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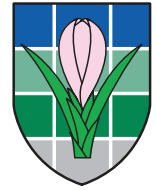
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CHARACTER AND THE WHOLE CHILD
SUMMER 2018
ISSUE 13

Switch on



Saffron Walden
County High School

IN THIS ISSUE OF SWITCH ON WE CELEBRATE THE CHARACTER AND THE WHOLE CHILD – SWCHS
LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM.





Lottie Beckett
Year 13

Front cover portrait
by Anna Day Year 13

From the Headteacher



I AM DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THE APPOINTMENT OF POLLY LANKESTER TO THE POSITION OF ASSOCIATE HEADTEACHER AT SAFFRON WALDEN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FROM SEPTEMBER 2018. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO SHARING WITH HER THE PRIVILEGE OF LEADING THIS EXCEPTIONAL LOCAL SCHOOL, AS I STEP A LITTLE FURTHER BACK TO DEVOTE MORE TIME TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAFFRON ACADEMY TRUST AS A FAMILY OF EDUCATION PROVIDERS.

'Privilege' is a pertinent word to describe the service that the Headteacher gives to the students and staff at County High. There have been so many occasions this year when I have been overwhelmed by the pride I have felt to be involved in life here, but for the purposes of this magazine I will dwell on four recent examples of this.

Somewhere Over the Rainbow

In February, we staged a whole school production of 'The Wizard of Oz'. It was the first time that our newly appointed Assistant Headteacher, Matt Blayney, had seen a County High School production, so I was interested to see his reaction to the musical. He was, as I suspected he would be, utterly unprepared for the professional production values, the quality of singing and accompaniment, the exceptionally strong acting, wonderful choreography and West End-style sheen of the entire experience. It is a quality that we have rather come to expect here, but it takes newcomers completely by surprise. It's the combination of a fabulous staff team with talented students...over 100 of them in this case, that makes a high-quality performance of this kind possible at the school, but, of course, the box office, bar and Saffron Hall add a certain panache.

A Cup, a Plate and a Bowl

We have enjoyed a champagne season of success in sport this year, but it was our rugby teams that grabbed the headlines with a delicious run of victories. Our Year 9 boys reached the Essex Cup Final, our Year 11 team convincingly beat the opposition to win the Essex Schools Rugby Plate and our Year 10 team became national champions by winning the England RFU Schools' U15 bowl. On the latter occasion, it was my privilege to travel to the Sixways Stadium, home of the Worcester Warriors, on the coach with the players' families and friends and to cheer our boys on to victory. My own pride in witnessing the win was only surpassed by my admiration for the team spirit, resilience and discipline of the County High players as they made a comeback against Worth School. This champagne season of rugby

rather sweetly coincides with Chris Edwards' last year as Area Co-ordinator for PE. The tremendous strength of the sporting tradition at the school is a fitting legacy for him.

The Spring Concert

Music at SWCHS has been impressive for some time, but the year on year improvement in the standard of musicianship can be attributed to a variety of factors: our own able team of music teachers and peripatetic staff led by Alan Broadbent, our close connections to the Saffron Centre of Young Musicians, the growth of the Sixth Form Music Academy and the fortunate way in which having Saffron Hall at the heart of our school makes all of this coherent and mutually beneficial. Our Spring Concert in March showcased these high standards with three different choirs and in excess of 100 instrumentalists performing. School concerts tend to bring a tear to the eye of parents and Headteachers alike, but for me it is especially inspiring to see how well our young musicians are developing and what a wealth of musical talent is now coming through the school.

