

Dear Parent/Guardian

As this school year ends, sadly we must say goodbye to several members of staff. Mr Bradshaw, Mr Miller and Miss Michaelides covered the maternity leaves of Ms Mitchell, Mrs Davis and Mrs Murray respectively; and both Mr Armstrong and Dr Townshend had one year contracts to teach in Science and Psychology/ Sociology. We are most grateful to them for embracing TWGGS life so enthusiastically and wish them well in their futures. Mrs Waddington has taught Physics part-time for two years, originally joining us temporarily, and now leaves to take up a similar post much closer to her home, Mrs Chichester joined the school as a teacher (and a TWGGS old girl) two years ago and leaves for a new post in Surrey where she and her husband are moving, whilst Ms Dorman, who has been here for four years, is also relocating, this time to London, where she has secured a well-deserved promoted post as Second in English. For five years, Mrs Broderick has inspired girls as an outstanding teacher in Spanish and accompanied them on trips to Spain and Ghana; she now leaves us to take some time out of teaching. Mrs Harrod joined TWGGS eight years ago, teaching Music, leading a plethora of extra-curricular groups over the years and initiating the Arts Award, a superb legacy; she has stepped back from a significant teaching role to spend time with her young children. We wish them all much happiness and success in the future.

Mrs Burgess has taught Psychology and Sociology here for ten years, latterly leading the department, and throughout with great energy, enthusiasm and care for the girls; having supported innumerable pupils through university applications, she now leaves to study for an M.A. at King's College, University of London, where we wish her well. Mr Jamieson retires this year, after eleven years at TWGGS, where he has not only encouraged and supported girls in their Maths (and Economics) learning, but been a key member of the PTA, always on hand to provide assistance. We wish him and his wife every happiness and hope they think of us fleetingly as they tour Italy in September! In contrast, in September, Mrs Jardine-Viner will be embarking on full-time study in order to become a lawyer. Having inspired and nurtured girls (and staff) for thirteen years, in her role as Curriculum Leader English and later teacher, she will be sorely missed. In the last few years she has very successfully studied part-time for a law degree, and we wish her every future success and well-deserved happiness in her new career.

Finally, Dr Brimsted leaves the school to retire this summer, having been Deputy Headteacher since March 2003, throughout which time, she has ensured that the daily running of the school operates like a well-oiled machine, all eventualities covered. In charge of educational visits, her sound judgement, meticulous eye for detail and a genuine kindness of spirit have ensured girls have had amazing opportunities: it is not an accident that Kent's Outdoor Education Unit regard her as the epitome of best practice. As SENCO, she has challenged and supported girls in equal measure, with a keen awareness of where the balance lies, whilst as a Chemistry teacher, she has inspired and supported innumerable girls over the past 13½ years. And this is only to touch upon her contributions. We wish her the happiest of retirements, so richly deserved, and know she will relish the time she will now have with her husband, grandchildren, dog and allotment, not to mention the opportunity to travel.

Improving School Communications with ParentMail

Further to our letter in May, you will be aware that we are in the process of upgrading our ParentMail system from ParentMail 1 to PMX. By now you will have been sent an email from ParentMail asking you to register for PMX by email, mobile or both. There still appear to be parents who have not gone through the registration process. It is vital that you do this, even if you are already registered for PMX because you have a child at a different school. If you do have a pupil registered for PMX with another school, it is very important to ensure that you have given us exactly the same email and mobile details as the other school so that the two accounts can be linked. If you have lost your registration email we can re-send it to you. We are now sending out all our messages via the PMX system and the old system has been switched off.

TWGGS Old Girls' Association

TWGGS Old Girls would like to wish all the leavers the very best for the future and invite them to join their Facebook page - TWGGS - What a School! Membership is open to anyone (staff or pupils) who has ever had a connection with TWGGS so if your mother, grandmother, aunt or sister was a TWGGS girl, please let them know about this. The Old Girls can be contacted via their email address oldgirls@twggs.kent.sch.uk.

Congratulations to Molly Sacker, 11i – Mrs Wybar

Following a successful campaign last autumn, Molly was selected to be a part of the RYA Laser 4.7 Squad through the winter. She has also sailed well in the Laser 4.7 Ladder series through the winter, resulting in being placed 6th overall and 3rd girl. During this period she qualified to go to both the Laser 4.7 European and World Championships. In the Spring there was a second round of selection for the Laser 4.7 Summer squad. This has resulted in her being chosen as part of the Team GBR Laser 4.7 Squad for the European (Crozon Morgan, France) in July and World Championships (Kiel, Germany) in August.

Congratulations to Ella Lance, 7S – Mrs Wybar

Congratulations to Ella, who has just successfully represented Great Britain in a sailing competition known as “Flanders” on the Belgian Coast, as the youngest member of the team, enduring five gruelling days of sailing.

