



From the Head

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year – although the dreary wet days of January are nearly behind us! We are welcoming in 2018 at SWCHS with music, dancing and magical technicolour somewhere over the rainbow, with our own production of the much-loved musical ‘The Wizard of Oz’. The show runs from Monday 5th to Thursday 8th February and involves around 150 of our students. It will be performed in Saffron Hall and tickets are available from the Saffron Hall website. It is a spectacle not to be missed and I look forward to seeing you there.

In other news, County High continues to win accolades – on this occasion the first round of the ESU Churchill National Public Speaking Competition! What a great start to the year.

Caroline Derbyshire
Headteacher

Charities Week - £10,697 raised:

SWCHS enjoyed an action packed end to the term with another highly successful Charities Week. Following the fantastic Variety Show, a three day fundraising bonanza began. Events ranged from a Christmas Bazaar, with stalls run by students from Year 7 and 8, performances by talented students in the Xmas Factor, to Strictly, featuring the dancing skills of some very brave teaching staff. The highlight of the week for many was the non-uniform day, where departments competed to be crowned the best dressed. This year, that honour went to the senior leadership team.



We are delighted that all of the hard work from the Sixth Form Committee and staff has paid off as we raised an amazing £10,697. This will be split between the seven charities chosen by our students, with each year group having selected their own charity. *Year 7 - Anti-Bullying Alliance, Year 8 - Alzheimer's Society, Year 9 - Teenage Cancer Trust, Year 10 - Motor Neuron Disease, Year 11 - Tom's Trust, Year 12 - The Maddi Foundation and Year 13 - East Anglian Air Ambulance.*



Sweeney Todd—The Cambridge Arts Theatre trip:

On the evening of the 17th January the English department travelled to Cambridge with a group of excited Year 10 students to see the musical ‘Sweeney Todd’. The story of the demon barber of Fleet Street is told through Cambridge Operatic Society's brilliant production. The students particularly enjoyed the intense music accompanied with the drama of the famous, yet chilling story. We hope to offer the opportunity to see ‘Sweeney Todd’ to other year groups in the coming months.



ESU Churchill National Public Speaking Competition 2018:

Year 10 SWCHS students took part in the first round of the ESU Public Speaking Competition at the King Edward VI Grammar School (KEGS) in Chelmsford this month.



The girls competed against five teams from schools across the region and did fantastically well against an incredibly strong field. Amy Dunn was named as best chairperson overall and Ursula Gerhard as best speaker. Ursula's team went on to win the competition and will represent the school at the semi-final on February 5th. Mrs Boggis and I are incredibly proud of the girls who all put a great deal of time, thought and effort into the competition. They represented our school brilliantly! *Miss L Hayes*

Sports News:

Hockey:

Congratulations to the U14 Girls' Hockey team for two very impressive Essex cup wins this month. Cornelius 15 - 0 and Sacred Heart 13 - 0. The team will travel to Southend in two weeks time to continue their quest for the cup



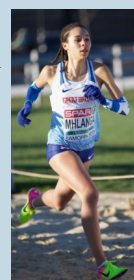
Netball:

The U14 Netball team were equally successful and sailed through into the Elite 8 of the Essex Cup with a 31-10 win against HRS. They will face Woodlands in the quarter final in two weeks time.

Rugby:



The Year 10 Boys' Rugby team recently played against Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School away in the 4th round of the National Bowl competition. The team put on an excellent display of Rugby against a resilient side who fought to the end with SWCHS coming out on top 0-62. The team will play Severn Vale school, Gloucester in the Quarter Finals.



Cross Country:

SWCHS Student Khai Mhlanga recently represented GB in two international cross country events - ‘The European Cross County Championships’, held in Slovakia, and ‘The great Edinburgh Internationals’. We are proud to say that Khai's team won GOLD in both. Congratulations Khai. An amazing achievement!

SWCHS Term Dates 2018:

Spring Term 2018

Thursday 4th January 2018—Thursday 29th March 2018

Half Term 12th February—16th February

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April 2018—Friday 20th July 2018

Half Term 28th May—1st June 2018

School Training Days: (no pupils in school) - Monday 4th June 2018

