard to leave. We were completely blown away by the beautiful English landscapes, flora and fauna, food, castles, historical monuments and the warmth of the English people. We had previously only seen pictures of these in our books, but now we were wonder struck by the beauty of the landscape; even the weather has been favourable! I am truly thankful to all who volunteered their time. Every person is committed to keeping the exchange programme going strong and it is really inspiring to see.

Some comments from the girls from Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Girinagar:

- "We are having a lovely time here and I'm sure I'll miss all of this terribly when I go back"
- "My host family is very friendly, loyal, caring and responsible"
- "This trip has indeed changed my way of thinking in a good way"
- "I have forged strong bonds with many here and I will never forget them"
- "They have treated me like family and made me lots of good dishes...I loved strawberries and cheesecake"
- "The trip to Thorpe Park, Dunorlan Park, all the trips to London and 'The Lion King' were the best experiences"
- "They gave me another view into a very different culture"

Teachers' Institute at the Houses of Parliament – Mr Walker

I was very fortunate to spend a week of intensive teacher training and enrichment at the Houses of Parliament recently. As one of 75 delegates from across the UK and Commonwealth, I had the opportunity to attend debates in both chambers and witness at first hand the spectacle that is Prime Minister's Questions. My personal highlight was an inspiring address from Baroness Warsi, who in 2010 became the first Muslim to be appointed to the cabinet. She spoke candidly about the challenges facing the Muslim community in Britain today. I came away with a much clearer understanding of how the political system works and plenty of ideas for use in the classroom.

Lower Sixth Production – Mrs Davis

This year marks the fourth annual Lower Sixth Production at TWGGS. The current Theatre Studies class continued this tradition with the help of four Skinners boys and a number of keen thespians from their year group. In just four weeks, the cast and crew of 30 managed to create a unique interpretation of Lewis Carol's "Alice in Wonderland". With the support of Emilia Latchford (assistant director), Lucia Battain and Olivia Capon-Russell (choreographers), the audience were taken down the rabbit-hole, into a surreal dream world. Alice, played beautifully by Anna Harvey, mesmerised the audience with her subtle interpretation of the complicated role, showing a tremendous understanding of Carol's coming-of-age tale.

Working collaboratively, the cast subverted previous versions, to present a physical and bizarre adaptation of the text. The White Rabbit, played by Tara O'Sullivan, was both endearing and strange, catapulting the audience through 60 minutes of imaginative drama against a monochrome backdrop courtesy of Laura Barrett's breath-taking set design. The animals (played by Lulu Carter, Eloise Fletcher, Jess Horsley, Jenny Winter and Hayley Winter), brought enormous fun to the piece with a 30 second Caucus Race and poor behaviour in the calamitous trial scene. Dressed in costumes lovingly made by the talented Pauline Westhuizen, the girls certainly looked the part!

Jess Horsley (Duchess) accompanied by Lulu Carter (Cook), continued to entertain the audience with their tempestuous kitchen sequence to an underscore of Spanish Matador music. The Hatter's Tea Party, complete with a living table and props suspended in the air, was also entertaining! Charlie Elsesser (Mad Hatter), Alice Liley/Phoebe Segal (March Hare) and Victoria Roxburgh (Dormouse) successfully frustrated Alice with their bizarre party antics in a highly complicated sequence. The iconic croquet scene featured tropical plants, Sophia Willis (as one of the soldiers), physical theatre and a waltz! Sabrina Carlton (Queen of Hearts) was mesmerising alongside her downtrodden husband, Louis Robinson (the King). Making her unexpected entrance to "Come Fly With Me", the audience were engrossed in Sabrina's highly inventive and controlled portrayal from the outset.

Ella Shamwana, played Alice's big sister with conviction, brought the dream sequence to a close as the piece reached its denouement. The poetic finale, in which Alice exclaims, "Why you're nothing but a pack of cards" concluded with the ensemble throwing dozens of playing cards into the air as Alice returned to reality. This sequence, and indeed the entire production, benefitted from the technical contribution of James Dean and Jordon Wilkes who designed the lighting and sound for the production. Not only did they take great care to craft a complicated design, they worked in a highly professional manner, giving generously of their personal time and expertise. We would like to thank Beth Mercer, Izzie Martin, Becky Rogers and Beth Sheppard for their support throughout the production; they were on-hand to make props, help with make-up and function as a wonderful Front of House team. Finally, a special mention goes to Emma Yuen for her accomplished and instinctive piano playing, which seamlessly held the production together.

Year 9 Drama Festival Review - By Thuraya Lawal and Beth Slatter 9T

This year, yet again, there was a wonderful array of Year 9 productions put on, all with particularly inventive and individual ideas.

We started with a well-known classic - Alice In Wonderland, performed by 9I. This form executed two brilliant scenes - the infamous tea party scene as well as a contrasting Queen of Hearts scene. It was a fantastic performance from all participating, particularly Ruby Llewellyn, winning best supporting actor as the Rabbit, and Isabel Kidd as best actor as the Mad Hatter. 9I had some especially good hair and make-up, however all elements of their production were impressive and they took away both the PR prize (best promotion) and the "Best Set" award, with an intricate tea-party scene set up in a shoe-box, which matched the theme of the production very well.

9S presented another classic, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, with the well-known discovery of Narnia, and the darker scene of the killing of Aslan. Again, these scenes complemented each other well, because of the sheer difference between the lighter first scene, ending with a darker scene, which had everyone on the edge of their seats. They were very inventive with the way they entered Narnia, with the wardrobe in front of the curtains, and a completely different world behind. It was not all completely serious. However, with the best supporting actor award going to Kasia Debowiec for her humorous role as Santa Claus, and the well-deserved best actor award going to Emma Lash as Mr. Beaver. 9S took the award for "Best Sound and Lighting".

Peter Pan was a play that everybody was looking forward to, and 9W certainly met everybody's expectations with their fantastic performance. Again, we had two very different scenes, the first being the nursery scene, introducing the Darling children, Peter Pan and Tinkerbell, followed by a dramatic boat scene, where Captain Hook tries to make the children walk the plank. Captain Hook was played brilliantly by Eliza Grant, who won best supporting actor, however it was Cass Palmer-Stirling, playing an excellent Peter Pan, who took away the best actor award. Peter Pan took the award for "Most Visually Exciting" performance.