Shakespeare 400 Poster Competition- Year 8 – Mr Russell

As part of the celebration of the anniversary of Shakespeare’s death, the whole of Year 8 took part in the “Shakespeare 400 Poster Competition”, the challenge being to produce an informative and attractive poster relating to any of Shakespeare’s plays. The Year 8s produced some absolutely fabulous posters and with close to 150 entries the English department had great difficulty whittling the number down to the eventual winners. The top seven entries were superb:

The four runners-up were Enya Turner, Lara Cummings and Danya Shaker, all from 8I and Aimee Hobley from 8W. Enya focused on Juliet from *Romeo and Juliet* placing some of Juliet’s most famous lines in thought bubbles around a fabulous picture of the tragic heroine, as well as including plenty of factual information about the character. Lara made an unusual choice by selecting the character Polixenes from *The Winter’s Tale*. Gold and silver labelling of the poster’s various parts made for a striking poster. A figure of Polixenes at the centre of a spider diagram of his qualities was one of the poster’s key features. Danya also chose Juliet from *Romeo and Juliet* for her focus. A fantastic picture of Juliet was the centrepiece of a highly informative and strikingly colourful poster. Aimee chose to focus on Cleopatra from *Antony and Cleopatra*. Clever central images of the two lovers, pyramids and the asp that kills her were surrounded by interesting and unusual quotations and factual information.

Third place went to Freya Hood, 8W, for her poster focusing on Titania from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Freya’s was the only 3D entry to the competition! The silver tree with its fruit of quotations was spectacular and the stand out presentational feature of a beautifully designed poster. Second place went to Amy Partridge, 8I, for her poster on Lady Macbeth from *Macbeth*. In some ways simple in design, Amy’s poster, with its central image of a bloody hand, dripping blood, was stunningly effective. The choice of paper colour and shades of red in the beautifully written and perceptive analysis of the character, gave the poster a suitable macabre quality.

The winner of the competition was Anna Conroy, 8I, who produced an absolutely stunning poster focusing on Prospero from *The Tempest*. The choice of white lettering, beautifully handwritten, on black paper made the poster instantly attractive. The superb sketch portrait of Prospero, again in white on black, dominated the poster in a suitably impressive way for this particular character and the information on the character revealed great insight into the last of Shakespeare’s great heroes.

Year 7 Regent’s Park Open-Air Theatre Trip – Daisy Outram, Isabelle Spavins and Kylie Wates of 7T

On the 25th May 2016, the whole of Year 7 went to see the play ‘*Running Wild*’ written by Michael Morpurgo. After lunch outside In Regent’s Park, we went into the Open Air Theatre and saw the amazing jungle-like stage setting with tall bamboo shoots and a revolving floor. Everyone really enjoyed the play; we were all thoroughly captivated by the story. Our favourite thing about the play was how the animals were portrayed: they were puppets controlled by people but they were very realistic! Their legs and arms were on hinges and could move freely, making them appear to be real. Overall, we had a great day! The play was really entertaining and traveling up to London was really fun.

TWGGGS Poetry Party 2016 – Mr Russell

On Thursday 16th June, the English and Science Departments hosted the TWGGGS Poetry Party 2016: an enthusiastic audience of parents, relatives, friends, teachers and pupils were treated to some of the best poetry from TWGGGS girls and also many of the local primary schools. The theme for the TWGGGS Poetry Competition 2016 was “Space” and there were close to 300 entries; winners and runner-ups from several categories were selected by Dr Jennifer Cooke, published poet and Senior Lecturer in English at Loughborough University. As a specialist in experimental poetry, she was very impressed with the high quality of all entries, and found it difficult to choose winners for each category. The performances of the winning poems were highly engaging, and illustrated a real passion for poetry.

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. These poems had been judged by the TWGGGS Poet Laureate, Georgia Edgley, the English Prefects, Lauren Whitfield and Lucy Leftwich, and the Science Prefects, Nina Jahnich and Alex Davison. Georgia and Lucy were present at the party to speak about the particular strengths of the winning poems before Miss Fisher from the Chemistry department awarded the prizes to the winners:

7T : "Lilac Fire" by Isabelle Spavins
7I: untitled by Lucy Mercer
7S: "Lilac Fire" by Emma Pitcher

7W: "Lilac Flame" by Mae Harbinson
7G : "The Flaming Hand" by Lydia Dunkin
Winning Year 7 Poem: "Phoenix in My Palms" by Grace Wright 7T

The second part of the Party focused on the School Poetry Competition. Dr Cooke, spoke of her career, interests and inspirations, and read her own poem "Plastic Bottles", inspiring the pupils and preparing the audience for some of the darkness that appeared in some of the competition poems!

First to perform, were the primary schools. Dr Cooke spoke about each poem, explaining what had particularly impressed her and led to them being the winning poems. The poets read their poems superbly and the standard was highly impressive.

Bidborough CEP Winner: "Night Theatre" by Anna Tribe	Runner-up: "Gravity" by Bronte Angell Jarrett
Broadwater Down Winner: "White Nebula" by Beatrice Giles	Runner-up: "What is Space?" by Eve Houghton
Southborough Winner: "Disgrace in Space" by Ananda Gewal	Runner-up: "Bruno the Alien" by Molly Morton
St John's Winner: "Six Senses from Space" by William Birton	Runner-up: "The Darkness of Space" by Elijah Cheesman
Temple Grove Academy Winner: "Stalking Star" by Melissa Link	Runner-up: "Space, there is so much space" by Sophie Chantler-Weir

Then it was the turn of the TWGGS 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 how "space" might be interpreted. Deservedly stepping up to take their certificates and prizes were:

Year 7 Winner: "Space Journey" by Katy Hill	Runner-up: "Space" by Amelia Thomas
Year 8 Winner: "Space" by Emily Dennis	Runner-up: "Space" by Emily Naismith
Year 9 Winner: "Space is an odd thing, isn't it?" by Tabitha Preston	Runner-up: "Space" Kim Dawson
KS4 Winner: "contained" by Hannah Naismith	Runner-up: "untitled" by Georgia Casimir
Sixth Form Winner: "The Space Between Us/What Had Blossomed by the Sea" by Phoebe Segal	Runner-up: "Space" by Jessica 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 English and Chemistry teachers, support staff and English prefects who helped behind the scenes.