Caroline Derbyshire
Headteacher



Ellie Messer
Year 13



Tayler Lodge
Year 13

Art

THIS YEAR THE FINAL A-LEVEL AND ART DIPLOMA EXHIBITION WAS HELD IN THE ART DEPARTMENT. THE RICH ARRAY OF WORK ON DISPLAY CELEBRATED THE DIVERSITY OF THE COURSES OFFERED AT SWCHS. IT IS A GENUINE PLEASURE TO CELEBRATE THE WONDERFUL ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR STUDENTS. THE TALENT AND DEDICATION OF OUR YOUNG ARTISTS IS A PLEASURE TO EXPERIENCE AND THE ART DEPARTMENT IS KEEN TO SHARE THIS WITH PARENTS/CARERS, STUDENTS AND THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY. THE EXHIBITION INCLUDED WORK FROM THE ART AND DESIGN DIPLOMA, A-LEVEL ART AND DESIGN, A-LEVEL ART AND TEXTILES AND A-LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY.

The Diploma students also had the opportunity to showcase their work to the public this year at the Exchange Gallery in Saffron Walden Library. This helped to prepare them for the 'exhibition and presenting artwork unit,' which was realised through the SWCHS exhibition. Specialised units from the diploma course included, drawing, painting, illustration and



printmaking as well as more personalised projects completed during Year 13.

Topics explored on the A-Level course included the exploration portraiture, tropical flora and fauna, still life and colour, the anatomy of the human brain and links to physiology, Italian architecture and emotions within portraiture.

The Photography course starting points included portraiture, human form, water and colour. Students explored a wide range of digital and traditional photography techniques to a highly accomplished standard.

A-Level Textiles students explored topics including surface pattern design, screen printing, pattern and repetition in architecture, Chinese ceremonial robes and symbolism and Japanese kimono design and motif. The exam projects this year have been absolutely outstanding across all three A-Level courses. The final exam pieces are superb, a real example of students' progress and achievement over the two years.

The wonderful facilities within the Art department continue to provide students with the creative freedom to explore a range of specialisms in preparation for their onward progression in the Art and Design



field. Many of our students follow creative pathways at degree and foundation level. Popular destinations for this year's cohort include Nottingham Trent, Brighton, Norwich University of the Arts, Loughborough and Falmouth. Another popular choice by students is a foundation course at our local Cambridge Regional College of Art with some students studying a foundation course at university.

Artwork by: Katie Fitzgerald, Aaron Jolley, Susanna Beare, Eliza Parry Williams, Rosey Wain.





Drama - The Wizard of Oz

FOR THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT, ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE SCHOOL PRODUCTION; THIS YEAR'S PRODUCTION OF 'THE WIZARD OF OZ' DID NOT DISAPPOINT. STUDENTS FROM YEARS 7 - 13 PERFORMED TO PACKED HOUSES IN SAFFRON HALL OVER FOUR NIGHTS IN FEBRUARY.

The whole production was a real team effort: over 100 students were in the cast, 22 students played in the orchestra, 16 worked backstage and a further 8 students were front of house. Every member of the team worked incredibly hard throughout the rehearsal process and committed their time and energy to ensure the production was a great success. The level of commitment and enthusiasm during show nights was equally as high. All students performed exceptionally well - singing

beautifully and dancing energetically, with huge smiles on their faces. We are incredibly proud of the final production and of all the students involved.

As a department, we have made the decision to alternate between performing plays and musicals each year, in order to encourage a wider range of students to get involved and to introduce our students to a wider variety of theatre. Next year, we will be performing two plays - an upper school play and a lower school play. More information about the productions and audition dates will be released in September. We hope to see lots of students there!



“

I joined SWCHS Sixth Form in September 2017. Since then I have already taken part in the school play 'The Wizard of Oz.' When joining SWCHS I was so nervous, which was understandable as I had entered a new environment. Drama really helped me to settle in as everyone was so friendly and welcoming. To become more 'involved' with the school I auditioned for the school play and surprisingly won the role of the Tin Man. I was absolutely ecstatic, especially being a new student. However, in a cast of over 100 students, I was the only one from my previous school. To my delight, the cast and staff couldn't have been more welcoming. I was so comfortable and loved every second of the rehearsals and performances. I have made so many new friends that I know I will stay in contact with after Year 13. I couldn't have asked for a better group of friends to start off my life at SWCHS. Without drama I wouldn't have accomplished half of the things I have done so far, and for that I am very grateful.