As if we hadn't already seen enough amazing drama, we had the treat of watching Daisy Pulls It Off, by 9G. It was a humorous, light-hearted production, set at an all-girls school. We first had introductions to the characters, which showed how the actors knew their role, and they definitely carried them off confidently. For their first scene, 9G had a funny classroom scene, which certainly set the mood, with a clever way of showing their method of initiation of new students. In the second scene, we saw an imaginative and inventive way of playing a hockey match on stage. It was interesting, with an aesthetically pleasing set and use of space. The best supporting role went to Hettie Rockell as Miss Granville in the first scene; however, the best actor award easily went to the main character, Hannah Roberts playing Daisy Meredith. 9G took the award for "Most Effective Use of Space".

Last, but not least, we had a production of Toad of Toad Hall, performed by 9T. They had extremely good contrasting scenes, presenting different emotions and friendships throughout. In the prologue we saw the characters come to life, and the first scene introduced the characters very well, especially after a dramatic entrance from Toad. During the scene change, we saw live music and a narration from Beth Slatter and Lily Montague, whilst Toad, Ratty, Mole and Badger made their way to Toad Hall. In the second scene, we saw new characters introduced - the Weasels of the Wild Wood, who carried out their roles and danced confidently, with a rather full-on performance from the weasels in the audience. The best supporting actor award went to Lily Montague as the Narrator/Alfred, and the best actor award went to Immie McArdle-Hodge for her performance as Badger. Lucia Caligaris-Adams won the best actor in festival award for her performance as Toad. 9T won the Drama Cup for Best Play award. It was a great evening and thanks should go to the English and Drama teachers, the background/technical support staff, Mr Speller, Mr Bartlett and Mrs Norman-Read and all the prefects who helped on the day. Particular thanks to our guest adjudicator, Mrs Vivienne Reid-Brown and her two assistant adjudicators, Laura Barrett (Senior Drama Prefect) and Jess Horsley.

Debating – Mrs Johnstone

TWGGGS debaters have had a good year, although the playing field has become rather uneven as a result of so many private schools now hiring professional debating coaches. Once again, we made it to the Finals Day of the Oxford, Cambridge and International Competition for Young Debaters (ICYD) Finals Days, showing there is strength in depth through all the age ranges. Our most notable triumphs this year were in the Mace competition, where we won through the Regional rounds, and at the highly competitive Bristol University Competition; U6 debaters Polly Smythe and Ellie Drewry won the overall competition, with Y11 pupils Eve Drysdale and Rachel Weatherley also making it into the final and performing extremely well. Eve then went on to become the top scoring female debater at the recent Worlds style tournament held by the English Speaking Union at Ibstock School in June, coming tenth overall in a top field of debaters, many of whom will be vying for selection for the national team next year. I am delighted that Eve and Molly Hockley will be taking part in the prestigious Debate Academy training school over the summer.

It is with a heavy heart however that I have to say farewell to the extremely talented crop of U6 debaters who have been such stalwarts of TWGGGS debating since junior years, and who have achieved enormous success over the years. In addition to the massive commitment they have made to their own debating, they have been really generous with their time and expertise in supporting younger debaters. Polly Smythe has been a superb Debating Prefect, who has worked hard to help the junior debaters, especially those in KS3; her enthusiasm and lively intelligence, and general support and friendliness to all will be much missed. Coco Collard has similarly massively supported the KS4 debaters, who I know are very grateful to her for her time and energy, as am I. Ellie Drewry has also been a terrific help, stepping in to help with running debates and judging when required. I am sure they will go on to achieve success in their chosen fields, and hope that they will continue with their debating.

It is pleasing that ex TWGGGS students have continued to make waves in the debating world at university level, with Harriet Tooze as Director of Debating at Durham, and Elle May, a past Debating Prefect, selected to represent Bristol in competition in Europe.

Parents' Reading Group – Mrs Johnstone

The TWGGGS Parents' Reading Group has continued to meet in members' houses throughout the year, and would be very pleased to welcome new members. We are a very informal, friendly group; it doesn't matter if you can't make every meeting, or indeed if you haven't read all the books! If anyone is looking for a recommended good read for the summer, the group's favourite novel this year was 'The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry' by Rachel Joyce. We have, as always, set ourselves some ambitious targets for summer holiday reading, all of them set around the turn of the twentieth century, to be discussed at our next meeting on Wednesday 30 September:

- 'Arthur and George' by Julian Barnes, a gripping and entertaining novel based on Conan Doyle's real-life attempt to clear the half-Indian George Edalji of a crime he did not commit
- 'The Children's Book' by A S Byatt, a fascinating novel with a massive cast which follows the adventures of several inter-related families, adults and children, from 1895 through to WW1, and which is loosely based on the life of children's writer E Nesbit
- 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles' by Thomas Hardy, a dramatic novel about the ill-fated Tess, whom Hardy (shockingly, at the time) sought to present as a pure, innocent girl rather than the fallen woman so despised in the Victorian period

Anyone who is interested in joining the group should contact beverley.johnstone@twggs.sch.kent.uk

TWGGGS Poetry Party 2015 – Mr Russell

On Wednesday 17th June the English and Science Departments hosted the TWGGGS Poetry Party 2015 in the Performing Arts Centre. An enthusiastic audience of parents, relatives, friends, teachers and pupils were treated to some of the best poetry from TWGGGS girls and also pupils from Skinners Kent Academy and local primary schools. The theme for the TWGGGS Poetry Competition 2015 was "Home" and there were over 200 entries; winners and runner-ups from several categories were selected by Dr Jennifer Cooke, published poet and Senior Lecturer in English at Loughborough University and currently Visiting Scholar at the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing, Wolfson College, Oxford University.

