

Dear Parent/Guardian

You will be aware that the EU General Data Protection Regulation comes into force on May 25th and therefore TWGGS has updated its Privacy Policy. This can be found on the school website under Information for Parents, and hard copies will be sent out to all pupils and parents, along with data collection sheets (as usual) in October.

TWGGS CCF Cambrian Patrol Report – TWGGS victorious! – RSM Grace Rhoden U6W

On Friday 20th April, eight CCF cadets set off to the Brecon Beacons to represent our Brigade in the Cambrian Patrol with Mr Bubb driving us for there for our fourth attempt at this competition. I started as a Year 10 rifleman in our first competition and each year we have been better prepared for the challenge of it. The team consisted of Cdt Poppy Galloway 10W, Cdt Tamara King 10W, Cdt Rachel McGee 10W, LCpl Tabitha Preston 11T, Cpl Tabby Gardiner 11G, S/Sgt Amira Carew L6T, S/Sgt Elena Trebino L6G and me - RSM Grace Rhoden U6W. We were still revising some aspects of our knowledge in the minibuss but we also tried to relax, eat and sleep. For those of us who have been there before, we knew what we were up against.

When we arrived at the giant barn where we were to sleep on that first night we had a meal from the field kitchen. It was noisy and busy with teams arriving all through the night from all over the country. I attended a briefing with the other team leaders to let us know our starting points and the rules for the competition. We then had to plan our route for each day and prepare orders that would be scrutinised later in the weekend. Our kit check did not go perfectly and we lost points for not realising we had left one of our rifle cleaning kits in the minibuss. Not the start we wanted. We had taken ear plugs to try and cut out some of the noise of the nearly 200 people who were also sleeping in that barn but we did not think about blocking out the search light that was on all night!

On Saturday morning we woke up at 0400 for a cooked breakfast and packed up all our kit (along with the missing cleaning kit). Starting at 0630 we had 12 hours to carry at least 20kgs of weight each and navigate a 33km route, without measuring for contours, around the Welsh mountains. At some of the checkpoints there were stands that tested our military tactics and knowledge. Each stand could award a maximum of 100 points but we were not told our scores when we completed them. This year, the stands were casualty evacuation, observation, clearing an enemy position and a written military knowledge test. Throughout the day we were constantly assessed on our leadership and teamwork. It was exhausting and the hottest ever April day in England although I have not checked this record for Wales. We made our final checkpoint with only 20 minutes to spare. Major Reynolds was at this stand and she was *very* pleased to see us coming in on time! We were then driven to a forest area where we would sleep under sheet shelters once we had unpacked and presented orders – this involves building a model in a pit to graphically show and reinforce what I have to say to the section about the next day's activities. We fed ourselves and collapsed into our bivvies. The following morning after limited sleep, we had to patrol a further 2km before shooting from various positions on a live firing range. We had no idea how well we did on this phase of the competition either.

The event is scored so that each team achieves a certificate of participation if they attempt the course or they do well but do not finish with all team members. Above that, they could earn a bronze, silver or gold medal based on their performance over the whole weekend. In previous years, we have achieved two silver medals and we have also won top section leader twice so we have always done really well. This year only three out of eighteen the teams achieved a gold medal, TWGGS CCF was one of them. We were then overwhelmed when it was announced we also won the competition trophy for highest scoring national team. This is the most demanding physically and mentally challenging contest for cadets in the country. One small slip in navigation skills and it is unlikely you will finish on time. If there are any weaknesses in your field craft knowledge you will also find it impossible to get the coveted gold medal everyone wants. Only the best teams from each region throughout the UK are invited to this contest. The TWGGS team was the only all-female team competing and we definitely had the youngest average age of all teams. This national competition has never been won by an all-female team before. To do this well is an absolutely brilliant achievement and all the members of the team should be incredibly proud of themselves.