Carnegie 2016 – Mrs Mattheus-Ratcliffe, Librarian

O, what a tangled web we weave;
When first we practice to deceive!
Sir Walter Scott

Lies, half-truths and deceptions - that seemed to be the unofficial theme of the Carnegie shortlist for 2016. With books covering issues ranging from historical school segregation, gender issues, war, arson, divorce, alien invasion, child-snatching, to conjoined twins and death, the Carnegie panel certainly set the bar high again. But we love a challenge and thoroughly enjoyed reading and discussing all the books. At our annual Carnegie Shadowing Debate, on 15th June, our biggest Carnegie book group ever (over 60 girls) then relished the opportunity to defend their favorite book in a fierce debate in mixed teams including pupils from Skinners', SKA and TWGSB. And, true to the theme, the pupils' favorite Carnegie book 2016 turned out to be Robin Talley's "Lies We Tell Ourselves". It seems that sometimes lies pay off.....what a dangerous ideas.

News from the Drama Department – Miss Dorman

2015/16 has been an extremely busy but rewarding year for TWGGS Drama Department. In December Year 7 Drama Club put on an exciting selection of performances of Roald Dahl stories for the annual Teatime Theatre. Parents, teachers and pupils came together to eat cake, drink tea and enjoy the fabulous work led by Drama prefects Charlotte Bartholomew and Millie Haswell.

Then in February the Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth Drama pupils thrilled and entertained their audiences when performing scripted pieces influenced by Katie Mitchell, Steven Berkoff and Antonin Artaud and devised pieces in the style of Physical Theatre, Comedy Narrative and Creative Adaptation for their practical examinations.

In March Year 8 worked extremely hard in their English and Drama lessons to produce a fifteen minute extract from a Shakespeare play for TWGGS's Shakespeare Festival. *Hamlet, Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, The Tempest* and *Midsummer Night's Dream* were selected; Mrs Reid-Brown came back for a second year running to judge this contest and was extremely impressed by the hard work and dedication that went into each entry.

GCSE Drama Examinations took place in May and the GCSE Drama cohort performed with confidence and enthusiasm, producing thought-provoking and comic pieces that were truly outstanding. At the end of June Year 9 spent four weeks on their entries for the Modern Drama Festival and professional actor Ian Drysdale judged their efforts, offering some very complimentary feedback on pieces such as *The Roses of Eyam, Lord of the Flies, Noughts and Crosses, Blood Brothers* and *The Crucible*.

Lower Sixth Production – Miss Dorman

This year marks the fifth annual Lower Sixth Production at TWGGS. The current Theatre Studies class continued this tradition with the help of a number of keen musicians and technicians from their year group. In just four weeks, the cast and crew of 17 managed to create a unique interpretation of Carol Anne Duffy's adaptation of *Grimm Tales*. With the support of the talented musicians and vocalists Nina Jahnich, Isobel Nicklin, Harriet Mullis and Abigail Norris, under the direction of Charlotte Bartholomew (musical arrangement and choreography) and Autumn Levitt (choreography), the band of merry players led by the two Grimm Sisters (Portia Halsall and Georgia Williams) transported the audience to a world of fairy-tale and dream. Working collaboratively, the cast presented an adaptation of the episodic text that interweaved music, dance and physical sequences in the tradition of travelling minstrel theatre in 60 minutes. With just the stage space, costume rail and its attire, they spun tales that made us remember what it was like to be little children in our beds at story time.

The play began with the Sisters Grimm turning the pages of the heavy leather bound tome (constructed and designed by Mr Miller and painted by Victoria Tester) that cleverly hid the band of merry players as head vocalist Charlotte Bartholomew serenaded the audience with a folk arrangement of the popular Destiny's Child hit "Say my name". The audience then bore witness to the dressing of Rumpelstiltskin (Miar Murphy), The Miller (Pippa Higham), The Miller's Daughter (Autumn Levitt) and The King (Emma Wadsworth) as they entertained the crowd with excellent comic timing and a very bizarre but happy ending. The tone changed as poor Hansel (Daisy Rich-Overall) and Gretel (Charlotte Frost) were led into an unfamiliar and dangerous forest by their guilty father (Miar Murphy) and heartless mother (Martha Kent) and abandoned with just a measly crumb of bread to satiate their hunger; they fell foul of the wicked Witch (Millie Haswell) who enticed the ravenous children with sweet treats. The ensemble used physical theatre and an array of props to create the different locations which was stunningly effective.