Haydn Watts (Year 12) - Tin Man

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Being in The Wizard of Oz was an amazing, unforgettable experience. It was the first time I had played a big part in a show and it was the best starting point I could have ever had - I made so many new friends and realised just how amazing it is to be on stage. I wish I could thank every single person involved for making it such a wonderful show to be in!

Hannah O'Sullivan
(Year 10) - Dorothy

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Although I wasn't one of the main characters I still felt very much involved in the success of the whole production. I have never been part of such a wonderful and accepting cast who made everyone feel they had an important role to play. My last school production is a memory I will cherish forever.

Lucy Evans (Year 13) - Chorus/Oz Lady

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Over the course of my time at SWCHS I've had the pleasure to work on most of the productions. It was amazing to finish my time here as stage manager for The Wizard of Oz. The cast were without a doubt the kindest and most enjoyable people to work with. It was incredible to witness the show coming together. I think that it is amazing that the school provides Drama students and people like me, who enjoy working behind the scenes, this opportunity. It was like putting on a West End production, but with an incredible school cast.

Natasha Edwards (Year 13) - Stage Manager

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I had an amazing time in the pit. It is so different to playing at a concert and certainly was an experience not seeing, just hearing the actors! It was really fun to be part of a great show.

Izzy Poles (Year 12) - Orchestra

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Being in The Wizard of Oz was incredible. It was the most breathtaking experience and I am so grateful that I was a part of this amazing production. I really enjoyed being a munchkin, and loved seeing all of the different actors who were involved in the show and all of the different aspects of putting on a spectacular performance. Thank you to the teachers who helped; it has really helped me to learn and become a better performer.

Sophie Hall (Year 8) - Munchkin Chorus

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Students enjoying a Rickshaw trip.



Spending time at our partner school in Beijing

Trips

WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING THE BEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR STUDENTS TO EXPLORE THE WORLD, EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT CULTURES, LANGUAGES AND TRADITIONS. THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE MANY TRIPS THAT WERE ON OFFER TO OUR STUDENTS FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR.

“

It was the trip of a lifetime. Seeing all the spectacular sights and experiencing Chinese culture was amazing. Each day felt as though it couldn't be any better than the last, and then it was. I created so many new memories on this trip that will be treasured forever. It was so much fun! Both countries are very different but I felt a real connection with my exchange partner. We have a lot in common and have kept in touch since. My partner put it really well: in Mandarin we don't say 'goodbye'; we say 'I'll see you again'.

Florence Wolter (Year 9)

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CHINA

SWCHS continues to enjoy strong links with China. In February, 180 students visited us from our partner school in Beijing, which has been recently recognised as the highest performing High School in Mainland China. They accompanied students to lessons, spent lunchtimes playing sport and celebrating Chinese New Year and also went to see the SWCHS school production of *The Wizard of Oz*.

During the Easter holiday, 79 students, accompanied by members of staff, spent ten days visiting China. The students, from Years 9 to 12, climbed the Great Wall in the snow, entered the Forbidden City, visited the Olympic Park and Mao's tomb, marvelled at the Terracotta Army, cycled round the city walls in Xi'an, enjoyed a river cruise in Shanghai, rode on the world's fastest train, saw pandas in Beijing Zoo, watched a kung fu show and an acrobatic performance and participated in a traditional tea ceremony. They also had the experience of two overnight train journeys and a rickshaw ride.



As part of our visit, students also spent time with their exchange partners from our link school. They attended lessons, played sport, watched a show and visited their partner's home for lunch.

Mr Norman, who led the trip, said: "This trip is a marvellous opportunity for our students to visit some wonderful places and to learn more about Chinese culture and history. I am sure the memories of this incredible trip will stay with them for many years to come."

