

Dear Parent/Guardian

#### **Plea for Second Hand Uniform - PTA**

The New Year 7 induction evening is on Monday 26th June and the second hand uniform stall is very popular! We are very much in need of uniform to sell - particularly small sizes - so if your daughter has outgrown any school uniform that is still in good condition, please please send it in to reception. With many thanks.

#### **Young Enterprise : *Aeris Life* – Martha Lee, L6W**

Back in October, fifteen girls were selected to take part in the Young Enterprise scheme, which enables young people to develop personal and business skills. Our group began relatively clueless of how to run a business but, after our first meeting we had divided up into departments (Sales, Finance, HR, IT, Marketing, Operations) and appointed two managing directors. We quickly started off by ordering, making and selling handmade reed diffusers, and called our company *Aeris Life*. With the help of Mr Sainsbury and two business advisors, we began creating our brand and learnt how to run a successful business from managing people to setting up bank accounts and paying taxes. We attended many local farmers' markets, school and local events to sell our products and used social media to improve our brand. On 20<sup>th</sup> March, we attended the West Kent Competition, where, after discussions with the judges, analysis of our business plan and an excellent speech from Charley Grossman, Ella Wheatley and Ella Heffer, *Aeris Life* won the competition, along with being awarded prizes for best business plan, presentation, marketing and runners up in finance. With our recent success, the team then decided to take a risk in attending the Weald of Kent Handmade Craft Fair, where we had more success and took around £750 during the three days, and completely sold out of three scents. On 4<sup>th</sup> May, we attended the next round of the competition, the Kent and Medway finals. The team again gave a strong presentation and excellently answered questions on our stall to end up winning the best trade stand, as well as coming third overall in the competition. Young Enterprise has given us a unique insight into the world of work and what it takes to run a successful business. Through the scheme we have made many strong friendships and been taught many valuable life lessons for the future.

#### **Bloodhound Rocket Competition Report - Heloise South, 7S**

On 15<sup>th</sup> March, four teams went to TGS to race cars in the national competition run by the Bloodhound Project, which is planning to make the first car to travel over 1000mph later this summer. Our cars had been previously made in Science Club (held on Wednesdays at 1.00pm.) You had to make the cars formed out of lightweight polystyrene as streamlined as possible. The four cars and their respective girls were:- Team Lightning:- Heloise South, Milena Murgai and Tilly Hughes-Wilson. Mavis:- Amelia Aves and Emily Maycock. The Greyhound:- Lily Dhanowa, Neve Cotterill, Rosie Henning Brodessen and Samira Ahmed. And last but not least, EAE:- Emilia Wood, Ella Wilson and Emilia Faure-Walker. On the day, we drove to TGS where the officials took Greyhound and placed it on a wire so it wouldn't run rogue! The wire was about 10 metres long. They then placed a 10 newton rocket in a hole in the back of the car and we then started the countdown. 3....2.... 1..! The Greyhound raced along the wire at lightning speed before hitting two foam cylinders that were there to cushion the impact of the cars. This procedure was repeated for all four TWGGGS cars. We found out the speed (roughly) of each of our cars after the event - Greyhound 37mph, Team Lightning 32mph, EAE 32mph and Mavis 29mph, so, Greyhound came first out of the TWGGGS cars, placed 458<sup>th</sup> nationally, but they were all pretty close. Unfortunately we were not high enough to progress to the regional finals but hope to improve next year.

#### **Biology Conference - Amy Lewis, U6I**

At the end of April, a number of Upper and Lower Sixth Form girls were fortunate enough to attend a Biology conference at Tonbridge School, which included a talk from Professor Morykwas, Professor of Surgical Sciences – Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery at the Wake Forest School of Medicine, North Carolina, who specialised in reconstructive surgery. He talked about his interest in the normal and abnormal processes of wound healing and his development of surgical equipment used around the world to improve the success rates of reconstructive surgery. The highlight of the conference however, was a talk given by Sir John Gurdon of The Gurdon Institute at the University of Cambridge, who was the winner of the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1995 and again in 2012. Sir Gurdon not only explained his revolutionary research on nuclear reprogramming by oocytes and eggs, but also explained the complicated process behind the ability to clone animals using Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer.