The beautiful voices of Isobel and Nina singing "Hungry like the Wolf" provided a smooth transition into the third tale, Little Red-cap. The tale begins with the audience witnessing Red-cap (Daisy) being warned by her overbearing Mother (Georgia Williams) from straying off the path on her way to visit her alcoholic Grandmother (Miar Murphy). But Red-cap does not listen and on the way is tricked by clever Cockney Woolf (Millie Haswell), confused by the objects in her Grandmother's house and eaten alive. An ingenious use of a bed sheet enabled the ensemble to provide the illusion of the wolf's belly-full and the Huntsman (Autumn) in two snips saved the gullible girl and her grandmother. Finally, Ashputtel, the original Cinderella story, the ensemble and principal characters delighted the audience with a musical-style opening sequence and a ceilidh ball. Portia Halsall as Ashputtel showed outstanding vocal and physical skills in realising the comedy and beauty of the character, dealing with a number of complicated costume changes facilitated by the Mother Spirit (Charlotte Bartholomew). This was contrasted nicely by the evil stepsisters (Martha and Pippa) and stepmother (Charlotte Frost) which added a dark and violent edge to the otherwise magical tale.

Grimm Tales benefited from the technical contribution of Victoria Tester (set and programme designer), Natasha Saunders and Eve Drysdale who expertly delivered 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. We would like to thank Amy Bates, Georgia Lloyd Roberts, Lauren Whitfield, Steffi Scott, Rachael Weatherly, Izzy Groenen, Hannah Payne and Mrs Norman-Read for their support throughout; they were on-hand to make props and proved a fine front of house team.

News From The Music Department –Mrs Waddington

It has been another busy and exciting term for the Music Department.

On 22nd March, we held our Senior Concert in the school hall, the last opportunity of the year for our Senior Choirs and ensembles to perform. This was a wonderful evening containing a huge variety of musical styles and genres, and displaying the vast array of talent that we are so privileged to have at TWGGS. All groups were exceptional. Senior Orchestra, with soloist and outgoing Head Girl Elizabeth Millar, played the 3rd Movement from Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor with a great deal of maturity and

skill. As always, Elizabeth truly excelled herself, not just here but also as soloist in the Senior Strings' performance of the fiendishly difficult 'Fracteres' by contemporary composer Arvo Part. Senior Choir, joined by professional opera singer Henry Waddington, sang excerpts from the Fauré's 'Requiem', and Senior Chamber Choir sang a wonderful setting of Elizabeth Bishop's poem 'I Am In Need Of Music' by Brunner. Throughout the year, girls have been developing their a capella (unaccompanied) singing skills and this was demonstrated beautifully by Cantemos, our other Senior Choir, who sang 'Light In The Hallway' by Pentatonix, with soloists Hannah Samuel and Rosie Waddington, and Year 10 and 11 Singers, who sang a lovely arrangement of 'Fields of Gold'. Year 11 are a talented bunch with some fantastic singers who, directed by Emily Camburn (Year 11), transported us back to the 1940's with their fun and lively rendition of 'BoogieWoogie Bugle Boy'. In addition to impressive solos from Portia Halsall, Hannah Roberts, Poppy Walters, Emily Camburn and Rosie Champion, we were entertained by Senior Flutes and a trumpet trio and, of course, we cannot forget Staff Choir – directed by Mr Corse from the Maths Department. In all, the evening was a triumph, with every pupil rising to their individual challenges admirably, and I would like to thank and congratulate all of the staff and pupils who helped to make the evening such a success.

Our annual Year 7 Music Festival took place on the morning of the 27th June. Over the last few weeks girls have been working hard towards this event, with each class providing their favourite soloist, composition and ensemble performance. They also work together on a full scale production number from a musical. The Year 7 forms then compete against each other and winners are selected from each category, 7S being overall winners. The judges were particularly impressed however, by the level of creativity shown by each Year 7 class across several art forms and the team work they displayed. Particular mention should go to 7T, who demonstrated an exemplary attitude, work ethic, and level of co-operation which bodes well for the future. Well done, girls!

Hot on the heels of the Year 7 Festival, was our Leavers' Concert on the evening of the 27th June, organised by Head Girl Elizabeth Millar. The School Hall was decorated beautifully with balloons and candles, and the atmosphere was pleasantly relaxed. This concert always highlights the immense talent of TWGGS girls and this year was no exception. There were impressive solos from singers and instrumentalists, as well Senior Strings. All in all this was a very enjoyable evening and, although it is sad to say goodbye to our wonderfully talented girls, we are proud of their achievements and we know that they will be successful wherever they go. A huge well done goes to all of the girls who helped to make this evening such a success and to Elizabeth Millar for all of her hard work and brilliant organisation.

Maths Fun Day on 4th July was another enjoyable event, when Year 7 explored the relationship between Maths and Music using binary numbers to create rhythmic pieces using their names and 'junk' percussion. Confused? Perhaps your daughters can explain!

One of the last major events of the year is the Junior Concert, which gives girls the opportunity to demonstrate their work from both inside and outside the classroom. This year we were treated to a variety of performances from Junior Strings, Brass Group, Ukulele and Guitar Club, Year 8 and 9 Singers, and Year 7 Singers, who brought tears to our eyes with their beautiful performance of 'Pure Imagination' from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The whole of Year 7 were able to share with parents their class performances from the Year 7 Music Festival. As well as some very impressive solo performances from Naomi Record, Sophie Lee, Amelia Thomas, Sophie Preston, Annie Chown, Mae Harbinson, Molly Slough and Isabel Fletcher, one of our newest ensembles, a Piano/Flute Trio featuring Hannah Roberts, Emily Martin, and Annie Chown, captivated us with a fabulous performance of the demanding 'Valse des Fleurs'. It is always a pleasure to see the level of talent that our KS3 girls have to offer and their commitment to extra-curricular activities is to be commended. Thank you girls for everything you do for the department.