The Party began with the winners of the Science Poetry Competition. This is a cross-curricula competition run by the Science and English departments. Year 7 pupils witness a range of exciting and extraordinary experiments and then use their writing skills to turn the experience into a poem. The winning entries were entertaining and impressive in the range of techniques so skilfully used to bring the experiments to life. Mr Jones from the Chemistry department awarded the prizes to the winners:

7T : untitled by Amy Lowe

7W: "Whoosh Bottle" by Juliette Redfern

7I: "Gas Rocket" by Amy Partridge

7G : "The Whoosh Bottle" by Emily Blackwell

7S: "Anticipation" by Lucie Scoble

Winning Year 7 Poem: "The Flaming Hand" by Emily Martin 7W

The second part of the Party focused on the School Poetry Competition. Dr Cooke, spoke of her own career and interests and inspirations and read her own poem "No One Sleeps", inspiring the pupils and preparing the audience for some of the darkness that appeared in some of the competition poems! First to perform, were St John's Primary, Bishops Down Primary and Skinners Kent Academy. Confident reading of great poems by these winners:

Bishop's Down Runner-up: "Home" by Jack Warner

Bishop's Down Winner: "My Home!!!!" by Molly Williams

St John's Runner-up: "Home" by Hannah Goodwin

St John's Winner: "Home" by Joseph Barker

Skinners Kent Academy Runner-up: "Home" by Cerys Crook

Skinners Kent Academy Runner-up: "Home" by Thorne Stopps

Skinners Kent Academy Winner: "Home" by Ella Hague

Then it was the turn of the TWGGGS poets. The girls read the poems with great confidence and a range of techniques were skilfully employed to produce some vivid and thought-provoking pictures of what exactly "home" might mean. Congratulations to the winners; deservedly stepping up to take their certificates and prizes were:

Year 7 Runner-up: "Home" by Zoe Harris

Year 7 Winner: "Home" by Amy Partridge

Year 8 Runner-up: "Home" by Rebecca Connell

Year 8 Winner: "Home" by Sophie Isbell

Year 9 Runner-up: "These Four Walls" Imogen Ellis

Year 9 Winner: "That's Them" by Hannah Naismith

KS4 Runner-up: "Where is Home?" by Sally Connell

KS4 Winner: "Lock" by Anna Brian

Sixth Form Runner-up: "Aubirde" by Polly Smythe

Sixth Form Winner: untitled by Jess Horsley

Thanks to all the pupils who entered the competition, helping to make the standard so high; to Dr Cooke for judging and presenting; and to all the staff and English prefects who helped behind the scenes. and we look forward to the Poetry Party 2016!

World Languages Day 2015 – Julia Talbot, 8S

A group of twenty girls from Year 8 were selected to go on World Language Day at Kent University where we did a range of activities based on different languages. There were introductions to certain languages like Arabic, theatre plays and workshops, African Drumming and a European Quiz. I watched a Spanish play, whilst others saw a French play; every girl had a different timetable, including things such as a Spanish drama workshop and an introduction to Ancient Greek where we learnt the alphabet and translated words from Greek to English and vice versa. In the afternoon, I had African drumming with a really enthusiastic "Uncle George" who got us all signing and drumming to nursery rhymes on authentic African drums. We then met for a final time for the face off between teams for the European Quiz Final; thanks to Mrs Lloyd-Jones, Mrs Collard and the University of Kent.

News from the Art Department – Mrs Curtis

It has been an incredibly busy term in the Art department with girls working hard to submit their GCSE and A Level work in time for assessment, exhibition and moderation. We were delighted to welcome teachers, parents, pupils and friends to celebrate this fantastic work. The A Level filled 4 rooms to the brim, overflowing into the lobby and stairwell areas with hugely varied and individual work. The most frequent comment from those looking round was that they were overwhelmed by the sheer quantity and quality of work produced – definite testament to the girls' hard work! To describe the work would take pages, so it is best to look

out for our spread of images in the forthcoming glossy magazine. Miss Newby and I wish the U6 all the best; we are pleased that so many are going onto creative career pathways – five to study Architecture and four enter Art Foundation courses.

Following a two week turnaround to take down the A Level, put up, mark and moderate the GCSE, we were relieved to finally get to the GCSE Art exhibition. Again, with an excellent turnout, parents and teachers were treated to a fantastic display of the girls' work. Even though we were all sweltering in the heat, people couldn't help but enthuse about the diversity and quality of work this year. It seems that this year group are another creative cohort as we expect large numbers to go on to study A Level next year. At the time of writing I am currently surrounded by piles of work ready to be stored and the task of clearing my cupboard out for Miss Hefetz who starts in September. It is truly an exhausting mission at this time of year, but it is the passion of the girls for their work and the opportunity to display and celebrate such stunning work that makes it all worth it.

Careers Department – Mrs Vallely

In May, we held the annual PSHE session where the U6th share with the L6th girls their experiences with applying to university or an apprenticeship, or organising a gap year. It is always a popular session which the girls in both year groups find very helpful. In June we organised a Personal Statement Writing workshop for the L6th girls. Grace Joyce, from the University of Sussex gave a presentation with ideas and guidance on getting started. She was an engaging speaker and went down well with the majority of the girls, who should now be well on their way with their UCAS applications. The workshop was also useful more generally for any girls who may not be applying for university, as the advice given can be used on any job or apprenticeship application. Mrs Elinson, independent careers adviser, made herself available to the L6th girls during PSHE when they were given time to log on to the UCAS website and start their application, and during the final PSHE lesson of the year she was able to run Morrisby online testing for the few Year 10 girls who missed the session in May. She will be available in school to give advice on August 14th (the day after the A Level Results are published) and again on August 21st (the day after the GCSE Results are published).

Last week, continuing with our series of talks on Creative Careers, we were very pleased to welcome Mr Ian Drysdale to give a talk at lunchtime on a career in the theatre. Mr Drysdale is well known to the school as he runs drama workshops during the holidays, and is very supportive of the Drama department, and we were delighted to welcome him to hear his fascinating insights into the highs and lows of working in the theatrical profession. The event was well-attended by a number of girls from all years. We have almost reached the assessment of stage 1 of the Investors in Careers Award, and look forward to working on stage 2 in the new academic year. Looking ahead, dates for the diary will be the Careers Evenings in November, run jointly by TWGGS, The Skinners' School, and Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys. More information will be forthcoming in due course

In June, we welcomed a speaker from The Anthony Nolan Trust, who talked to L6th about the importance of thinking about registering as a bone marrow donor. No pressure was brought to bear on the girls, but a number signed up to be contacted.