Our Beijing partners will visit again in February 2019 and a further 80 students from SWCHS are visiting China over Easter in 2019. We are planning for there to be a further visit to China in 2021.



YEAR 8 TRIP TO NORTHERN FRANCE

At the start of February a group of Year 8 students went to Desvres in Northern France for an immersive four day French experience. The students took part in art workshops, visited local sites such as the Nausicaa Aquarium and Le Touquet market as well as a trip to La Coupole – a World War II secret bunker which now houses a planetarium! All activities were conducted in French and the students fully embraced every opportunity to try out their language skills. Highlights included trying snails for dinner, cheese tasting at the market and a scavenger hunt around a hypermarket.



Year 11
students in Italy



Year 8 students enjoying
the beach in France

SKI TRIP

The 2018 Ski Trip was, once again, a huge success. 140 students from Years 8 to 13 travelled to Gressoney in the Aosta Valley in Italy. The February half term week provided six days of fantastic skiing, great snow, with pistes in excellent condition, reasonable weather, quality instruction and very little queues.

The Hotel Monbosco provided us with a great base, fantastic food and a panoramic view down through the mountains. The behaviour and attitude of the group was excellent throughout and the progress made by most

skiers was impressive. The evenings were filled with pizza, Champions League football and ice-skating - which is where our only injuries occurred! On a personal note, it was my 30th ski trip as leader of the party and my last before I retire at the end of this year. A memorable last evening marked by a special presentation from staff and students.

Next year's trip to Falcade has already attracted similar numbers and plans are in place to make the trip equally successful.

Mr C Edwards



BERLIN



In March 2018, 22 of our A-Level German students spent a long weekend in Berlin. The aim of the trip was to gain a better understanding of the historical and cultural topics on the A-Level course as well as gain exposure to the German language itself. We had a busy schedule, visiting a number of important historical sites and monuments including Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, the museum at the former Stasi headquarters and the DDR Museum (Berlin's interactive museum). We also went to the cinema to see a new German film 'Das Schweigende Klassenzimmer' (English title: The Silent Revolution) which tied in nicely with the historical aspect of the trip and our A-Level exam. Berlin is certainly a city where you can see history 'close up', and visiting sites such as the East Side Gallery (artwork painted onto the remains of the Berlin wall) really brings the material we have been covering in the classroom to life. Hearing and being able to speak the German language is great practice and inspiration when you are learning a language at A-Level.

“

Experiencing Berlin's history and culture in real life helped me to understand life in Germany and made me want to learn more about its past. It was a fascinating and eye-opening experience.

Year 12 student

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YEAR 12 FRENCH EXCHANGE TRIP

Students visited Verdun on a French Exchange. The group visited the historical sites of the Douaumont Ossuary and the battlefields at Les Éperges. We spent time with our exchange partners in Metz where we visited the Centre-Pompidou (Museum of Modern and Contemporary Arts) and explored the local shops. All in all, we had a great time, immersing ourselves in a new language and culture.





Year 9
A team



Year 7 - District
Netball Champions

Sports

NETBALL

Year 7

The excellent commitment shown from the Year 7s at our weekly Netball Club has led to a great first season at SWCHS. The A team won the Bishop's Stortford and District Netball Tournament and the B team were runners-up. They also reached the semi-finals of the Essex Cup competition.

Year 9



B team

Another fantastic season for our Year 9 girls with the A team winning the 1st round of the National Tournament to represent NW Essex. They were also quarter finalists in the Essex Cup and runners up in the District Tournament.

The B team keep their winning streak and remain unbeaten. They are District Champions for the 3rd year in a row.

Year 10

The Year 10 girls won the District Netball for the 4th year in a row.

Year 11



A very successful season for the Year 11 team. They came up against strong opposition in both the Essex Cup and Essex Plate Competitions. In an extremely competitive Essex Plate final against New Hall School, their strong performance won the match 33-18.

