

Dear Parent/Guardian

### **Parking and Dropping off Pupils – Mrs Wybar**

We have recently again received complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking and parents dropping off girls, especially in the Whitefield Road/ Beltring Road area. They describe cars mounting the pavement or pulling over erratically causing danger to pedestrians, as well as people just stopping at the junction to allow girls out of the vehicle, thus creating a traffic jam. Please could I remind you that the roads surrounding the school are a residential area with large numbers of schoolchildren on foot. If it is necessary to give your daughter a lift to school, please could she be dropped off further from the school, in order to avoid this congestion and ensure everyone's safety. Thank you.

### **Election of Parent Governor**

The governors are pleased to advise that Glenn Miller has recently joined the TWGGGS' governing body as a parent governor. Thank you to the other parents who expressed an interest in this role and who stood for election.

### **Year 8 Shakespeare Festival – Reviewed by members of 8G**

Many rehearsals and English lessons all led up to the 1<sup>st</sup> February. Although not everyone was on stage, or in the spotlight, all were frantically busy on the day. Each form was given a different Shakespeare play to perform and every one put on a memorable performance, each winning a well-deserved prize. Prizes awarded included best actors in each form, best make-up and costume, best lighting and sound and so on.

**8T** were responsible for bringing 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' to the stage, bringing out the humour in a really effective way. They won the best set: it looked very magical and really fitted the feel of the play. They also won the Shakespeare festival overall, well deserved as they really brought the audience into a magical world. The best supporting actress was Freya Mundy and the best actress in 8T was Kylie Wates. **8W** performed a modernized version of 'Romeo and Juliet', which was very engaging, and they used costume and props to convey the era. The two scenes they did were the ball, in which Romeo and Juliet (Izzy Fletcher and Kat Chatfield) met for the first time, and the fight scene between the Capulets and the Montagues, in which Tybalt (Amalie Abdali) and Mercutio (Mae Harbinson) both died. They won the promotion award for their poster and programme. Amelia Thomas won Best Supporting Actor for her portrayal of the Prince of Verona, and Mae Harbinson won Best Actor for Mercutio.

**8I** faced the challenge of staging 'Macbeth', including a gripping opening with three diabolical witches. This moved on to a highly dramatic scene in which Macbeth faced the ghostly apparition of the slain Banquo. The form won the award for the most visually exciting production, which recognised the stunning costumes and use of special effects, which kept the audience on the edge of their seats. Emma Donovan, playing a calm and calculating Lady Macbeth, was awarded Best Supporting Actor, while Lucy Mercer triumphed in her portrayal of Macbeth – winning Overall Best Performance of the evening. **8G** performed two main scenes of 'The Winter's Tale', along with two side scenes. The first was a court scene in which Hermione, the Queen, is being convicted. The second was a scene revealing Hermione rising from the dead as a statue; two of our actors choreographed a short dance to top it off. The form won the award for sound and lighting, thanks to lots of trial and error. Sophie Preston, who played Leontes, a man driven mad by paranoia, won best actor and Kate de Putter, who played Hermione, best supporting actor. **8S** performed 'The Tempest', incorporating physical theatre and dance into the play, and deservedly winning an award for the most effective use of space. The best supporting actress was Amber Moral, and the best actress overall in the form was Ruby McNamara-York.

The Shakespeare Festival was a brilliant way for us, as forms, to pull together to produce a play that we could call our own without adult help but using drama prefects to complete our dramatic adaptations. It was a fun experience and at the same time we could develop our knowledge of a wide range of Shakespeare's plays.

### **Sporting Achievements – Miss Parkinson**

Congratulations to Rosie Dobson, who has been selected to represent Kent and London South East in rugby. Congratulations to Lucy Reeve, Caitlin Fearon, Indigo Gentry, Holly Hobbs, Gracie Hobbs and Harriet Mahon who have been selected into the Kent Swimming Squad. Indigo Gentry has also been selected to represent Kent in cricket.

### ***Murder by the Book – A Murder Mystery Event in the Library***

So you thought the library was a safe place? Where murders are only committed in ink? THINK AGAIN! A dastardly murder was committed with cunning clues left behind. And it wasn't the butler who did it..... but who did? Was it the Librarian, the Head of English or the Physics Teacher? Time for our own TWGGGS detectives to get to work and investigate the case. To celebrate the upcoming visit by teen crime author Kim Slater, on 9<sup>th</sup> February, the Library hosted a two week murder mystery event, Murder by

the Book. With a full crime-scene staged, witness statements, coroner's reports and a whole host of clues and red herrings scattered around the Library, TWGGS detectives had to get to work to find the 3 "M"s - murderer, method and motive.

Critical analysis of the evidence, cunning deductions from and creative links between clues, fierce cross-examination of the three suspects and good report writing were all needed to find the answers and be in with a chance to win the prize. A challenge certainly, but not an obstacle to our cunning detective teams. The crime reports have now been submitted and will be analysed, with the winning team announced next half-term..... along with the identity of the dastardly murderer. Can you wait that long?