Year 8 Trip to Bewl Water – Thea Pengelly, 8T

On Friday 19th June, the whole of Year 8 went to Bewl Water on an activity day. We were divided into three groups and took part in three separate activities: orienteering, team building and water sports. Kayaking was a brand new experience for me and I thoroughly enjoyed it. The instructors were friendly and explained what we had to do really clearly. It was really fun and we played numerous different games, even though everyone got slightly drenched! The other water sports that we could have done were raft building and sailing, which I heard from everyone else were really enjoyable too. Also, in the morning, we did orienteering, challenging but good fun! In the afternoon we took part in various team building events: we did the spider web challenge, the swinging rope challenge and a challenge where everyone got very wet! Overall, I really enjoyed the day; it gave me an opportunity to meet new people from other forms as well as having loads of fun and developing teamwork.

CCF - The Cambrian Patrol - Cpl Ellie Miles, 11T

On 24th April a group of eight, all from Year 10 and above, travelled to Brecon Beacons to take part in the prestigious Welsh Cambrian Cadet competition taking place that weekend. The competition was judged on leadership, knowledge, team work, physical fitness and mental robustness. There were ten stands on challenges such as First Aid, Signals, March and Shoot and Section Attack. At each stand there was 100 points up for grabs, with a total of 1000 Points available. It is safe to say that we were all terrified and nervous, enhanced by the fact that we didn't know what to expect. The team consisted of LCpl Wood as scout/grenadier, SSM McCaul as section commander, LCpl Billett, Sergeant Capon-Russell, Sergeant Fish, Cdt Rhoden, LCpl Wadsworth and LCpl Miles. We had to navigate our way across the tough Welsh terrain on our own, in patrol formation, always keeping a look out for any enemy and making sure we got to each stand in the time allotted. The weather was difficult. In the freezing cold we had to set up our bashas in the darkness and survive off of 24hr ration pack of food.

We were lucky enough to come away with the silver award and a medal each. We were not expecting to do as well as this so it was particularly special. It was a great moment for TWGGS CCF especially when our I.C., SSM McCaul was chosen as the best section commander out of the seventeen senior patrols. Overall, it was a brilliant experience and TWGGS looks forward to entering teams in years to come.

CCF Annual Camp – Cpl Goad

Annual camp is considered by most cadets to be the highlight of the CCF year. In the week that the girls spend away, they learn so many new and useful skills to a level that is really impossible to achieve through any other means. This camp took place at Longmoor which was exciting for the cadets, as annual camp had never before been held there and so the girls did not know what to expect. Longmoor did not disappoint. The first day was spent learning survival skills such as different ways to light a fire and even how to properly skin a rabbit. Although some may have baulked at the prospect of this, the girls threw themselves into the activity as always and came away feeling they had learned something really useful. Other activities throughout the week included: a day of ranges, where the girls were able to experience clay pigeon shooting, some for the first time; and a day of personal development, which provided the chance to try rock climbing, mountain biking, archery and kayaking. The cadets also thoroughly enjoyed the day of field craft as it helped them to solidify their knowledge of section attacks, but also provided insight into how rooms are cleared in a hostile environment.

On the day of the competition TWGGS revelled in the chance to compete against so many new and well trained contingents. Congratulations should be awarded to the drill team who secured first place. This is especially impressive as the drill competition was nothing like anything they had faced before - resembling something close to an obstacle course where the marcher had to be blindfolded! Although the girls didn't win either of the other two competitions, both teams gave their all and should be commended for their hard work and effort. Last but not least came the 24 hour exercise. This tends to be the most challenging part of camp for the girls as they are removed from the home comforts of their billet and have to adapt to the situation they are given. Yet again, everybody performed amazingly well- especially the Year 10s, for whom it was their first camp of this sort. The girls were able to practise section attacks, harbour drills and ambushes, all of which have helped to improve their field knowledge for the future. Overall it was an extremely enjoyable camp from which much was gained. It was also a wonderful way to say goodbye to our SSM McCaul who has done a truly remarkable job in her years with the CCF and will be missed by all of the contingent.

CCF - First Aid Competition – Hannah Naismith, 9S

I wasn't sure what to expect when I woke at 5am on Saturday 20th June with just a few hours' sleep, a looming minibus journey to RAF Halton in Oxfordshire and the fact that I was going to a CCF First Aid Competition for the very first time. The competition involved one eight minute group assessment and one four minute individual assessment, both equally daunting. The group test centred on a terrorist attack with two casualties, both with exceptionally realistic injuries, while each individual test varied from person to person, mine being someone who was hypoglycaemic. The day resulted in TWGGS (B) winning best CCF team and going through to the nationals in York. The team consisted of Cadet Rhoden, Cadet Reed and Cadet Naismith led by Cpl. Tester; TWGGS (A) also did extremely well and comprised Cdt. Connell, Cdt. Carew, Cdt. Trebino all led by L.Cpl. Goad. Special thanks to Cdt. Sayers and Howiss for all their help on the day and to 2nd Lt. Naismith and Mr Bubb for taking us. We eagerly await the nationals in October, but perhaps not the 4 hour drive up there though!

CCF - Survival Weekend – Amy Oakeshott, 9S

A survival weekend? In the woods? Are you mad? Those are the questions the Year 9 cadets had running through their head when they were asked whether they wanted to go on a survival weekend on 12th – 14th July at Crowborough Army Camp. Even with the doubts and worries, most of us turned up for a tough, hardworking and exhausting weekend. On the first night we were lucky enough to sleep in a billet but the second night was out in the open in a shelter which we had made ourselves from the forest around us. We had two professionally trained instructors who taught us knife skills, fire lighting skills and how to live off the environment. But the most important thing was the shelter building. All of the cadets went on a rampage around the woods to find sticks, leaves and of course the legendary bracken! It was a rough night with bugs crawling on you, your friend rolling into you, and you then rolling into sticks, but it was all worth it. The weekend finished with a competition involving fire-lighting, knot tying, catapult shooting and blow-dart firing. I, and I'm sure the rest of the group, had a great time and we would like to thank Captain Reynolds, 2nd Lieutenant Field, 2nd Lieutenant Naismith and of course the instructors.

Urgent Year 9 CCF Feedback Required Please!

The Year 9 programme has been updated this year. We would like to hear from any parent or pupil who was connected with the Year 9 programme via the survey below. We wish to continue improving our performance with the CCF and this will help us with future planning. Many thanks for your help in this matter. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TMJPY7X>

Rose Hairs, U61 – Mrs Wybar

Congratulations to Rose, who represents Kent at the English Schools Track and Field Championships at Gateshead in July.