Year 9 Residential Trip to Devon – Miss Parkinson

The whole of Year 9 visited Knapp House for an activity week where they took part in water-skiing, surfing, crabbing, rib-ride, abseiling, climbing, tree hoist, crate stacking, low ropes, pedal carting, canoeing, and tunnelling. It was a wonderful week, which the girls seemed to enjoy and they learned a number of valuable skills - we were also blessed with fantastic weather. The girls were extremely well behaved and it was a pleasure to take them away. On behalf of all the staff that attended the trip I would like to thank the girls for a very special week. I would also like to thank the staff for their hard work during the week, and all the staff back at school for covering our lessons so that this week could take place.

Business Enterprise Day – Imogen Ellis, 10S

Business Enterprise Day proved to be one of not only great enjoyment, but also education. At the beginning of the day we were briefed with the task of establishing a catering company which could be hired to host an extravagant dinner in celebration of the Queen's 90th birthday. I have to admit at first this left me slightly apprehensive about the standard that we would be expected to achieve, but also filled with excitement, being paired with a great team, all eager to submerge ourselves in the day's challenges.

The tasks of the day required us to position ourselves in particular business roles, myself being the project manager. We were each briefed as to what each role involved and directed to what our own personal challenges would be, as well as the overall group effort. Throughout the day we had to work efficiently and co-operatively in order to meet deadlines, which involved composing business cards, producing a brand logo, a finance sheet and ultimately a short presentation in which we had to use both courage and ability to persuade the judges that our company was the most finely equipped for the catering job on offer. We had to develop a number of skills both as individuals and as a team; I had to improve my level of communication, leadership and direction. Overall the day was both challenging and immensely fun, bridging the gap between the world of business and school life.

CCF Survival Camp - Cadet Tabitha Gardiner, 9G

Over the weekend of Friday 17th – Sunday 19th of June TWGGS CCF went on a two-night camp with the Year 9 cadets to Crowborough training camp. On the first night of our stay we took our no. 8 rifle test and an all-important navigation lesson, which came into very good use the following day. After an early start on the Saturday morning we split up into groups of about five and set off on a 10km navigation walk across Ashdown Forest. In this task we were given a map, a compass and sheet of paper with the coordinates of the check points that we had to reach. At each co-ordinate we had to take a picture to show that we had been there; each cadet had a go at navigating her way from one checkpoint to the next with the help of a senior if needed. At the end of the walk there was a well-deserved lunch from our ration packs and for many of us a chance to sit down. Straight after lunch we moved into our next activity - survival training. In the few hours we did have we were taught about basic survival kit, different ways to make a fire, tips for collecting water and how to make a shelter. That night we got into pairs and between us we made our own shelters out of branches, sticks and bracken. It was in these shelters that we spent the night. The following day we did knot tying and wood carving, having been shown a few basic knots that would be useful in everyday survival situations. To bring together all the skills that we had learned over the weekend we took part in a competition, comprising a knot tying race, a bow and drill fire making race, then onto starting a fire by spark. To finish we had to shoot a balloon with chickpeas using a slingshot/catapult. After a long weekend myself and many other cadets went home feeling tired but with a sense of accomplishment with the new skills that we had learnt.

TWGGS Ski Teams – Mrs Ayton

On Saturday 7th May the TWGGS Ski Teams took part in the 2016 Kent Schools' Ski Championships. The girls had been training hard for ten weeks at Bowles and performed very well on the day.

Evie Ayton was third in the Girls' Mid competition and the TWGGS Mid Team (Evie Ayton, Rebecca Forte, Anna Smith and Tia Young) beat Dartford Girls' Grammar to secure first place. Elle Ayton was fourth in the Girls' Senior competition and the TWGGS Senior Team (Elle Ayton, Lucy King Powrie, Nejma Nassman and Millie Young) came first and the TWGGS Senior Team (Charley Harris, Poppy Joyner, Imogen Ellis) came second. Overall the TWGGS Mid Team beat the senior teams to win the overall Secondary Girls' Team. Well done to all the girls.

Gold trophies Mid Females : Evie Rebecca, Anna and Tia
Silver trophies Senior Females : Charley, Imogen and Poppy

Gold trophies Senior Females : Lucy, Elle, Nejma and Millie

Overall Secondary Female Teams:
Silver medals: Elle, Lucy, Nejma and Millie

Gold medal: Tia Young and Evie
Bronze medals: Poppy, Imogen, Charley

Green medal Evie Ayton for 3rd in Mid category

Overall Secondary Girls Team : Evie, Rebecca, Anna and Tia.

Cricket – Miss Parkinson

The U15 cricket team played against Kings Canterbury in a well fought match. TWGGS fielded first and a combination of good fielding skills and tight bowling kept Kings' score down to 67 runs. Isy Macnutt took 2 wickets and Tilly Boorman bowled a fine over in her debut for the U15 team. Captain Sarah Barnaby opened the batting with Indigo Gentry and they got the run rate up right away. Tatianna Sneddon added to the score and TWGGS notched up an impressive score of 94 runs to win. Tatianna was player of the match with excellent reactions as wicket keeper and a fine batting spell. Well played to all: Sarah Barnaby ©, Indigo Gentry, Isy Macnutt, Lottie Van der Zanden, Emily Bowyer, Eloise Templar Earl, Tilly Boorman, Scout Duthie, Tatianna Sneddon.