#### **GCSE Drama – Mrs Davis**

The GCSE Drama cohort of 38 should feel extremely proud of their accomplishments; they successfully completed their GCSE Drama course, culminating in eight final group pieces, which they performed in front of an external examiner, their peers, parents and staff. The first four groups, who performed on 25<sup>th</sup> April, set the bar high with individual and energetic adaptations of well-known play texts. The first piece, a creative adaptation of "Blue Remembered Hills" illuminated this year's theme of "*Looking back and Looking Forward*" by exploring the contrasting events surrounding a main character's death. This imaginative piece was both playful and tragic, looking at how quickly children lose their innocence when faced with adult issues. "The House of Bernada Alba" followed, showcasing a very different set of naturalistic skills. This group of seven did exceptionally well to hold the audience's

attention, delivering a challenging piece that explored themes of female imprisonment and grief. "Playhouse Creatures", an historicization of the first time women were allowed to perform on the English stage, explored the oppression and exploitation actresses faced in the Restoration period. The first evening finished with a highly naturalistic performance of "The Memory of Water", a comic play which unites three sisters, returning to their family home after their mother dies. Willy Russell's "Stags and Hens" started the second evening of performances; a highly enjoyable and comic realisation of a hen party trying to persuade a reluctant bride about the joys of marriage! The second piece to be performed on 26<sup>th</sup> April was "Shakers" - a highly stylised four-hander, which involved polished multi-role and synchronised physical theatre. The penultimate performance of "Metamorphosis", the surrealist play by Steven Berkoff, saw the group of three employ highly physical movement to communicate how one morning the family woke to find their son "transformed...into a gigantic insect!". The final group of four devised their own drama "Uplifted" exploring women's working rights in the 1960s, a highly comedic and political piece, ending the exam with a theatrical bang!

### **Sixth Form Theatre Studies – Mrs Davis**

The Sixth Form classes have seen two live productions this term. "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf", at the Harold Pinter Theatre in London, and "Bucket List", a touring production from the Edinburgh Fringe at the Space in Sevenoaks. Both experiences, although entirely different in style and content, exposed pupils to live performance enriching their own practical work. We were extremely fortunate to gain free tickets for the first production as Ian Drysdale (TWGGS parent and professional actor) was an understudy for the role of George. We are sincerely hoping that Mr Drysdale will be running his drama workshops in the Performing Arts Centre this summer; week-long events which always prove very popular with Drama pupils across Years 8 to the Upper Sixth. Please look out for a Parentmail outlining the details of these events early next term.

### **Other dates to look forward to in Drama:**

The Lower Sixth will be performing their Component 2 examination, the Devised Practical, on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July. Two groups working in the style of selected practitioners are collaborating to produce professional and creative final pieces. The first group is working in the style of *Kneehigh*, a prestigious theatre company who specialise in creative adaptations of original works, to revise Alfred Hitchcock's "Strangers on a Train" to entertain and thrill the audience. The second group, working in the highly physical style of *DV8*, are looking at the themes of sexual exploitation to deliver a political message. If your daughter is currently in Years 10 or 11, and plans to study Theatre Studies at A Level, it is recommended that she attends; not only will she feel inspired, but she will gain a clear understanding of the practical expectations of the course. Pupils should see Mrs Davis for tickets. Please be aware that the second piece contains adult themes.

### **Life in the Royal Engineers! Cdt Lara James, 9S**

On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May, twelve cadets travelled to the Brompton Barracks for a physical activity day and a taste of life in the Royal Engineers. At first, we marched up to the auditorium where we were welcomed with a short speech on the activities we would be completing and the roles in the Royal Engineers. Then we were whisked off to our first activity: the boat race. We were placed against two teams in the race where we had to paddle around three buoys in the lake. TWGGS came first in this activity due to our good communication and teamwork skills. After this we made our way to the food tent, where we were taught about the twenty-four ration boxes and then we were able to eat them. I think the majority of the cadets were mildly surprised at how tasty these meals were, perhaps not five star quality, but a lot better than what we were expecting. After stashing as many of the extra biscuits and sweets into our pockets as we could, we continued to our third activity, which was called "Plant". This involved the cadets looking around old tractors, having a go at digging itself and completing the task of stacking four tyres on top of each other. This was a really fun exercise as we were free to look around, although the digging was a lot more challenging than it seems.

