

Dear Parent/Guardian

PE Kits and Lost Property – Miss Manklow

There is an increasing number of pupils who are storing their full PE kits on pegs in their form room, ready for use on the day that they need it, and only taking it home infrequently. PE kit is regularly being misplaced – the time currently being spent by the PE Department responding to parental queries and trying to locate the missing kit is significant. The PE Department strongly suggests that pupils bring in PE kit on the day that it is needed, and then take it home at the end of the day – it should not be left in school overnight. When PE kit is brought into school for the day, or pupils do choose to leave their kit in school for a period of time, it should be locked away in a locker. Yr7 have allocated PE lockers in the PE Department and there are a small number of spare lockers for the rest of the school to use. Alternatively, all pupils have a locker either in, or near to, their form room which can be used to lock PE kit away in.

There is currently a large amount of PE kit in the PE Office and pupils are able to check the lost property before school and at break times. Please note that any kit that hasn't been claimed at the end of the year will be donated to the PTA or given to charity.

Teacher Training Opportunities at TWGGGS - Miss B Smith

We have six exciting vacancies for trainee teachers for the 2019-20 academic year. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone who has been considering training or re-training as a teacher and would like to do so in a supportive and high achieving academic environment. We have been using Kent and Medway training for the last 3 years to train teachers through the School Direct programme and there are bursaries available for a number of subjects to support you financially whilst you train. TWGGGS has training vacancies in English, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Maths and P.E. available for the coming year to anyone who has a relevant degree at 2:2 level or higher. The application process for School Direct is through UCAS and more information about eligibility, bursaries to train and applications can be obtained from Miss Smith by emailing itt@twggs.kent.sch.uk or by visiting <http://www.kaizentsa.org/221/initial-teacher-training>. Please feel free to pass this information on to any friends or family who you also think may be interested in our training vacancies.

Mrs Finlayson

We have just heard that Mrs Finlayson gave birth to Joshua Luke on Saturday 9th February; both mother and baby are doing well.

CCF Advanced Infantry Camp Friday 18th – Sunday 20th January 2019 – Cadet Jessica Yuen 10T

On Friday 18th January, the TWGGGS contingent left school to spend the weekend at Crowborough for an advanced infantry training camp. This camp was mainly targeted towards Year 10 cadets to gain further knowledge on fieldcraft skills. Shortly after arriving at Crowborough Training Camp, we jumped straight into lessons, first learning about the complex process of giving orders. This evening gave us the opportunity to have our first dive into the wondrous world of army acronyms! This provided us not only with an astounding amount of new knowledge but a way to remember it all as well.

On Saturday morning, we had lessons on how to make clear, precise general and detailed models of an area. After learning in a classroom for the majority of the past two days, we had our first physical fieldcraft activity – casualty evacuation. This adrenaline-filled drill emphasised the importance of coordination and teamwork within sections. In the afternoon, we were given an inspiring talk on leadership by Brigadier John Ridge – this was thoroughly engaging and I am sure everyone learnt a huge amount from his knowledge and experience. We spent the remainder of the day practising withdrawal and preparing and presenting models, alongside orders, for ambushes that would take place the following day. After an eventful morning of ambushes and emergency casualty evacuations, all of us were exhausted from the action-packed camp. We were extremely excited to go home, and to tell our families what we had learnt over the last three days. I would like to thank all of the staff and seniors on behalf of everyone who attended the camp; without them the weekend would not have been possible.

Hockey Champions – Miss Parkinson

Congratulations to Tilly Strand-Ford 9T and her Sevenoaks hockey team who became U16 National Indoor Hockey Champions in January. They beat Surbiton in the semi-finals and Repton in the final. This is a wonderful achievement, well done!

Behind the scenes of the Year 8 Shakespeare Festival – Jess Poland 8S

We chose 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' as our scenes to perform, and decided that we wanted to intertwine two scenes, one of Titania waking up and falling in love with Bottom who would have the head of an ass, and one where Lysander and Demetrius both fall in love with Helena. When one scene was performing the other one was still in freeze-frame. We then had to make the woodland we decided to set it in, and after a few lessons, decided that making the trees would not be the best idea, but bringing in trees and embellishing them with hand-made leaves and flowers would work best. We also thought that attaching strings of

flowers to coat stands to create a mystical effect was a good idea. As the set came together, we needed to choose outfits for our performers, making them look as similar as to what an Athenian or fairy would wear. We also had to audition the actors with a range of talents for the characters that would be featured in the two scenes. We also had to ensure that, as Shakespeare had intended, it was very humorous.