U14 Tennis Team Congratulations - Miss Manklow

Congratulations to the U14 Tennis Team who came second in Division 1 of the first round of the Year 10 Aegon League this year. With some tough matches including the Sevenoaks match this term, the girls have really improved and come a long way with their technique. Well done to Florence Byers, Olivia Moran, Alice Atkins, Nicola Dawson and Tatianna Sneddon.

Super 8s Athletics Championships - Miss Manklow

Eight Year 7 pupils travelled to Ashford's Julie Rose Stadium to represent Tunbridge Wells in the Kent School Games Final day, teaming up with Tunbridge Wells Boys' Grammar School. There were thirteen boroughs competing including Ashford, Canterbury and Tonbridge, local rivals. We had some fantastic results throughout the day! Isabel Fletcher (long jump) won her event and Amalie Abdali was placed 5th. We also had some great results in the sprints; Eliz O'Donnell and Martha Jones battled against tough opponents to come first and second in their heats. In the relays we joined up with TWGSB for the medley, where we had to split the distances between the girls and boys. The race was very close between us, Medway and Ashford, however in the last 400m Ashford took the lead to win gold. The girls were not disheartened by this and came out stronger to win the 4 x 100m relay race. Overall, the day was a great success and Tunbridge Wells were awarded 5th place. Out of thirteen teams, this is a fantastic achievement and it just highlights the level of talent around Kent. Well done to Eliz O'Donnell, Martha Jones, Jess Marden, Grace Hobbs, Isabel Fletcher, Amalie Abdali and Rachel Huntley.

Ghana Supper Club evening in aid of Ghana Education Project - 24th September 2016

The very popular Ghana Supper Club is supporting the Ghana Education Project as their charity of the year. As part of this, Ghana Supper Club and the Ghana Education Project are teaming up to host a fundraising dinner at Manna Café in the High Street Tunbridge Wells.

Come and join us for a fun filled, colourful evening experiencing Ghanaian food and culture in aid of this project TWGGS supports. For just £30 a head you will receive a Welcome drink, Canapés, Starter, Main and Dessert. You are free to bring your own drink or buy two types of West African beers that will be available on the night. Ghana Supper Club receive rave reviews and their food is really delicious.

We hope some parents will join us in this sociable way to raise funds for a charity with which TWGGS has such a long association. The school in Ghana, that has been largely built with funds raised at TWGGS, will educate 490 girls up to 17, greatly changing the lives of these girls and their whole community. Full details of the event and how to purchase tickets can be found on the link below.

<http://us11.campaign-archive2.com/?u=5905c1bc7f27fc3de13d09853&id=83850ccb92&e=ad371c96c6>

School Trips Timetable

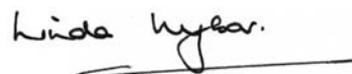
Please see the attached schedule of the proposed school trips for 2016-17.

PTA Update

Please see the attached Newsletter at the end of this document.

Finally, it only remains for me to wish you all a relaxing summer break and to thank you for your continued support of the school.

With best wishes,



Mrs L Wybar
Headteacher

SCHOOL TRIPS TIMETABLE 2016-2017

** All costs are approximate and subject to change*

<u>YEAR 7</u>	
OCTOBER	CAROTY WOOD TEAM-BUILDING DAY for the whole year group - £32.43
MARCH	GEOGRAPHY day trip to Bluewater for the whole year group - £10 MUSIC theatre trip £30 HISTORY visit by Medieval Re-Enactors £7
JULY	ENGLISH trip to Regents Park Open Air Theatre - £25
<u>YEAR 8</u>	
SEPTEMBER	HISTORY day visit to Hampton Court - £18
DECEMBER	ENGLISH evening theatre trip in - £20
MAY	GEOGRAPHY 1 day coastal fieldtrip - £10
JUNE/JULY	GERMAN half a day to Europa Centre, Hornchurch Essex, for the whole year group - £30 MUSIC theatre trip - £30 BEWL WATER Activity Day for the whole year group - £30 (tbc) LANGUAGE DAY 20 Gifted and Talented pupils to Canterbury University - £14
<u>YEAR 9</u>	
NOVEMBER	GERMAN 3 days at the Christmas markets in Cologne, 96 places by application - £165
APRIL/MAY	ENGLISH evening theatre trip - £21
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 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 (from Year 9) – Initial Siberian Tiger Club weekend at Crowborough Military Camp £20
<u>YEAR 10</u>	
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

NOVEMBER	FRENCH EXCHANGE (tbc-or March) 1 week to La Teste (Aquataine) - £350
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 (tbc or November) 1 week to La Teste (Aquataine) - £350 MUSIC theatre trip for GCSE pupils - £26
JUNE	GEOGRAPHY 1 day planning in school, followed by 2 day trips - £35 DRAMA compulsory matinee for GCSE pupils to prepare for written examination on Live Production- £25-£30
JULY	CCF ANNUAL CAMP Venue changes each year – approximately £70
NOVEMBER	DRAMA compulsory matinee Unit 2 performance for GCSE pupils - £25-£30
<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 2016 - £1150 CCF MILITARY DINNER for all cadets, staff, parents and supporters approximately £35 per ticket GHANA 3 weeks for Years 11 and L6 bi-annually. 16 places by application. Next trip 2016 - £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
JULY	CCF ANNUAL CAMP Venue changes each year – approximately £70