We could not have achieved this success without the training and support from previous cadets who helped to set the standard in our contingent and all CCF staff who have supported this ambition for so long. We need to thank members of the CTT (Sgt Price and Sgt Rai) and the RE regular soldiers and officers (Captain Rosie Hamilton) who have helped out over the years. This knowledge gets passed onto junior cadets so we maintain a high standard of field craft in the unit. I have to also thank those who stepped up for this challenge when we called for volunteers as they have all put in many hours of extra learning, individually and as a team. It was a mighty effort and it was a privilege to lead you. As I leave TWGGS CCF, I hope this accomplishment is an inspiration for future teams. Success comes down to each team member giving their best. Thank you!

Cadet RSM Grace Rhoden will be leaving TWGGS to study Engineering at Nottingham University next year and is looking forward to joining the OTC to continue her interest in the military.

My first time on the Cambrian Patrol – Cadet Poppy Galloway 10W

I was called into the squad for the Cambrian Patrol just before it departed, having been the reserve; you never think you will be needed, especially when the squad had been training for weeks and looked like a great team. However, despite my nerves I bundled into the minibus with everyone else as we took on the long trip to Sennybridge training camp and the renowned Brecon Beacons. This is the most difficult national competition for cadets and it is the pinnacle for most just to be selected to compete. Brigades naturally send their strongest and most experienced cadets. We had taken part four times – very meritoriously, I might add, but no gold medal. Cadets from all around the UK were there – the best teams from each of their regions. The size of some of the boys in those teams was a bit overwhelming but we got on with our routines and drills; we tried to ignore everyone else so we could just focus on our own performance. This was a competition that tests military skills, physical robustness, discipline, teamwork, navigation and the ability of the team to cope in the most trying conditions. We were a very young team – for three of us, it was our first competition. While I was apprehensive, I was also a little excited to get going on this monumental challenge.

We started the day off 35kms from our finishing spot full of optimism and at no time did that positive attitude fade. We had to scramble over hills and through streams and bogs as we were not able to use tracks or roads. We had some falls and setbacks; we scaled a part of the course called the ski slope – it was horrible. Despite all of this, we finished the course with a few minutes to spare on Saturday after passing and completing the challenge demanded of us at each checkpoint. The final task to complete on Sunday was a navigated March and Shoot as the competition finished on a live firing range. With morale still high, the section returned to the prize giving knowing they'd given their best. It was a slow process as each of the exhausted teams lined up on the parade square to hear the results of the competition. We were ecstatic to be called forward for a gold award! We had bettered some very prestigious schools and were simply overjoyed. However, at the end of the prize-giving, when they announced we were the national champions, it was just phenomenal! It was fantastic to be in such a united team who had really done everything possible to achieve this accolade. Next year a new team will return to defend this title and maybe I will be in there – who knows? I am grateful I had the chance to compete and be a part of this momentous occasion. It is an achievement I will remember forever.

Congratulations to Freya Bowden L6I - Mrs Wybar

Congratulations to Freya Bowden whose “extremely high quality” essay submission for the XMaS Scientist Experience Competition has won her a trip to Grenoble in July. Here she will visit the European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) and will experience what life might be like as an international research scientist. Well done Freya!

Well done to Molly Sacker U6I – Mrs Wybar

Well done to Molly Sacker U6I who has been selected for the Royal Yachting Association UK Youth Squad – Laser Radial. Molly's selection for the squad recognises her potential to progress within the British Sailing Team, with the aim of winning selection for the RYA UK Youth Squads or beyond to their Olympic Development programmes. Molly was selected both on her performance and her commitment to a programme of training and competition over several years and, with her status as a UK Squad sailor established, it is hoped that she will represent Great Britain at major international events in the forthcoming years.

Congratulations to Tilly Strand-Ford 8G – Miss Parkinson

Congratulations to Tilly Strand-Ford 8G who has been selected to represent the South of England in hockey. She will be playing for the U13s South Saxons in a national hockey tournament in Manchester in July. This is an incredible honour in the hockey world, and an opportunity for her to be selected to play for the UK Lions.

Congratulations to Biba Rabjohns 8I, Abi Carney 9G & Jess Marden 9I – Mrs Wybar

Congratulations to Biba Rabjohns 8I, Abi Carney 9G and Jess Marden 9I who have been making their mark at national rowing events recently. They row for Bewl Bridge Rowing Club and have been very successful as part of a WJ14 coxed quad (Women's Junior under 14). They were selected to represent the Thames South East Region after regional trials at Maidstone which meant they travelled to the National Water Sports centre in Nottingham to take part in the Junior Inter Regional Regatta. The girls came second in the B final at this national event which puts them eighth overall and ranks them eighth nationally.