Afterwards, the cadets were shown around three rooms, including different displays on the roles and requirements of soldiers in the Royal Engineers, including a presentation of a sniffer dog. Later, we moved on to gun pull, an exercise that involved constructing a gun, running it through a gate, changing the wheels on the gun, running it through another gate and then deconstructing it at the end. TWGGS was quite fast at this task, as beforehand we had watched the boys' team and then thought of some techniques that would save us time. Thanks to this, TWGGS beat the boys' team by 30 seconds! Lastly, we completed an assault course. This exercise pushed us to our limits as we had to complete a challenging course as many times as possible in five minutes. All of the cadets tried really hard in this task, even though lots of us would have liked to stop after the first lap. To finish, there was an awards ceremony, where TWGGS came third overall. This was particularly unexpected, as we were the youngest team there and the only all girls squad. In total, this was a fun day out for the cadets and we learnt the basics of many skills required in the Royal Engineers. We are very thankful to the Brompton Barracks for their hard work putting this day on, and of course to Major Reynolds and Lieutenant Naismith for giving up their time to take us there.

### **Major Series Mud Run 2017 – Cdt Rachel McGee, 9W**

On 25<sup>th</sup> March a few Year 9s went to Eridge Park to volunteer to help at the Major Series Mud Run. There was a 10K and a 5K race that the many competitors could take part in. When we first arrived we were given a briefing and all of the volunteers were told where to go and what to do. We were given the job of packing the gift bags that would be given to every runner once

they had finished, so we formed a chain, each person putting one or two items in each bag. We made hundreds of bags full of things and it took hours. All the time we were listening to music being played on the loud speakers and dancing along, which was really fun. A couple of people at a time were then chosen to pour water into cups for the runners when they finished. After the runners came over the final obstacle, we had to hand out the bags and give the runners the correct shirt. Finally, the last runner came over the final obstacle and a buzzer sounded. After that, we all got given a medal, a bag and T-shirt. The whole thing was a great experience and by volunteering we gave TWGGS CCF some free places in the race in September. It was fun to work as a team and get to know all the people in other forms who we wouldn't usually talk to.

### **Emily Ghose, U6I, represents South of England! - Mrs Murray**

Emily is doing really well at RaceWalking within the UK athletics competitions. At the end of April she represented the South of England at the Regional Championships held at Lea Valley Stadium Enfield, winning the 5000m Women's U20 race. Over the May bank holiday weekend she had another trip away to Coventry for the British Championships, where she won the 20k race at U20 and was also 2nd overall in the women's category - the race was also grouped into various team events in terms of points and she was part of the Kent team that won the overall counties championship. On the basis of this race she should get a good overall UK ranking within the top 2-3 at her age group and top few overall in women's. If she maintains her rate of improvement, she has a good chance of being picked for England (again) or Team GB in due course. Congratulations to Emily for her fantastic success and we wish her all the best for the next round of selections.

### **Tilly Strand Ford, 7G – Miss Parkinson**

Congratulations to Tilly Strand Ford, who plays hockey for Sevenoaks. On 13<sup>th</sup> May her U12 team became the U12 England champions and Tilly received the cup for player of the season.

### **Sailing - Ella is Ranked No 1 in England! - Mrs Murray**

Mrs Murray is delighted to report that 5 races were sailed by 200 sailors at the 2017 Volvo Gill Optimist Class Inlands. Ella Lance, 8S, came 9th overall and was the second girl. With the first girl falling out of the ranking due to the 15-age limit, Ella is now ranked no 1 Optimist class girl in the country. In addition, the ten race trials at the National Sailing Academy in Weymouth, Ella was selected to represent Great Britain in the European Development Squad at the 2017 Optimist Mediterranean Championship in Cyprus in August. What amazing achievements – well done Ella!