DANCE

Two big performances from our Dance students this year; 'Step into Dance' students performed at the SpringBlast Dance platform in Chelmsford and students from all year groups took part in the sell-out production 'Best of British'.



SWIMMING

Congratulations to the District Swimming team who won the overall competition this year. Good individual performances, with a special mention to Innes Dunlop, Rose Wilkinson, Jack Stanton-Stock and Luhan Bely, all of whom performed exceptionally well. The teams then all worked well together to swim some excellent relays. Well done to all involved.

HOCKEY

Year 9

An amazing season for our Year 9 Girls' Hockey team! They won 11 out of 13 matches, scoring a total of 108 goals, only conceding 9. After losing to a tough Stephen Perse team in Years 7 and 8, we were extremely proud that they drew this year's match. Great progress! Highlights of the season were reaching the finals of the Essex Cup and being crowned District Champions. Well played girls.

Year 11

The consistent strength in both defence and attack helped the Year 11 Girls' team to reach the Essex Cup Final. This proved to be a very exciting and hard fought match. Congratulations to the team who are Essex Champions for the first time.





England RFU National
Schools U15 Bowl



SpringBlast
Dance Platform

RUGBY

Year 8

A great Rugby season for the Year 8 boys, highlighted by an excellent tour in Bath and Bristol. The boys successfully won the Super 12 Tournament, beating Robert Clack, Hockerill and Great Baddow. They reached the second round of the Essex Schools Waterfall Tournament narrowly losing out to Coopers.

The boys showed some real character on the tour when they fought back from a losing position of 10 - 25 to draw 25 - 25 against Clifton School followed by a comprehensive win against Beaconsfield RFC, 35 - 15.

Sam Gregory, Sam Goodsell-King and Jadon Keogh Gibbs were this year's 'top-performers'.

Year 9

ESSEX CUP FINAL

Saffron Walden County High School	19
Robert Clack	19

Robert Clack raced into a 14 - 0 lead after 10 minutes but SWCHS dominated the remaining 50 minutes of the match to finish 19 - 19 at full time. As both teams scored three tries the completion rule book was produced to decide the winner. In the smallest of small print the rules state the team who 'scores first is deemed the winner'. This was a bitter pill to swallow as the boys had dominated the game, however they did themselves and the school proud. A special mention must go to Thomas Head, Joseph Gaffan and Will Rand who were all joint men-of-the-match.



U16 Rugby Squad



Year 9 Rugby - Robert Clack



Year 10

ENGLAND RFU NATIONAL SCHOOLS U15 BOWL

Saffron Walden County High School	19
Worth School	10

Our Year 10 Rugby team led a triumphant comeback against Worth School to win the Schools' U15 National Bowl at Sixways Stadium, home of Aviva Premiership side Worcester Warriors on Tuesday 13th March. The team were supported by 50 travelling spectators as well as many students and staff back at school watching the game which was live streamed via YouTube on the England RFU page.

Year 11

ESSEX SCHOOLS RUGBY PLATE FINAL

Saffron Walden County High School	61
FitzWimark School, Rayleigh	23

This was a hard fought final between two ambitious attacking school teams. An early try for each team set the pattern and the advantage shifted between the sides before SWCHS opened up the game with some scintillating passages of play to lead 22 - 7 up at half time. SWCHS moved up a gear in the second half with both Longarettis, Cilia,

Skingsley and Curtis offering strong running and tackling. Ollie Haxton was outstanding at full back and the three quarters contributed hugely to a comprehensive victory.

FOOTBALL



Year 7

With a regular 40+ students attending training each week, the potential for our Year 7 Football squad is huge. The A team remain unbeaten, with only one draw against Enfield Grammar school. The season culminated in a comprehensive victory over Leventhorpe School in the Bishop's Stortford and District 11-a-side final. A very successful term for this squad.