Cricket – Miss Parkinson

Congratulations to the U13 Cricket team, who won the East Kent tournament and then the Kent final which saw them progress to the regional finals in Chelmsford. They won the regional finals and now will take part in the National finals on 10th September at Edgbaston. Well played to everyone in the squad - Alice Atkins, Tatianna Sneddon, Sarah Barnaby ©, Isy Macnutt, Indigo Gentry, Fran Morris, Scout Duthie, Lottie Van De Zanden, Sophie Isbell and Holly Nicholls. I would personally like to thank Mr Willis and Mr Gentry for taking the girls to the Regional finals as I was unable to attend. We wish the girls the very best of luck in September.

Congratulations to the U15 team, on a very successful year winning the Kent Indoor finals and representing Kent at the regional finals where they came 2nd. In the outdoor competition they won the East Kent round, the Kent final and they played exceptionally well at the regional finals where they won all their games. The team also won a hard ball game against Sevenoaks. Well played to all – Georgie Maddison Brown, Eve Dodd, Jane Green, Emily Rundle ©, Millie Holford, Charlotte Knudson, Lara Smith, Emma Cameron, Georgie Newman. Thanks also to Miss Auer and Mr Knudson for taking the team to the regional finals.

Kent Schools Team Tennis Intermediate Final – Friday 26th June – Miss Guy

On Friday 26th June, our U14 team went to Tunbridge Wells Lawn Tennis club for the Kent Schools' Team Tennis Intermediate Final, to play Sevenoaks. The matches were of 2 sets, and all 4 players had to play a singles and doubles match. All matches were intense and of a close nature, with the girls battling at deuce with nearly every game. Captain Elena Holland led the team by example showing some quick and powerful point winning shots. Mickey Holding, Katie Fryza and Connie Howard put up a strong fight throughout. Katie and Connie won their doubles game on tiebreak 10-7 which was a fantastic result. Connie Howard played extremely well in her singles, winning both sets. However unfortunately overall Sevenoaks took the lead and won on matches 4-2. The TWGGS team took the silver medal! An amazing achievement; well done.

Kent School Games Athletics Final 2015, Super 8s - Miss Auer

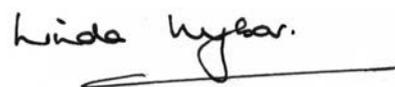
Eight pupils from Key Stage 3 represented Tunbridge Wells in the Kent School Games Final day; teaming up with Tunbridge Wells Boys' Grammar School. There were eleven boroughs competing, after Tunbridge Wells qualifying top at the local meet in April. Many of the pupils selected had not competed in any of the athletic events they were competing in prior to coming to TWGGS.. Each and every girl involved performed well, with many of them gaining personal bests on the day. Particular highlights were; Juliette Redfern and Indigo Gentry coming first and second in the Javelin, Laura Williamson coming joint 1st in the high jump, Aimee Hobley performing exceptionally well in the 75m Hurdles after only being put on the event on the day, Grace Forbes fantastic sprint in the 4x100 relay, Lily Zelezetskii and Darcy Chappell Salmons' efforts running the 200m leg of the medley relay, which helped Tunbridge Wells move from 5th place to finishing 2nd, and Leila Clark's excellent pace in the 800m. Overall, the day was a great success and Tunbridge Wells was awarded 5th place. Well done Juliette Redfern, Indigo Gentry, Aimee Hobley, Grace Forbes, Lily Zelezetski, Laura Williamson, Darcy Chappell Salmon and Leila Clark.

Success For TWGGS First Ever Ski Team - Mrs Murray

In June, TWGGS took part in the Kent Schools' Ski Championships for the first time, having trained at Bowles for several weeks. The Middle team (Evie Ayton, Nejma Nassman, Tia Young and Imogen Ellis) won gold in the Girls' Middle category and came third. The Senior team (Elle Ayton, Millie Young, Imogen Berger-North and Isobel Aylmer) also won gold in their category and came third out of all Senior teams. Elle's second run was the fourth fastest in the Senior Category and Evie's second run was also the fourth fastest in the Middle category. Nejma completed both runs and came 3rd in her category. Tia and Elle also both won separate medals in the team dual slaloms, where pupils from all the schools are put into mixed teams for some fun races to finish off the day. A big congratulations goes to all the girls, being the first time the majority of the girls have raced, and we hope we can repeat this success at future races. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Ayton for organising and managing the team on the day.

Finally, it only remains for me to thank the girls and staff for another outstanding year and to wish you all a very pleasant, relaxing summer break.

With best wishes,



Mrs L Wybar, Headteacher

SCHOOL TRIPS TIMETABLE 2015-2016

** All costs are approximate and subject to change*

YEAR 7

OCTOBER **CARROT WOOD TEAM-BUILDING DAY** for the whole year group - £31.50

MARCH **GEOGRAPHY** day trip to Bluewater for the whole year group - £10

MUSIC theatre trip £30

HISTORY visit by Medieval Re-Enactors £6

JULY **ENGLISH** trip to Regents Park Open Air Theatre - £25

YEAR 8

SEPTEMBER **HISTORY** day visit to Hampton Court - £18

DECEMBER **ENGLISH** evening theatre trip in - £20

MAY **GEOGRAPHY** 1 day coastal fieldtrip - £15

JUNE/JULY **GERMAN** half a day to Europa Centre, Hornchurch Essex, for the whole year group - £30

MUSIC theatre trip - £30

JULY **BEWL WATER** Activity Day for the whole year group - £30

LANGUAGE DAY 20 Gifted and Talented pupils to Canterbury University - £14

YEAR 9

NOVEMBER **GERMAN** 3 days at the Christmas markets in Cologne, 96 places by application - £165

APRIL/MAY **ENGLISH** evening theatre trip - £21

D of E Bronze enrolment £16 + £250 for other expenses

MARCH **ENGLISH** day trip to The Globe Theatre - £23.50

MUSIC theatre trip for prospective GCSE pupils - £26

JUNE **KNAPP HOUSE DEVON** 5 days residential, Mon-Fri for whole year group - £378