In April, they took part in The Scullery: The Oarsport Junior Sculling Head held at Eton Dorney. Again, racing against teams from all over the country, one of the biggest junior head races. The girls came 12th out of 47 crews in the same category which is very impressive. As a result of this, they qualified for the Junior Sculling Regatta in May held at Eton Dorney. They raced in time trials in the morning and were 8th fastest out of 20 crews in their age group. That meant they were placed in the B final regatta race, where they came 4th. The girls are looking forward to training towards more summer regattas and we wish them every success.

Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award Practice Weekend - Darcy Chappell Salmon 10G

After a much anticipated wait, 5th May finally arrived. All the groups were filled with nerves and excitement waiting to get started with Miss Fischer, Mr Breeze and Mr Speller. The groups left in 15 minute slots and after that were left to their own devices.

The majority of the groups made it to checkpoint 1 without getting lost. However, there is always one! After the groups reached checkpoint 1 the teachers did not think that it would be too hard to navigate to checkpoint 2 but alas, they were wrong. One group went so off course that they had to be collected by car and the majority of the remaining group were late, but still smiling and laughing. After a quick well deserved lunch the groups returned to walking in the hot midday sun and trekking into a corn field in the wrong direction. For many of the groups checkpoint 3 was just on the horizon and soon after the campsite. However two groups did not make it to checkpoint 3. While the others were on the last leg of their journey, those that did not make checkpoint 3 were getting lost in a farm and ducking under electric fences although still determined to reach checkpoint 3.

After hours and hours of walking in the wrong direction, Mr Breeze came to the rescue. He, along with Miss Fischer and Mr Speller, drove the remaining groups to the campsite. We all set up camp and Miss Fischer gave a much needed map reading lesson to the individuals whose strong point clearly wasn't navigation. We then were free to enjoy the rest of the evening. Groups entertained themselves with cards and charades. Cooking dinner that night was a highlight for me and probably many others for two reasons. Firstly, it was warm next to the stove and secondly it was the laughter about the day's event. At the end of a long day there is nothing that sounds better than snuggling into your cozy comfortable, warm bed. But this was Duke of Edinburgh. So we slept in our thin, barely water proof and cold tents. Morning finally arrived and much to the relief of myself and my campmates it had not rained during the night. We packed breakfast away then headed off on our second day of walking.

Thanks to Miss. Fischer's help, everybody made it back to the campsite without the need of a lift. As the day drew to a close, we packed away dinner and tucked ourselves into bed knowing that tomorrow evening we would be in our own warm beds. With the competition of getting to set off first, groups awoke as early as 5.00am to get packed away and set off before anyone else. Once everyone was off walking and meeting checkpoints the only thing on everyone's mind was "What was for dinner". Today we all picked up the pace, wanting to get to the High Rocks car park as soon as we possibly could. As midday arrived so had everyone else and an overwhelming pride of accomplishment filled the air.

This experience for me personally, and I'm sure everyone else will agree, is one that we will remember for the rest of our lives. I learnt that I am stronger than I thought, both physically and mentally. I now have memories that I will cherish for years to come. I am so pleased and proud of myself and everyone for completing the weekend in one piece and cannot wait to do it again in July. It has taught me so much and I would encourage everyone to do it. None of this however would have been possible without the support, guidance and encouragement from our teachers whom made the journey less stressful and more enjoyable. The words Duke of Edinburgh now and forever will bring a smile to my face as I remember all the laughs and jokes shared on this one jam-packed weekend. What an incredible experience.