Year 8

The Year 8 boys had a somewhat frustrating Easter term with a number of cancellations due to poor weather. However, Henry Clare, Tom Mannion, Samson Marks, Tom Viney and Jadon Keogh Gibbs were once again our most consistent players over the season. Most notable wins included Forest School, Enfield and KEGS. Well done to all who have represented the Year 8 Boys' Football Squad.



Animal
Edutainment



Year 7 with their
Egg Race Mobiles

Science Week 2018

THERE WERE SOME FANTASTIC ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS ON OFFER FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS TO CELEBRATE SCIENCE WEEK 2018. THE EVENTS ALLOWED STUDENTS TO EXPERIENCE NEW AND EXCITING ASPECTS OF SCIENCE, BOTH IN LESSONS AND ON TRIPS OUT OF SCHOOL. EVENTS WERE LED BY SCIENCE TEACHERS, EXTERNAL SPEAKERS AND A VARIETY OF PARENTS/CARERS AND FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE INVOLVED. THE FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS HAS BEEN FANTASTIC!

Miss Hayes

ANIMAL EDUTAINMENT WITH YEAR 7 AND SCIENCE CLUB

Students came face to face with a variety of rainforest animals with Animal EDutainment.

"I loved seeing all of the animals. There was such a variety including a monitor lizard, a tarantula and an animal that looked like a hedgehog but was actually related to a woolly mammoth! We got to hold all of them, even the little tree frog!"

Elsbeth Birkbeck (Year 7)



MONDAY 12TH MARCH – YEAR 9 DUXFORD TRIP

Students visited the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. They spent the day learning about the physics of flight and had the opportunity to explore the museum and the grounds.

"The Duxford trip was an amazing experience, loads of fun and I would definitely recommend it!"

Oscar Welch (Year 9)



YEARS 10, 11 AND SIXTH FORM

Years 10, 11 and Sixth Form attended talks, lectures and workshops. Professor Joyce Harper spoke to students about IVF and inspired conversations about fertility and advances in her field. Teams from Charles Rivers Laboratories came into school to run workshops; one aimed at Chemistry students where they made Aspirin and discussed Chemistry vocations, and another, aimed at Biology students, extracted DNA from strawberries and spoke about cutting edge Genome studies.

"I was able to talk to a researcher from Oxford University after his presentation about medical advancements in neurological imaging. It really fitted in with my interests within and beyond my Biology course and I was able to discuss topics such as my EPQ and possible university and career choices with him. I found it so helpful and it's made me realise how much I can't wait to start my university course!"

Gerogia Sermon (Year 13)

YEAR 7 – THE GREAT EGG RACE

"We all made an egg mobile before our science class and we took it in turns to race them. The mobile had to travel 10m and we were able to use a ramp. I tried really hard but my mobile fell off the ramp and the egg broke! Jack and Zac won with a time of 0.8 seconds. It was great!"

Freya Barnes (Year 7)

MEDICAL MAVERICKS WITH YEAR 9 AND A-LEVEL BIOLOGY STUDENTS

Students had a chance to practice suturing, take blood pressure and use state-of-the-art heart rate equipment with a team of scientists from Medical Mavericks.

"Medical Mavericks was a great chance to find out about medical careers that we never knew existed! It was really exciting to be able to use all the real medical equipment."

Hattie Altaparmakova and Emily Mander (Year 9)

YEAR 8 SCIENCE LESSONS– AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE UNIT TRIP

"During science week we visited the farm. We learnt all about the digestive systems of goats and horses. We learnt some really interesting facts, such as a horse's stomach cannot expand to fit in more food!"

Annabelle Hodge (Year 8)





Students performing in the Winter Concert



Music Academy students performing at RAB

Music at SWCHS



In addition to our own programme of extra-curricular ensembles, a wide range of other musical opportunities continues to add immeasurably to the work done every day in the Music department. While many of these naturally focus on our Sixth Form Music Academy, we are pleased to be gradually opening the doors to our GCSE musicians who perform at an appropriate standard to make up a Junior



Academy. This forms part of a long-term aim to push up the standards of young musicians in the area in partnership with Saffron Hall and the Saffron Centre for Young Musicians (SCYM).