#### **Advance Warning for Year 7 Parents - Mrs Mattheus-Ratcliffe, Librarian**

"World Book Day Dressing Up Competition" – do these six words make your heart sink? As a parent myself I know that feeling, especially when you are confronted with this request the night before the big event. That's why the Library at TWGGS thinks ahead and tries to give parents some advance warning. Here it is: To celebrate World Book Day pupils and teachers from Year 7 are invited to come to school on **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March** dressed as a character from a favourite book. Though it is not compulsory, all girls are encouraged to take part in what always proves to be a fun event with prizes for the best dressed class, individual in a class, individual in year group, and group costume. It is usually a highly creative and competitive event and I am sure the girls will want to start planning their costume over half-term. We look forward to seeing many inspired costumes on the day.

#### **Year 9 Christmas Bake Off – Mrs Callaway**

After much deliberation, I can now reveal the winners of the Year 9 Christmas Bake Off:- Jane Dupuy, Rebecca Forte, Abbie Gadd, Carla Bone, Scarlett Bowness, Annie Chown, Emily Dennis, Lucy Berkerey, Kate Challis, Imogen Chapman, Shreya Lallu, Lucy Linton, Zoe Omer, Livvy Perkins, Isabel Pound, Ella Tipling, Susi Jahnich, Tamara King, Amber Lahdelma, Enya Turner, Alexandra Wilkinson and Lily Zelezetskii. All the girls who took part worked hard to produce a challenging bake, with a supporting piece of project work. The winning girls showed particular flair for this and were invited to join in with a sugar craft master class, taken by Hollie from Hollie's Little Cakery. Hollie is a Tunbridge Wells baker, who has recently set up her own company. It was an opportunity for the girls to ask her any questions and to have a go at perfecting their sugar craft work.

#### **Chemistry Challenge – Madeleine Sanderson, 10S**

On 25th January four Year 10 students, Megan Biggerstaff, Francesca McDaid, Immie Travers-Calvert and Madeleine Sanderson, went to the University of Greenwich to participate in a regional Chemistry Competition. We had taken a number of tests prior to the event and had placed in the top four in Kent, so advanced to the next level of the competition. When we arrived, we were given a quick briefing of what was going to happen: the plan was to complete two practicals and three written papers, and the winning team would advance to the next round of competition. Our two practicals consisted of identifying acids and alkalis using an indicator, flame test and testing for halides, and we were only given 20 minutes for each. However, in comparison with the written papers, the difficulty of the practicals seemed rather tame. There were sheets with questions about key elements and their reactions, chemical properties, and memorising details about obscure elements which was quite challenging. We tried our best and were eventually placed 3rd out of four teams, but 3rd out of the 100 teams that entered in Kent. Overall we really enjoyed the day at the university, and even though we didn't win we still learnt a lot about chemistry and even got free university merchandise!

#### **Design your own Pavilion – Architecture Competition – Sarah Parish, 9T**

In October, a small group of pupils in Year 9, including myself, were selected by the Art Department to take part in an architecture competition run by The Serpentine Gallery in London. We considered the structural qualities of the natural form pieces we had created in Year 8, and thought about their potential to become a temporary architectural structure, or 'Pavilion'. We presented a visual mock-up of the pavilions and a description of its purpose. Mine was inspired by the integration of a building into its surroundings through the use of organic shapes and materials. Of the hundreds of entries, Lara James and myself were chosen as two of only six 'commended' entries. I thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to learn more about architecture and design, as well as having a lot of fun - I would recommend it to anyone thinking about it in the future!

#### **Gifted and Talented Design and Technology Challenge - Kumi Allen 10S, India Farnham 10S**

We attended the Southern England Science and Technology competition held at Queen Mary's University in London on 13th January 2016. There were twelve other teams taking part. To attend this round of the competition, you had to have previously won the regional competitions held in your county. Our first challenge was to programme a robot successfully to complete a course. The course was a maze made up of bends, turns and different coloured walls. We had to programme the robot to be colour sensitive and manoeuvre itself around the course; it also had to do something original and imaginative to score extra points. We were also marked on our team work and skills. After the three dedicated hours we *almost* managed to get our robot round (it only faltered at the last corner) but annoyingly another team managed to do it! Overall we came third. We were very proud of our achievements and had learnt many new skills.

### **CCF Royal Navy Section – Hollie Schleider, 10G**

When I first heard that the TWGGS CCF was setting up a Royal Navy section, I wanted to find out more about the opportunities that were available to me. I was already in the Army section, but it wasn't really for me. I signed up for the Navy, not really knowing what to expect, despite having gathered some information about what we might do. Then January came. I had been looking forward to becoming a sea cadet, and I couldn't wait for the whole process to start. I was going to be one of the senior cadets and was especially looking forward to being able to teach the new Year 9s when they joined. When we started, I found there were some differences to the Army; for example, different saluting. On 23<sup>rd</sup> January there was a Royal Navy Taster Day, where there were some activities that we had to do. It was fun, although my friend Katie and I were really bad at the knot tying activity! We were slightly better at the other activity, where we had to get into two teams and use ropes and wooden planks to get from one place to another. My team won it, even though I kept falling over (multiple times!). I feel like the transfer over to the Navy section was good, as there are more opportunities offered that I enjoy doing, for example, kayaking.