JULY **CCF SELF RELIANCE CAMP OUT** staying overnight at TWGGS for prospective CCF cadets and Bronze D of E training

DECEMBER **CCF NEW RECRUITS SIGN UP** – Initial Siberian Tiger Club weekend at Crowborough Military Camp £20

YEAR 10

SEPTEMBER **CCF- TIGER CLUB CAMP** – GP rifle training at Crowborough Camp - £20

OCTOBER	CCF RANGE DAY Shooting at 100m and 300m for cadets at Hythe Ranges in Folkestone - £10
DECEMBER	GERMAN EXCHANGE 1 week, Year 10 to Bad Godesberg. There is a return visit from the German partners in March - £260
JANUARY/FEBRUARY	ART day trip to a gallery for GCSE pupils, Dec/Jan - £20 CCF WEEKEND WARRIOR EXERCISE held at Crowborough Camp where the TWGGS Contingent acts as enemy for Tonbridge School - £20
FEBRUARY	ENGLISH evening theatre trip - £22
MARCH	SPANISH EXCHANGE 6 days to El Escorial-Madrid. There is a return visit made by Spanish partners - £300-£320 CCF MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION weekend competition for the South East - £20 FRENCH EXCHANGE 1 week to La Teste (Aquataine) - £320 MUSIC theatre trip for GCSE pupils - £26
APRIL	CCF EASTER CAMP held in the first week of the Easter Holiday at Folkestone - £60
JUNE	GEOGRAPHY 1 day planning in school, followed by 2 day trips - £35
JULY	D of E Silver enrolment cost £16 + £250 for other expenses CCF ANNUAL CAMP to be held in the penultimate week of the school year. Venue changes each year – approximately £70 OCTOBER CCF CAMP 8 day camp in Folkestone teaching advanced infantry skills - £70
NOVEMBER	DRAMA compulsory matinee Unit 2 performance for GCSE pupils - £25-£30
<hr/>	
<u>YEAR 11</u>	
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER	INDIA EXCHANGE 3 weeks, every other year, 16 places by application. There is a return visit from the Indian partners. Next exchange 2014 - £1050 GHANA 3 weeks for Years 11 and L6 bi-annually. 15 places by application. Next trip 2014 - £1750 CCF RANGE DAY Shooting at 100m and 300m for cadets at Hythe Ranges in Folkestone - £10
JANUARY	CCF WEEKEND WARRIOR EXERCISE held at Crowborough Camp where the TWGGS Contingent acts as enemy for Tonbridge School - £20
MARCH	CCF MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION weekend competition for the South East - £20

APRIL	CCF EASTER CAMP held in the first week of the Easter Holiday at Folkestone - £60
JULY	CCF ANNUAL CAMP to be held in the penultimate week of the school year. Venue changes each year – approximately £70
<hr/>	
<u>LOWER 6TH</u>	*There will be multiple 6 th Form Theatre Studies theatre trips which will always be arranged for the evening throughout the year.
SEPTEMBER	CARROT WOOD TEAM- BUILDING DAY whole year group - £31.45 * THEATRE STUDIES 1 day workshop (tbc) - £25. 1 theatre trip, evening - £25. For AS Level pupils. D of E Gold enrolment cost tbc THEATRE STUDIES theatre trip for AS/A2 Theatre Studies pupils. £10-£20
SEPTEMBER	ART day trips to galleries and site visits relevant to the AS course. £15-£25 per visit. DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY trip to London to research architecture/visit an exhibition or museum. Approx. £15
OCTOBER	EXTENSION GEOGRAPHY half term 5 day trip to Iceland for AS/A2 Level pupils, 30 places 2013 - £700-800 D of E Silver enrolment cost £16 + £250 for other expenses CCF RANGE DAY Shooting at 100m and 300m for cadets at Hythe Ranges in Folkestone - £10 CCF MILITARY DINNER for all cadets, staff, parents and supporters approximately £30 per ticket
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER	INDIA EXCHANGE 3 weeks, every other year, 16 places by application. There is a return visit from the Indian partners. Next exchange 2014 - £1050 CCF RANGE DAY Shooting at 100m and 300m for cadets at Hythe Ranges in Folkestone - £10 GHANA 3 weeks for Years 11 and L6 bi-annually. 15 places by application. Next trip 2014 - £1750
NOVEMBER OR MARCH	PSYCHOLOGY / SOCIOLOGY day trip to London for AS Level pupils – train fare + £20 ENGLISH West End evening theatre trip - £27
JANUARY	CCF WEEKEND WARRIOR EXERCISE held at Crowborough Camp where the TWGGS Contingent acts as enemy for Tonbridge School - £20
FEBRUARY	HISTORY visit to Russia for AS & A2 pupils – during half term £1200. Bi-

annual-next trip 2015

SPANISH 1 week (half-term), every other year, to Andalucía for AS/A2 Level pupils - £600-£650

MARCH

GEOGRAPHY 1 week fieldtrip to Devon for AS Level pupils - £330

CCF MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION Weekend competition for the South East - £20

***THEATRE STUDIES** 1 theatre trip, evening - £10-£25. For AS Level pupils.

PSYCHOLOGY/SOCIOLOGY day trip to London for AS Level pupils. Train fare £20

APRIL

SKI TRIP 8 days to USA, 30-40 places by application - £1480

CCF EASTER CAMP held in the first week of the Easter Holiday at Folkestone - £60

JUNE

MATHS 4 day trip to Bangor for AS Level pupils. Cost £250

JULY

BIOLOGY 6 day field trip for AS Level pupils - £389

CCF ANNUAL CAMP to be held in the penultimate week of the school year. Venue changes each year – approximately £70

UPPER 6TH

*There will be multiple 6th Form Theatre Studies theatre trips which will always be arranged for the evening throughout the year.