Royal Society of Biology – Biology Olympiad and Biology Challenge - Mrs Lewis

All pupils in Years 9 and 10 took part in the online Royal Society of Biology Challenge competition in March, sitting two challenge papers and competing with over 43,000 other pupils nationally. We were very proud to have five girls achieve the highest Gold award; these were Daisy Brook 10G, Izzy Jones 10W, Saskia Hobbs 9T, Abi Carney 9G and Lettie Ross 9T. Another ten girls in Year 10 and ten girls in Year 9 were awarded Silver and over 50 were awarded Bronze across both year groups. Many pupils also achieved Commended and Highly Commended for their performance. Congratulations to everyone who took part and certificates will be presented to all pupils who achieved an award.

In January, twenty two mainly Lower Sixth Biology students took part in the esteemed Royal Society of Biology annual British Biology Olympiad competing with over 7000 pupils across the country. This involved taking a series of online question papers to assess the depth and breadth of their biological understanding. Thirteen pupils achieved Commended and Highly Commended awards and we were very pleased to have two medal winners. Kate Daw L6I was awarded Bronze and Rosie Fenton U6I a Silver medal, coming in the top 17% of pupils nationally. Certificates are awarded to all pupils who achieved a commendation with medals for Silver and Bronze. The Biology department would like to extend huge congratulations to these two pupils and to everyone who took part.

Smallpeice Trust Courses in Engineering – Anna Smith 10S

I have been interested in pursuing a career in engineering and during a graphics lesson I discovered that there are courses for Year 10 students to help understand possible routes into this field. My course took place at Warwick University, lasted 3 days and was filled with workshops and lectures from different engineers, one working in Nanotechnology and another who works for the company Surrey Satellites. We heard about possible career opportunities in their fields and how they got to where they are now. The workshops which were offered were run by the Bloodhound Project team who are designing a car which covers a mile in 3.6 seconds, the Smallpeice Trust and the global security company Thales. The second workshop I completed was on Electrical Engineering. Overall, I would recommend the course and hope to go on another next year.

Codebreaking – Mrs Pocock

The Alan Turing Cryptography Competition is aimed at secondary school children up to Year 11, organised by the School of Mathematics at the University of Manchester. Every week or two a new code is released. There are six codes to crack in total. Points are awarded based on how quickly each code is cracked. TWGGS entered three teams this year, made up of Year 7 and Year 8 pupils. Congratulations to Neve Cotterill 8T and Heather Croker 8T who managed to crack all six of the codes set. As a result they came 37th out of the 1152 teams entered from across the country: a fantastic result, particularly when we remember they will have been amongst the youngest in the competition.

Careers Department – Mrs Vallely

It has been a busy term for the Careers department: Mrs Bridget Elinson, Independent Careers Advisor, has been coming into school every Tuesday, continuing with the one to one interviews with Year 11 pupils. Any pupil who would like to see Mrs Elinson, or to have a chat with me, is very welcome to drop in and/or make an appointment at any time. Mrs Elinson has also continued with the Y7 PSHE/Tutor Time sessions introducing the pupils to the skills and aptitudes required in almost all areas of working life, and Y8 PSHE sessions using the Steps Workbook which encourages the pupils to understand more about themselves through self-development exercises, and teaches them where to look for useful information, and start to think about planning their future. At the PSHE lesson each pupil is given a workbook of her own to keep, and is encouraged to bring it home to show parents. The Y9 PSHE sessions have also continued, under Mrs Elinson's tutelage, introducing the software, FastTomato, which is an excellent resource for researching careers. We have offered all Y10 pupils the chance to undergo Morrisby Online psychometric testing, and are delighted that 62 pupils underwent the testing in April. Another session is being arranged for those who were unable to make the first date.

The Lower Sixth PSHE lessons have included a presentation from John Levy, from the Friends of Israel Education Foundation, about the situation in the Middle East; a very informative session from Mrs Freeman about plagiarism and how to avoid it; a very enjoyable presentation from Matt Latimer at Gap 360 about taking a gap year; they shared a session with Y11 on drug addiction, presented by Simon Leigh, a drug addiction counsellor; an excellent, interactive workshop from Paloma Shakouri from Pearson College, London, on employability skills; in addition, the pupils were given a chance to have a short one to one chat with their tutors to catch up with progress and ask any questions. The Upper Sixth PSHE sessions have included an excellent talk on personal safety given by Vernon Barker, who we were very pleased to ask to come back to us following his retirement from the police force; another presentation continuing the Personal Relationships programme was about gender issues, led by the charity IMAGO. Unfortunately, the talk about sexual health was postponed because of snow, but we are trying to rearrange that as a lunchtime session. Two speakers from Citizen's Advice ran their very good session about employment rights & tenancy advice.