	BOLIVIA EXPEDITION – 3 weeks, every other year, 16 places by application. Next expedition – Summer 2018. £3750
<u>LOWER 6TH</u>	*6 th Form Theatre Studies trips are arranged throughout the year to prepare pupils for the written examination at the end of the course. Pupils can expect to pay between £15-25 for each trip to see current, acclaimed work.
SEPTEMBER	CAROTY WOOD TEAM- BUILDING DAY whole year group - £32.42 * THEATRE STUDIES 1 day physical theatre workshop in the PAC (tbc) - £25. 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 6 day trip to Iceland for AS/A2 Level pupils, 40-50 places, every other year. Next trip 2017- £885 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 £35 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 2016 - £1150 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 2016 - £1750
NOVEMBER	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 2017 SPANISH 1 week (half-term), every other year, to Andalucía for AS/A2 Level pupils. Next exchange 2017 - £600-£650

MARCH	<p>GEOGRAPHY 1 week fieldtrip to Devon for AS Level pupils - £450 (tbc)</p> <p>CCF MILITARY SKILLS COMPETITION Weekend competition for the South East - £20</p> <p>*THEATRE STUDIES 1 theatre trip, evening - £10-£25. For AS Level pupils.</p> <p>PSYCHOLOGY/SOCIOLOGY day trip to London for AS Level pupils. Train fare £25</p>
APRIL	SKI TRIP 8 days to USA, 30-40 places by application - £1480
JULY	<p>CCF ANNUAL CAMP to be held in the penultimate week of the school year. Venue changes each year – approximately £70</p> <p>BOLIVIA EXPEDITION – 3 weeks, 16 places by application. Next expedition – Summer 2018. £3750</p>
<u>UPPER 6TH</u>	*6 th Form Theatre Studies theatre trips will be arranged to support pupils prepare for DRAM4, The Devised Practical between September and February. Each evening performance will cost between £15-£25
SEPTEMBER	*THEATRE STUDIES 1 day physical theatre workshop in the PAC (tbc) - £25.
OCTOBER	EXTENSION GEOGRAPHY half term 6 day trip to Iceland for AS/A2 Level pupils, 40-50 places, every other year. Next trip 2017 - £885
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	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	<p>HISTORY visit to Russia for AS & A2 pupils – during half term £1200 Bi-annual-next trip 2017</p> <p>SPANISH 1 week (half-term), every other year, to Andalucía for AS/A2 Level pupils. Next trip 2017- £600-£650</p>
MARCH	<p>*THEATRE STUDIES theatre trip, evening or matinee, for A2 Level pupils - £10-£25</p> <p>PSYCHOLOGY / SOCIOLOGY day trip to London for A2 Level pupils – train fare + £25</p>
JULY	CCF ANNUAL CAMP Venue changes each year – approximately £70

The timetable illustrates trips that we hope to run during the academic year 2016 – 2017. 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:

- Spare places may be available on all Sixth Form theatre trips – pupils wishing to join the department on any trips should see Mrs Davis who can reserve additional places in advance. In previous years touring companies have performed their work in the Performing Arts Centre – these events are open to all pupils on a first come first served basis once places have been allocated to Drama pupils
- The Mathematics Department will be running a ‘Maths Fun Day’ for the whole of Year 7 in June 2017

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



TWGGS PTA 2015-16 Review



URGENT PLEA



We start our annual review with an urgent appeal. We are after replacements for key positions within the PTA. We need a Chair and Vice Chairperson to coordinate our activities. It should be a role where you do just that - coordinate and not do everything - honest! Don't let being a new parent at the school put you off nor lack of knowledge, experience and ability as that certainly didn't put any of us off. We've no problem with it being a shared role. Also, with Lisa Beaumont's departure, a marketing lead is needed to assist us in our fundraising activities. Drop us a line if you think you might be able to help - pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk

However, and something that I reiterated at the recent new Year 7 parents' evening, even if you can only commit to literally a couple of hours a year we'd be delighted to have you. Even if you can't do any of the listed activities, register anyway even if it is just to receive our regular updates

<http://twggspta.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=16066>



The year ends with a healthy bank balance and almost £20k generated over the course of the year. 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. New fundraising target to be revealed soon - watch this space!

We're delighted with the new floodlights on the school tennis courts which make CCF and hard court sports a year round activity. Our bank of iPads is now available for teaching use and the anti-bullying video proved to be a very powerful production.



Our next big event, and the key event of the year, is the fancy dress sponsored walk on the morning of Friday 30th September. It's a really enjoyable event for the girls and staff alike but we need stewards to cover the route, help at the start/finish and undertake critical tasks in advance and afterwards. Trying to get someone to lead on this was akin to finding the Holy Grail and the Wizard of Oz so many thanks to Christine Wilson for taking the bull by the horns. However, helpers are still critical if this event is to go ahead. Register for a shift at <http://twggspta.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=16066>. If you work for a firm that can match or provide donations please please please get in touch - pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk .

Highlights for the year include:



Our superb TWGGS Butterfly Ball, the PTA's biennial social event led by Irene Dawson, was held in October in an exquisitely decorated hall in the school. It was a huge success thanks to the time and effort put in by key parent organisers and helpers, in particular Irene and our "Ghana Girls" who served dinner and collected money on the night. Over 100 revellers went through the door and raised a fabulous £4,400 to go towards forthcoming school projects as well as money for the Ghana fund.