### **Kent Schools' Ski Championships**

On 6<sup>th</sup> May the TWGGS Ski Team went to Brentwood for the 2017 Kent Schools' Ski Championships. We had three teams consisting of ten racers, many of whom were racing for their first time and all skied fantastically. In the Years 7 - 9 category, all the girls finished in the top ten, with Evie Ayton coming first and gaining fourth fastest overall out of all the secondary girls. Rebecca Forte recorded the second fastest individual slalom time in this age group, with Cordy Jones recording the third fastest. In the combined time results for both runs, Evie came first, Lydia Dunkin second and Mia Davey third. In the Years 10 to 13 category, Elle Ayton came first overall and recorded the fastest girls' time of the championships. TWGGS B (Lydia Dunkin, Izzy Coker and Madeline Martin) came first, and TWGGS C (Amelie Jenkins-Price, Amelia Aves and Mia Devey) came second overall in the combined times: TWGGS won the Secondary Schools Girls' trophy for the third year running. The final race of the day was a team race for the four fastest girl racers of the day against Eltham College A team (overall team winners of the Secondary Schools Boys' trophy). The girls led from the start and won by half a slalom course, ending the day with the biggest cheer of the day.

### **Ski Trip Review – Ella Heffer, L6S**

On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, thirty four Lower Sixth girls, accompanied by Mrs Field, Ms Rodriguez and Mr Jones, travelled to Heathrow to board their flight to New York, followed by a six hour bus transfer to Killington, Vermont, prior to five days of skiing, an incredible experience. Initially, skiing was tough, with rain and icy slopes. Before long, the weather warmed up to reveal fine skiing conditions and fresh snow towards the end of the week. The ski instructors never failed to ensure we had a great time skiing, whilst pushing ourselves, attempting black runs and finishing with glade/ tree-line skiing which topped the experience. After four hours on the slopes, there were various activities arranged each evening, as if we weren't tired enough already! The evening activities included: a shopping trip to Walmart in Rutland, bowling, cinema, dinner at local restaurants and a quiz night. The ski groups were set to ability, which gave us a chance to spend time with other friends and share stories and experiences with our roommates about the best wipe-outs on the slopes. Our final days were spent in New York, shopping and sight-seeing. En-route to New York, we stopped at a shopping outlet along with our pre-planned shopping guides to make the most of every minute we had there! Once in the city, we walked to Times Square to do more shopping and have dinner in Planet Hollywood. For our last day, in glorious sunshine, we took a four hour bus tour around the city seeing the major landmarks from Central Park to Ground Zero, followed by our last few hours shopping on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, before we headed back to JFK to fly home. Without a doubt, the school trip was even better than anyone anticipated and once the sun was shining, no one wanted to leave the slopes. The ski trip gave everyone so many happy memories and I'd like to thank the teachers that gave up their Easter holidays and made the trip possible.

### **Rowing – Mrs Murray**

Three girls from TWGGS have recently represented the Thames South East region at the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta and the Ball Cup Regatta which was held at the Olympic course at Eton Dorney. At the inter-regionals Biba Rabjohns, in Year 7, and Abi Carney and Jessica Marden, both in Year 8, travelled to the National Water Sports Centre at Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham to compete in this national event. They were in the WJ14 coxed quad, after being selected to represent the region. They were also competing a year above themselves and for Biba it was two years above her age group, so they will aim to represent the region again next year. At the Ball Cup Regatta at Eton Dorney on May 6th. Abi, Jess Marden and Biba all scooped medals. The three girls were part of a WJ13 quad and won gold medals for coming first in the race, in what was also an event record. Abi Carney also won a gold medal in a WJ13 double after coming first - again an event record. Biba also won a Bronze medal after taking part in a singles race, coming third in the WJ13 1x, where she was competing a year above her age group. The girls are all members of Bewl Bridge Rowing Club and we congratulate all the girls and coaches for their fantastic achievements.