We were delighted to welcome Dr Brimsted back to school to provide interview practice to any pupils applying to study medicine or to Oxbridge, or both! Pupils find it very helpful indeed to practice, and to receive feedback, and sometimes have further practice, before undergoing the real thing. Pupils have also had the chance to attend the Oxbridge Conference in Epsom; an event organized at Tunbridge Wells Hospital entitled A Career in Medicine; a lecture from Professor Lord Winston Graham; and a seminar hosted by AV Trinity where the main speaker was Sir Steve Webb, former Minister for Pensions.

We were pleased to provide some extra events to mark National Careers Week (NCW), and National Apprenticeship Week: as preparation, during the week before, we organized two creative careers events: representatives from the Fashion Retail Academy ran a careers workshop for a Y11 Textiles class, with a follow-up lunchtime session, which was also open to pupils from Skinners' and TWGSB; and Georgia Goggin, who left TWGGS in 2006 and is now a film producer, gave an exciting talk about her career. She was joined by her brother, Hugo, a former pupil at TWGSB, who is a composer, and her sister Isabella, who left TWGGS in 2012, and is a dressmaker and tailor. Just before the snow came down, Senior Careers Prefect, Martha Gritt U6G, led an excellent assembly giving us very good insights into the working world, and women's place within it. We laid on a series of lunchtime talks during the week itself: Mr Max Duthie, from the Law firm, Bird and Bird, gave an excellent presentation on how the Law works, its place in society, and how to study for a Law degree; we welcomed three interns from Roche Diagnostics who gave a clear idea of what it is like for them having a career in science; three speakers from Laing O'Rourke, including Mr Gareth Burton, gave a very good presentation on careers in construction and IT; and we welcomed Mrs Irma de Putter, from JP Morgan, who told the pupils about her career, and what it is like working in the City.

Well done to Sayaka Soga 8W – Mrs Wybar

Well done to Sayaka Soga 8W who was invited to participate as part of the Commonwealth Festival Choir in a special concert on 19th April. The concert, held at St George's Church in Hannover Square, London, was in celebration of the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. The choir performed original songs composed by choir members, including one called 'Little Things' which Sayaka and other members composed.

Yachting Success for Ella Lance 9G – Mrs Wybar

Congratulations to Ella who was successful at the Easter Regatta at the Braassemermeer Yacht Club in the Netherlands despite the unusually cold and “shifty” conditions. She came 21st overall (out of a fleet size of 218 from all over Europe, the US, Australia and South Africa) and was 4th girl. Well done Ella!

TWGGGS ‘Question Time’ – Mr Walker

On 22nd March during their PSHE lesson Year 9 pupils had the opportunity to debate a range of topical issues with local politicians representing different political parties, including the Women’s Equality Party and the Green Party. Among questions posed to the panel, were whether the voting age should be lowered to 16, the impact of Brexit on young people in the UK and how more women can be encouraged to enter politics. The session provided plenty of lively, well informed debate from both panellists and audience.

Major Eric Dougall Memorial 14.4.18 – Cadet Emily Naismith 10T

On the 14th April 1918, soon to be Major Eric Dougall was shot and killed whilst directing the fire of his battery, 4 days after a remarkable feat in which he inspired and assumed command of men during the Battle of Lys. Despite being exposed to both rifle and machine gun fire, the acting captain armed as many gunners with rifles as possible and reassured the infantry in times of uncertainty and hardship, saying “So long as you stick to your trenches I will keep my guns here”. He fearlessly strolled amongst his men “as if on parade”, and showed immense courage in the face of anarchy.