Our Y7 & Y8 discos led by Kirsty Dobson, despite a good start, have faltered and we're looking to introduce different ideas next year. We're open to any suggestions! Nevertheless, we did make almost £2k profit. Volunteers desperately needed for the next disco on Friday 16th September - click here <http://twggspta.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=16066>





The Xmas Bring and Buy / Chocolate Tombola raised almost £1k - thanks to Claudia Williamson and her band of helpers for all her work with this. Volunteers needed for the next one on Friday 9th December - register here to take part

<http://twggspta.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=16066>



Thank-you all for your continuing support with our raffles organised by Emma O' Sullivan. This is now our second biggest fundraiser so please continue to support us. I can assure you that the number of PTA winners in the last raffle was pure coincidence! We made almost £4.5k over the year!



Our annual quiz held on Friday 18th March which was run by Kirsty Dobson, Sue Parker and Francesca Braham, was a success although an event by TWGSB and a quiz by Skinners the week before, had an impact on team entries. A profit of £1,379 was made on the night for our first ever quiz that ended in a tie.

Many thanks to all the companies who have assisted us with donations and support throughout the year most notably Spa Oil Services (consistently our top sponsor!), Fromage and French, Canvaspace, The Barn, Victoria Genevieve styling, C & H Fabrics (10% discount to staff and pupils on production of a planner), Slap'n dash, No.6 Shop and Clinic and Pure Beauty and Hair Workshop in Southborough

Second Hand uniform raised over £600 despite a shortage in supplies so many thanks to our 2nd hand uniform shop run by Claudia Williamson and Thomasine Dowding. For any uniform requirements (sales and donations) please email Claudia and Thomasine on uniform@twggs.kent.sch.uk . **Donations urgently required!**



Other ongoing fundraisers include the 100+ club that raised approximately £3,700 so again many thanks to Kathleen Perkins and Lesley Ancliff. The winning 100+ club numbers for this year are as follows:

First Prize Winners (£75)	Second Prize Winners (£50)
Jan - S Dillon	Jan - P McDaid
Feb - C Kottler	Feb - R Baker
Mar - C Worsell	Mar - R Blundell
Apr - C Dowling	Apr - C Kottler
May - C Young	May - A Carew
June - K Street	June - E Staples

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



In light of a declining disco attendance, we're thinking of having a girls' film night in the Performing Arts Centre straight after school one evening in the Autumn term. We can get popcorn at wholesale prices (thanks Chris Pendleton) and a firm that takes care of the legalities. Would you be able to lead on this? We'll help you! Email pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk

If you are shopping online consider using Easy Fundraising. From books and clothes to furniture and electrical items, most retailers are on here. Some PTAs raise thousands of pounds this way and it costs you nothing. Instead of the retailers paying search engines, they pay us for your custom! We benefit from their thankyou payment. Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/twggspta



The PTA is now active on both Facebook and Twitter. Our twitter handle is @TWGGSPTA and the Facebook page is TWGGS PTA.





The Facebook group is a closed group and access is for parents by application only. The group is moderated by a PTA committee member to ensure that all participants abide by house rules. It is a safe and secure way to share relevant school news and to assist with fund raising. On applying please check your Message Request section in Messages as you may be contacted by the group Admin and these don't appear as normal messages.



As always we must thank the TWGGS caretakers and all the TWGGS admin staff for their constant support and never-ending patience with our last-minute requests and constant reminders for help throughout the year. With no chair or vice chair, they've been particularly helpful to me.



Finally, with a heavy heart, we say goodbye to **Lisa Beaumont** who tragically became trapped in our AGM on the way out of the Year 7 "Meet the Teacher" meeting at the PAC last year. She proved to be a breath of fresh air with her work on our Twitter feed and starting up our Facebook page.

Finally, as highlighted elsewhere in the newsletter, it's a sad goodbye to **Mr Jamieson** who has been an absolute stalwart on the PTA - buying stock, running bars and successfully encouraging his form in all the activities that the PTA are involved in. He will be sorely missed but we wish him well for the future and will still send him the minutes and invitations to the quiz nights!

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.



Graham Naismith
TWGGS PTA Secretary
Registered Charity No. 307812
Email: pta@twggs.kent.sch.uk

TWGGS PTA Calendar of Events 2016-17

SEPTEMBER 2016		
Monday 12th	PTA Meeting 6:00pm - 7.30pm TWGGS Performing Arts Centre	First PTA Meeting of the year - all welcome.
Friday 16 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 three schools. All attendees must be collected by an adult known to them from TWGGS entrance. Note - no parking on school site.
Friday 30 th	School Sponsored Walk Morning - start and finish at school	Our biennial fancy dress sponsored walk for all the girls. Volunteers needed!
OCTOBER 2016		
Wednesday 5th	Y7 Tutor eve/AGM PTA	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. Yes, it's no thriller but they get better. All welcome.
Tbc	Film Night PAC	Film evening straight after school at the PAC (if we can get someone to lead!)
DECEMBER 2016		
Friday 9 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 but we'll need helpers.
2017		
March (date tbc)	Quiz Night 7:30pm-10:30pm TWGGS School Hall	Hotly-contested quiz that is invariably a sell-out - details to follow