### **Under 12 Seven A Side Hockey – Miss Parkinson**

Well played to the U12 A Team, who had an exciting 2-2 draw against TGS. Tilly Strand-Ford was excellent in defence and Cordelia Jones set up several attacking opportunities. The players were:- Tilly Strand-Ford (captain), Harriet Sacker (captain) Laura Mcgee, Gemma Preston, Annabella Curcher, Georgina Lees and Cordelia Jones. The B team has improved considerably and secured a 3-0 win against TGS. Tilly and Hattie were joint players of the match. The players were:- Tilly Hughes-Wilson (captain), Biba Rabjohns, Eleanor Hobley, Maria Miller, Hattie Cruse, Sophie Makinson, Emily Skottowe and Neve Cotterill. Well played to all.

### **U15 Football Final Results – Mr Russell**

The Under 15s competed in the West Kent Schools League over the last two terms and achieved the following results:

vs St Gregory's	Lost 1-6	vs Trinity	Won 6-2	vs TGS	Won 1-0
vs Skinners	Won 3-0	vs Hadlow	Won 3-0	vs Bennett	Won 5-3

These impressive performances resulted in TWGGS being joint league winners, which means they will play St Gregory's in the West Kent League Cup Final. There were fantastic individual performances in the matches, but everyone played their part. The squad consisted of:- Captain Sara Walker, Thea Pengelly, Maria Walker, Lotte van der Zanden, Holly Shrubsole, Sophia Ledger, Hollie Niccolls, Jennifer Kearney, Maddie Sanderson, Lauren Jackson, Alexandra Wilkinson, Rachel McGee, Lauren Hall, Evie Pengelly, Livvy Perkins, Eve Palmer, Lara Stein Perry, Emily Martin, Maya Strand Ford, Martha Russell, Anna Conroy.

### **Kent Schools' Cross Country Championships 2017 – Mrs Field, Cross Country Coach**

Congratulations to our cross country runners, from across the school, who travelled to Dover to compete in the Kent Schools' Championship, a day of very icy races in January. From Year 7 Eve Houghton was awarded a medal for her role in the Tunbridge Wells District Team, which came overall third in the category and a huge "well done" goes to Kitty Phillips, who turned up to run despite suffering ill-health. Our Junior and Intermediate runners, Sophie Preston, Martha Jones and Romane Balcomb-Nevill ran very well against stiff county-level competition and our senior girls, Ellie Cohen, Emilia Hope and Alice Ralph all qualified for the selection pool for Kent in the forthcoming regional level competitions. Well done to all the girls and a big thank you to parents for your ongoing support in bringing the girls to Dover.

On an equally positive note, it is marvellous to have so many girls from every year group, joining us after school on a Friday for a cross country run in the mud! Thank you to Mrs Matthews and Mr Mahon for your help in running the club.

### **Kent Schools Swimming Championships – Mrs Murray**

On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January TWGGS took part in the Kent Schools Swimming Championships in Margate. Parents Mrs Fearon and Mrs Hobbs organised and managed the TWGGS team on the day. The majority of girls achieved personal best times and really enjoyed representing the school. Congratulations to all involved. Captain Caitlin Fearon said everyone was really positive on poolside and their new TWGGS hats with the gold logo definitely stood out! Thank you to all the parents who came to support and help on the day. Results were as follows:

#### Junior events (Years 7 and 8)

100m Freestyle – Madeleine Brookbank (32nd), Mia Devey (36th)  
100m Backstroke – Scarlett Holford (30th), Florence Costain (23rd)  
100m Butterfly – Gracie Hobbs (5th), Hannah Shanks (DQd)  
100m Breaststroke – Isabella Lightfoot (36th), Sophie Harrington (41st)  
200m Individual Medley – Harriet Mahon (11th), Amelie Hunton (21st)

Intermediate Events (Years 9 and 10)

100m Freestyle - Maisie Beaton (19th)

100m Breaststroke – Holly Hobbs (4th)

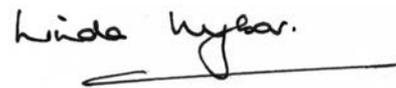
100m Backstroke – Holly Hobbs (18th), Maisie Beaton (16th)

Intermediate Events (Years 11, 12, and 13)

100m Freestyle – Caitlin Fearon (3rd)

200m Individual Medley – Caitlin Fearon (2nd)

With best wishes,

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

Mrs L Wybar  
Headteacher