Exactly 100 years later, on 14th April 2018, we are still remembering this feat. Representatives from TWGGGS CCF and other cadet units and organisations gave up their time to commemorate Major Dougall, holder of the Victoria Cross, and his life and achievements. A plaque on the site of the war memorial in Tunbridge Wells was unveiled by the Mayor as part of a series of ceremonies across the country honouring local people who were awarded the VC. TWGGGS CCF girls RSM Grace Rhoden U6W, SSM Sophia Trebino U6T, Cadet Lauren Grant 10T and myself were there to pay tribute at the memorial parade. We are also very grateful for Lieutenant Naismith, Mrs Grant and Mrs Trebino’s help in their support for the event.

A Visit to Brompton Barracks in Chatham 25 April 2018 – Cadet Lauren Grant 10T

Brompton Barracks was a Cadet Open Day at the Royal Engineers base: a very enjoyable time by all 32 cadets who attended. We were in two teams of 16 and were there with a range of schools from the South East region. We got particularly competitive in a problem-solving boat race. I know I was not the only one who lost their voice from cheering! We all got the chance to get into a water survival raft and experienced what that would be like in a real-life scenario. The year 9s had their first try of army ration packs and seemed to all enjoy it - apart from the unlucky cadet who got ‘meat sticks’! No one had seen or tried self-heating ration packs and we were all amazed at the impressive and quick results. After lunch, we had interesting lessons from extraordinary professionals such as a bomb disposal unit and navy mine clearance divers. However, my favourite activity, (and everyone else’s) was the dog handling, when they showed us how the dogs searched for drugs and bombs. Finally, we had a chance to do digging with JCBs, when everyone had huge smiles on their faces. Overall, it was a wonderful experience for all girls, many of whom, including me, came home with a better understanding of the many different types of occupations offered in the Army.

Zimbardo Conference March 2018 – Amber Maywood L6T, Poppy Joyner L6W & Jenny Wilson L6W

“Heroes are ordinary people who do extraordinary things”

More than 80 TWGGGS students from L6th and U6th went up to London for the day to see Phillip Zimbardo talk about everyday heroism and his most famous experiment. We learnt about the Stanford Prison Experiment in psychology, when covering the topic of social influence. It was known as one of the most unethical experiments ever conducted. To see the psychologist who actually conducted this experiment gave us all some insight into what they really learnt about the participants and even the experimenters who were so caught up in what they were doing that they did not realise the ethical issues they were causing.

Zimbardo, who was 85 that week, explained how he had been called names like ‘Dr Evil’ after his experiment was shut down and the public learnt about what had happened below Stanford University where this experiment was conducted. His aim was to investigate how readily people would conform to the roles of guard and prisoner in a role-playing exercise that simulated prison life. He wanted to find out whether the brutality reported among guards in American prisons was due to a sadistic personality or the environment. Zimbardo observed the prisoners and guards’ behaviour and acted as their warden. Zimbardo had intended that the experiment should run for a fortnight, but on the sixth day it was terminated. Zimbardo noted that he didn’t realise how far into his own role he was and was thinking like a prison superintendent rather than a research psychologist. He did conclude that people will readily conform to social roles they are expected to play, especially with a strong stereotype. The findings supported the situational explanation of behaviour. Zimbardo explained to us that most guards found it hard to believe how brutally they behaved and didn’t realise they were capable of such things. The prisoners also couldn’t believe how submissively they behaved.

Zimbardo told us he had received many ethical criticisms, and since this experiment explained to us how he has decided to try and help the world instead. He argued that the benefits gained about our understanding of human behaviour and how we can improve

society should out balance the distress caused by the study. Zimbardo spoke about some of his books he wrote after his experiment, including *The Lucifer Effect* that explains how good people turn evil. He wrote this in response to his findings from the Stanford Prisoner Experiment, and his main assumption on why good people do terrible things is due to situational influences and power given from authority. Finally, Zimbardo spoke about his movements for everyday heroism (Heroic Imagination Project), a non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting heroism in everyday life. It collects data from former American gang members with former ties to terrorism, in an attempt to better understand how individuals change to violent behaviour, for example he mentioned how brave Rosa Parks was for standing up to racism, and how Irena Sendler saved 2,500 Jewish children from death by helping them escape. After his prison experiment, Zimbardo decided to look for ways he could use psychology to help people, founding The Shyness Clinic and is an advisor to the anti-bullying organisation Bystander Revolution to explain bystander effect and discuss the evil of inaction. He has gone from being called 'Dr Evil' to helping thousands with his knowledge as a psychologist and dedication to improve society.