SEPTEMBER

EXTENSION GEOGRAPHY half term 5 day trip to Iceland for AS/A2 Level pupils, 30 places, every other year - £865

NOVEMBER

***THEATRE STUDIES** 1 day workshop - £20

SEPTEMBER -NOVEMBER

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY trip to London to research architecture/visit an exhibition or museum. Approx. £15

NOVEMBER OR MARCH

PSYCHOLOGY / SOCIOLOGY day trip to London for A2 Level pupils – train fare + £20

ENGLISH West End evening theatre trip - £27

JANUARY

CCF WEEKEND WARRIOR EXERCISE held at Crowborough Camp where the TWGGS Contingent acts as enemy for Tonbridge School - £20

FEBRUARY

HISTORY visit to Russia for AS & A2 pupils – during half term £1200 Bi-annual-next trip 2015

SPANISH 1 week (half-term), every other year, to Andalucía for AS/A2 Level pupils - £600-£650

MARCH

***THEATRE STUDIES** theatre trip, evening or matinee, for A2 Level pupils - £10-£25

APRIL

CCF EASTER CAMP held in the first week of the Easter Holiday at Folkestone - £60

JULY

CCF ANNUAL CAMP to be held in the penultimate week of the school year. Venue changes each year – approximately £70

The timetable illustrates trips that we hope to run during the academic year 2015 – 2016. They may have been repeated or newly planned. Please note that the school reserves the right to cancel or change dates of trips where the school calendar demands. Please note that the cost quoted for a trip is variable and approximate. All Drama trips are subject to availability and suitability except for the GCSE matinee trip in April/May.

Other subject related trips may be scheduled on a more informal basis, as and when opportunities arise. For example:

- The Drama Department arranges one theatre trip for Year 10 each year that but spare places may be offered outside the group, at a cost of approximately £25 per pupil. Spare places may also be available on all Sixth Form trips, of which there are a minimum of three
- The Mathematics Department will be running a 'Maths Fun Day' for the whole of Year 7 in June 2016

Speakers from a variety of different organisations and industries may also be scheduled to perform or give presentations to pupils, and there may be a small charge made for these events. For example:

- Visitors from the Design Industry come to talk to Sixth Form Design Technology pupils
- Other professionals from a variety of career paths are invited to visit and give talks to interested pupils - e.g. Journalists, Veterinarians, Doctors, Lawyers etc. - cost free
- The Languages Department invite a theatre group to perform a German, French and Spanish play for the whole of Year 8 and 9 - cost £3 each
- Drama organise a touring company production by 'The Glass-Eye Theatre' in the Performing Arts Centre for GCSE/AS/A2/Arts Award pupils. £10.

A variety of different organisations come to deliver PSHE topics to every year group and the cost, if there is any, is budgeted for by the school. A few examples:

- The Samaritans
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Kent Fire Service
- Work Experience
- Money Management
- Local Political Party Candidates
- Yoga
- Sex Education



PTA 2014-15 REVIEW



This year has been another great year for the TWGGS PTA with over £21,000 raised! Many thanks go to all the committee members, staff, parents, pupils and local businesses who have supported us so wholeheartedly in our fundraising for TWGGS.

Highlights for the year include:

- Our biennial charity sponsored walk in October where the whole school came out and walked, as vampires, shepherds, cowboys, goths, princesses, zombies, hippies and forensic scientists (to name but a few), a route across the common and around the town. A record £9,210.44 was raised in profit which included a very generous donation of £1,500 from Fidelity Investments of Hildenborough.
- Our Y7 & Y8 discos have continued to be successful, raising almost £3k for the school. Many thanks to Zoe Taylor for her organisation of this and all the PTA members who gave up their Friday evenings watching teenage boys do power-slides on their knees across the floor and teenage girls look on in bemusement.
- The Xmas Bring and Buy / Chocolate Tombola raised over £1k - thanks to Sian Sandeman and the PTA volunteers for all their help
- Our annual general knowledge quiz. This hotly-contested event was won by 'The Magic Spells' and raised over £2,300. Many thanks go to Fran Braham for another great quiz and again to David Jamieson, his bar team and all the PTA committee members who did so much to help before and afterwards.
- This year's Spring Raffle, sponsored by Spa Oil Services, raised over £2,800 with a number of great prizes including an iPad air from Spa Oil Service, a £200 H Collins silver picture frame, a £100 Mint Velvet voucher, brunch at Hotel du Vin and a 'View from the Shard' family experience. Thanks to Emma O'Sullivan and Joanna Challis for organising this venture, to all our donors and to all the parents, staff and governors who supported the school by buying tickets. Donors included Gen Business Solutions, Space NK, Slap 'n' Dash, Italian Wardrobe, Cath Kidston, Trevor Mottram and Lancome.

Other ongoing fundraisers include the 100+ club that raised an outstanding £3,500 (thanks Kathleen Perkins and Lesley Ancliff), our easyfundraising shop (thanks Helen Pegrum) and the second hand uniform shop (thanks Kirsty Dobson) which raised a brilliant £850!

The winning 100+ club numbers for this year are as follows:

January - 1 st Prize Ticket 209 Debbie Shaw	2nd Prize Ticket 371 Carla Van Der Zanden
February - 1st Prize Ticket 151 Catharine Omer	2nd Prize Ticket 265 Rhian Taylor
March - 1st Prize Ticket 92 Sarah Hogben	2nd Prize Ticket 49 Jackie Judd
April - 1st Prize Ticket 1 Philip Ashworth	2nd Prize Ticket anonymous
May - 1st Prize Ticket 183 Mike Webb	2nd Prize Ticket 174 Graham Naismith
June - 1st Prize Ticket 159 Juanita Coates	2nd Prize Ticket 442 Richard Hamilton
July - 1st Prize Ticket 73 Natasha Gibson	2nd Prize Ticket 314 Auxi Westhorp

As usual we also provided Cheese and Wine at the new parents evening in the autumn and wine at the very well-attended Xmas Carol Concert at St John's Church.

As you are probably aware, the main target of our fundraising was the cost of floodlights for the netball court which we covered with a donation of £35,800. Together with the general refurbishment of the courts (new fencing and resurfacing) this has proved to be of great benefit to all girls and staff by offering an all-

year-round hard surface area for sports clubs, outdoor teaching and extra-curricular activities including the CCF.

We have also funded the purchase of a bank of iPads for teaching use and the professional production of an anti-bullying PHSE video in conjunction with the TWGGS drama department.

In addition to fundraising for TWGGS' facilities and resources, we have also been delighted to work with the school's charity prefects to support their chosen charities. Every term, after consultation with pupils and staff, the sixth-form charity prefects select a charity. The whole school then joins in fundraising for these charities and, as a PTA, we are proud to support the girls' initiatives and run joint events to support these charities.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our events next term (calendar attached) with the next big one being the TWGGS Butterfly Ball on Saturday 17th October 2015, an event that we're sure will blow you away. Although the deadline has passed please email twggsball2015@gmail.com to see if there are any returns/spares.