Earlier in the year, our Jazz Band performed side-by-side with National Youth Jazz Orchestra (NYJO) and Saffron Hall are

currently negotiating with one of Britain's most famous orchestras to arrange a similar event next year. Having watched the *London Symphony Orchestra* rehearse earlier in the year, our A-Level Music students were invited to watch a rehearsal by *Il Fagiolini* and then meet Robert Hollingsworth who is a Senior Lecturer at York University. In a similar vein, Marin Alsop opened up her rehearsal with *The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment* in Mendelssohn's *Italian Symphony*, one of our A-Level set works. We have also benefitted from three visits by the Guildhall School of Music & Drama (GSMD) student ensembles who have worked with our Junior Jazz Band, Brass Ensemble and Pure Sax and these typify the way in which musical partnerships can impact across the whole musical community at SWCHS.

At the very start of this term, the Music Academy students took their devised musical narrative based on *The Gruffalo* to RAB School and presented it to all KS1 students. Suffice to say that all who visit SWCHS are hugely impressed not only by the number of students actively involved with music, but also with the levels of performance and commitment that they show. We too are very proud of them!





Jake Procter
Year 13



Olivia Culley
Year 13

Prefects and YLT

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR NEW TEAM OF YEAR 10 PREFECTS.

Over 100 Year 10 students applied and went through the gruelling Prefect selection process just before Easter. The standard of applicants this year was extremely high with limited places on offer. After spending a considerable amount of time reviewing applications and considering interview performance we made our choices and are delighted to be able to introduce our new Prefects to you.

Our Prefects represent the best attributes of a SWCHS student. They will work to support their fellow students and staff, and be the face of the school in the community. We welcome them and wish them all the best in their role for the next twelve months.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM (YLT) - SCHOOL INITIATIVE TO REDUCE PLASTIC WASTE

The BBC documentary Planet Earth II has inspired the Youth Leadership Team to investigate the use of plastics on the SWCHS site. After research into how much plastic packaging was sold by the canteen, they have worked closely with Mrs Pople, Catering Manager, to reduce our dependence on plastic packaging. As a result of their collaborations a new policy on the sale of water bottles has been launched, as well as reducing the carbon footprint of our coffee cups and also changing our suppliers so that coffee cups can be recycled fully. Initiatives for the future include raising money to purchase more recycling bins on site as well as increasing education amongst staff and pupils on how to reduce their plastic waste. Watch this space...



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Without a doubt, the Youth Leadership team have been amazed by the encouragement and assistance that they have experienced with the water bottle initiative. Support from students, canteen staff, teachers, local newspapers and even the radio, have been flooding in and it is astonishing to see the passion that many people have about making SWCHS greener. One of the most enjoyable things about being a member of the Youth Leadership Team has to be the empowerment that it brings to the student body. The unwavering dedication that the Senior Leadership Team and staff such as Mrs Pople, Mr Milne and Mr Crittenden have displayed towards the YLT has been incredible and has allowed for much success. We only hope to move forward with many new projects.

Ursula Gerhard Year 10

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TERM DATES 2018/2019:

AUTUMN TERM

Wednesday 5th September 2018 –
Wednesday 19th December 2018

SPRING TERM

Thursday 3rd January 2019 –
Friday 5th April 2019

SUMMER TERM

Tuesday 23rd April 2019 –
Friday 19th July 2019

SCHOOL TRAINING DAYS – NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL

Monday 3rd & Tuesday 4th September 2018

Friday 30th November 2018

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2019

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs supplied by: Joe Higham
Reportage, Tracy Woods and Carmel
Jane Photography. Our thanks go to all
members of staff and students who have
kindly contributed to this issue.