Library News – Ms Sanderson

It has been a busy time for the TWGGS book groups recently. As you may have read in the local press, the SESTBA (South East Themed Book Awards) Gala Evening at the end of March was a huge success, with award winning authors Patrice Lawrence and Juno Dawson really helping to make the evening special. Nearly 200 pupils from 15 schools attended the event which included competitions, author talks, book signing and pizza. What a brilliant way to celebrate all our reading throughout the year!

With SESTBA over for another year, the annual Carnegie Awards Book Group was quick to dive in to the 8 shortlisted titles and we have been meeting weekly to discuss them. With only 2 titles left now to read, thoughts are turning to the Carnegie Balloon Debate which is to be held at Skinners' School on Monday 18th June – the day the official award winner is announced! This event will give the TWGGS book group a chance to join forces with those from Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys, Skinners Kent Academy and Skinners' School to persuade the judges that their chosen book deserves to win. This event is a great way to practice debating and presentation skills with the help of readers from other schools and of course a slice of cake or two!

Kent School Games Super 8s Athletics – Miss Thornton

On Wednesday 2nd May, eight Year 7s were selected to represent the school at the Super 8s Athletics competition at Tonbridge School. Each team member was required to compete in one track, one field and one relay event: all pupils performed fantastically and demonstrated excellent sportsmanship towards other competitors. All in all, the TWGGS Supers 8s team came second and will progress through to the Kent School Games finals to represent the Tunbridge Wells district. Well done! Super 8s Squad: Emily Marriage 7T, Daisy Bayer 7T, Saarah Kamali 7G, Elizabeth Hester 7W, Eloise Greig 7T, Amelia Lomax 7T and Grace Kench 7T.

Girls Secondary School Tag Rugby Festival – Miss Thornton

On Thursday the 3rd of May, the TWGGS tag rugby teams competed in the Secondary School Tag Rugby festival at Tunbridge Wells R.F.C. The team's hard work and perseverance paid off with excellent displays of tactical awareness. Teams played with determination, respect and honesty, all skills the sport aims to encourage. Congratulations to 'Team 1' of the U13 category who came first within their age group and to 'Team 2' of the U15 category who were awarded runners up within their age group. From both the PE department and players, we would like to say a big thank you to Hannah and Tami Samuels who have led training sessions, refereed and provided excellent coaching to better the teams' performances.

U13 Team 1: Laura McGee 8I, Ellie Hoblely 8I, Maddie Steger 8I, Belle Raine 8T, Susie Porter 8S, Flo Pound 8S, Maddie Martin 8T, Sophie Makinson 8I, Neve Cotterill 8T and Heather Croker 8T.

U13 Team 2: Elena Coleman 7S, Elizabeth Hester 7W, Saarah Kamali 7G, Marilly Pagquil 7T, Abigail Naismith 7W, Ellie Borrett 7T and Isabella James 7S.

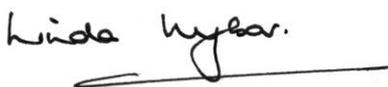
U15 Team 1: Eve Palmer 10T, Tasha Ahmed 10T, Belle Hobbs 10T, Lauren Hall 10T, Rosie Froome 10S, Anna Conroy 10S, Grace Forbes 10I and Maisie Vernon 10I.

U15 Team 2: Lauren Willis 9G, Eliz O'Donnell 9G, Issy Shaw 9W, Flo Rule 9G, Tilly Boorman 9W, Alexia Grice-Quivedo 9S, Becky Colbran 9S and Ishbel Ewing 9S.

Key Stage 3 Pupils - Mr Walker

Key Stage 3 pupils have been reminded not to bring 'slime' into school as it leaves a mess in classrooms and is difficult to clean if it gets onto carpets and school uniforms. Your support is appreciated in helping with this matter.

With best wishes,



Mrs L Wybar, Headteacher