We must also thank the TWGGS caretakers and all the TWGGS admin staff for their constant support and never-ending patience with last-minute requests for help throughout the year.

Finally, with a heavy heart, we say goodbye to Judy Barrett, our chairperson and PTA stalwart who has been a supporter of the PTA for the past 12 years, with the last 4 years as chair. Our heartfelt thanks go to all the efforts she has put in during her time as chair; over this time the PTA has raised approximately £80,000 for the school. Judy has been supported for the past 4 years by Karen Dodd (vice chair) and Helen Pegrum (treasurer). Both Helen and Karen are leaving their posts this year and we would also like to thank them for their hard work and dedication in these key roles.

As mentioned in a separate parentmail but worth reiterating, we are after replacements for these positions. The role of the chair (supported by the vice chair) is to lead PTA meetings, to plan fundraising priorities, targets & events with the school's senior management team and to co-ordinate PTA fund-raising teams. We just need enthusiasm and a commitment to the school's ethos and priorities. Don't let being a new parent at the school put you off - Karen Dodd, our outgoing vice-chair took this post on as a new parent.

The treasurer role may suit individual(s) with some accounting/financial knowledge/experience. Both the existing chair and treasurer will be available to support the new post holders (if required) in their first six months of office. Meetings are generally held once a term on weekday evenings at TWGGS (so 6 times a year). If you are at all interested in doing/sharing the role please email us on pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk.

So have a great and relaxing summer and thank you all your help that you've given this year and any help you can give next year, no matter how small.

Our AGM will be held on September 30th at 8pm in the C block - we will present a review of the year, the 2014-15 financial report, and elect new officers/re-elect existing committee members. All staff and parents are automatically members of the PTA so please come and support us as we start the next academic year.

Graham Naismith (Secretary)

Get in Touch

We are always looking for **volunteers** (men and women!), so if you feel you would like to help in any way or if you have any **suggestions/feedback** or **ideas** for events, please email us on pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk

For **2nd Prize Ticket hand uniform** (sales and donations), please email Kirsty on uniform@twggs.kent.sch.uk

To join our great **100+ club** email 100club@twggs.kent.sch.uk

To earn for us whilst you shop please go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/twggspta>



Don't forget to follow us on twitter @TWGGSPTA



TWGGS PTA CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015-16



SEPTEMBER 2015		
Friday 25 th	Y7 Disco 7:30pm-9:00pm TWGGS School Hall	For TWGGS, Skinners and TWGSB Y7 only. Tickets will go on sale that week to pupils at all 3 schools. All attendees must be collected by an adult known to them from TWGGS entrance. Note - no parking on school site.
Wednesday 30 th	PTA meeting & AGM 8pm in Canteen	Come and meet the current PTA team (committee and helpers), find out how parents can get involved at TWGGS and hear what we have been up to in the past year. Formal election of committee and presentation of accounts. Nomination forms will be sent out at the start of term. All welcome.
OCTOBER 2015		
Saturday 17 th	Blue Butterfly Ball 7:00pm-midnight TWGGS ballroom	Tickets on sale from 23rd June - apply in good time as TWGGS balls often sell out quickly! A fantastic night out - the school hall will be transformed into a beautiful ballroom, with a glamorous dance floor and a gourmet meal. £60/head Email twggsball2015@gmail.com for more details
NOVEMBER 2015		
Friday 13 th	Y7&8 Disco 7:15pm-9:15pm TWGGS School Hall	For TWGGS, Skinners and TWGSB Yrs 7&8 only. Tickets will go on sale that week to pupils at both schools. All attendees must be collected by an adult known to them from TWGGS entrance. Note - no parking on school site.
DECEMBER 2015		
Friday 11 th	Girls' bring & buy sale/tombola TWGGS School Hall	Ever popular with the girls! A lunchtime Christmas bring and buy/chocolate tombola. Girls will be asked to bring in donations of chocolate and saleable 'good as new' gifts. NB This is an internal, girls-only event.
JANUARY 2016		
Friday 22 nd	Y7&8 Disco 7:15pm-9:15pm TWGGS School Hall	For TWGGS, Skinners and TWGSB Yrs 7&8 only. Tickets will go on sale that week to pupils at all 3 schools. Attendees must be collected by an adult known to them from TWGGS entrance. Note - no parking on school site.
MARCH 2016		
Friday 11 th	Y7&8 Disco 7:15pm-9:15pm TWGGS School Hall	For TWGGS, Skinners and TWGSB Yrs 7&8 only. Tickets will go on sale that week to pupils at all 3 schools. Attendees must be collected by an adult known to them from TWGGS entrance. Note - no parking on school site.
Friday 18 th	Quiz Night 7:30pm-10:30pm TWGGS School Hall	Hotly-contested quiz that is invariably a sell out! Max 25 teams of 8 people per team, with a fish and chip supper

If you would like to help at any event, please return the tear-off slip and return to a member of the PTA this evening or to school reception in an envelope marked 'TWGGS PTA - Helpers lists. Fao Alison Russell' or email your interest/questions/feedback to pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk

✂-----
AS A PARENT, I WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED AT TWGGS BY HELPING THE PTA

Name:..... Email:.....

Please circle any anything you might like to help with - this is not a firm commitment at this stage, just an 'expression of interest'.

Disco Friday 25th Sept
Volunteers needed 6:45pm-9:15pm

Ball Saturday 17th October
Volunteers needed before (Fri &/or Sat), during (to man bar) & after (Sunday)

Disco Friday 13th November
Volunteers needed 6:45pm-9:30pm

Christmas Bring & Buy Fri 11th Dec
Volunteers needed 10:30am-2:00pm

Disco Friday 22nd January
Volunteers needed 6:45pm-9:30pm

Disco Friday 11th March
Volunteers needed 6:45pm-9:30pm

Quiz Friday 18th March
Volunteers needed before, during & after

I would like to join the PTA
Meetings held weekday evenings once a term - all welcome

ANY NOTES/SUGGESTIONS
OVERLEAF PLEASE