### **West Kent League Cup Football Final – Mr Russell**

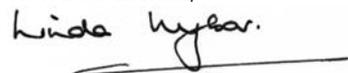
Having had a fabulous season, winning all but one match, the U15s contested the West Kent League Final on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May against local rivals St Gregory's Catholic School, the game taking place at Longmead Stadium in Tonbridge. The first ten minutes of the game saw St Gregory's with most of the possession in the TWGGS half but the TWGGS defensive performance was superb. The centre half pairing of Lottie van der Zanden and Thea Pengelly was so quick to anticipate danger and snuff it out with pace and ferocious tackling that the St Gregory's forwards struggled to get anywhere near the goal. Equally quick and determined were the full backs Alexandra Wilkinson and Lauren Jackson, both of whom read the game extremely well and dealt with any attacking threat with skill and determination. Lauren in particular showed great composure in winning the ball and setting up attacks on our own left wing. And behind the back four, Rosie Dobson in goal was confident, composed and cleared up efficiently any remote signs of a St Gregory's advance on goal. At the other end of the field, TWGGS were inventive and hard-working. First to almost every ball, the midfield battle was won by the fantastic effort and determination of Emily Martin, Hollie Niccolls, Sara Walker and Maya Strand Ford. Particularly successful were the TWGGS attacks up the left wing, with some beautiful moves between Maya, Sara and Maria Walker leading to inroads into the St Gregory's box. But the St Gregory's defence was strong and quick, and clear-cut scoring chances were limited. TWGGS had edged the first half but it was 0-0 at half time.

It was a shame the game was to be decided by one scrappy goal: half way through the second half, with the TWGGS defence, having maintained their solid shape and performance, a rare goalmouth skirmish led to the ball dropping favourably to the feet of a St Gregory's forward who couldn't miss from four yards out. Prior to this TWGGS had looked the more likely to score. Evie Pengelly, Lauren Hall and Sophia Ledger all joined the action in the second half and made a great contribution to the TWGGS effort to break through. TWGGS continued to challenge hard and win the majority of the 50 50s, but the final whistle blew, and the game was gone. Disappointing for TWGGS, who had played so superbly, but the players can be very proud of their performance and the superb season that led to being cup finalists. The TWGGS staff support of Mr Walker and Miss Fenn were hugely impressed. (Even the St Gregory's coach was heard to scream at his players half way through the first half: "They want it more than you!") It was too hard to pick a player of the match with so many fantastic performances. Team: Sara Walker (Capt), Thea Pengelly, Lottie van der Zanden, Maria Walker, Hollie Niccolls, Rosie Dobson, Sophia Ledger, Evie Pengelly, Emily Martin, Livvy Perkins, Maya Strand Ford, Alexandra Wilkinson, Lauren Hall, Lauren Jackson.

### **Kent Schools Doubles Festival - Miss Manklow**

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May the Tennis Squad, 4 doubles pairs from Year 7- 9, attended their First Kent Schools Doubles Festival. A new competition for the teams, the girls were excited and enthusiastic about the day of tennis ahead of them. Round one consisted of a round robin tournament, where the girls had three matches to play each, against all the other teams in their draw. Unfortunately, the Year 7 teams were knocked out at this stage, but still able to play in a friendly tournament in the afternoon. The Year 8 Team made it through to the quarterfinals against Benenden, and with some tough competition the final score was 4-2 to Benenden. The Year 9 Squad made it through to the semifinals, winning two of the three matches from the first round. The quarterfinals saw the team face Kent College: a nail biting set of games with great play from both teams, TWGGS managed to win 4-3. The semifinals came around and the girls knew it wasn't going to be easy. Sevenoaks were an amazing team with fast paced accurate serves. TWGGS played well and defended with some tactical volleys, but the final score was 4-0 to Sevenoaks. A great day of tennis was had by all teams and the girls thoroughly enjoyed the day. Well done to all team members especially Isabelle Coker in Year 7 who played up in the Year 9 and 10 competition! The teams were: Year 9/10A Livvy Perkins and Isabelle Coker; Year 9/10B Amalie Abdali and Amelia Thomas; Year 7/8A Lily Stokes and Emilia Wood; and Year 7/8B Isabel Giles and Clementine Maude.

With best wishes,



Mrs L Wybar, Headteacher