Eventually, after weeks of preparing and perfecting – verifying that the sound and lighting suited what was going on onstage and ensuring that every detail of the shoebox model set was complete – every element was ready, and after we performed we were all very pleased with our performance. From this experience we learnt that Shakespeare is not just about books and literature, but performance and you can have fun with it, as we did.

World Book Day Fancy Dress Competition – Ms Sanderson

To celebrate World Book Day pupils and teachers from Year 7 are invited to come to school on Friday 8th March dressed as a character from a favourite book. Though it is not compulsory, all girls are encouraged to take part in what always proves to be a fun event with prizes for the best dressed class, individual in a class, individual in a year group, and group costumes. Pupils who genuinely don't wish to dress up should come to school in their school uniform as normal. It is usually a highly creative and competitive event and I looking forward to seeing many inspired costumes on the day.

Kent Schools Athletics Championships Saturday January 19th – Mrs Field

Congratulations to our junior cross country runners for showing such talent and endurance at the recent county championships. As usual the championship was well attended by district teams from all over Kent. We were particularly proud of our girls, especially the “novice” Year 7 competitors, who coped admirably with the challenging route and succeeded in winning first place for the Tunbridge Wells district team. Well done to: Penny Horne 7I, Georgie Conroy 7T and Megan Houghton 7I and congratulations to Jess Rayner 8G and Isis Henderson 9G who competed in the Junior Girls’ race.

Southern Zonal Finals – Miss Manklow

On Saturday 19th January the Trampolining Squad competed at the Southern Zonal Final. After qualifying from the Regional Event back in November the girls were extremely excited to be representing the school at such a high level. Compulsory and set routines from the previous round needed to be performed again with the average of the two routines being the final score. The girls were nervous but had continued to work hard on perfecting their movements. On the day due to injury and illness, we were unable to qualify, with only two members from each team competing. The scores still reflected all the hard work the girls had put in as they were able to beat scores from the regional round. Huge congratulations to all who took part: Carla Beeney 10S, Amy Collinson 10W, Eva Waymouth 10W, Lara Mills 9S, Phoebe Hood 9T.

School Team Gymnastics – Miss Manklow

On Sunday 10th February the Gymnastics Squad competed in their final competition of the year; the School Team Gymnastics Competition. The competition ran at Regional and National level with TWGGS teams entered in both. The squad competed in 3 teams in both floor and vault. The girls choreographed a square floor routine and selected skills from a list of approved moves. They have been working hard on their vault all year with Leon Fagbemi our Squad Coach. The day was extremely tough with high level competition from all schools. It was great to see all their hard work in action.

The U19 Regional Squad came 1st taking the gold medal. Congratulations to Sophie Semmens U6W, Poppy Dascombe 8T, Eloise Greig 8T and Amelia Bell 8I.

The U14 National squad narrowly missed out on medals. Although they came 6th, there was just 1.7 points between 6th and 3rd place. Well done girls! Kasia Rycroft 9S, Emily Harrison 9W, Hetty Sinclair 9W, Penny Horne 7I and Ella Harrison 7T.

The U14 Regional Squad came 8th, again with just 3 points separating them from 3rd place medals. Well done to Emilia Belfield 7S, Emma Nimmo 7S, Tara Bozic 7G and Maddie George 7W.

Sports Hall Athletics Kent Finals – Miss Thornton

On Tuesday 5th February the Year 7 and 8 Sports Hall Athletics teams competed in the Kent Finals at Medway Park. The team were required to compete in a number of track and field events throughout the day while representing the Tunbridge Wells district. The teams demonstrated brilliant determination, respect and support towards their fellow teammates and others. All in all, the Year 7 team came 7th in Kent while the Year 8 team came 6th in Kent. Well done to all who took part!

Year 7: Harriet George 7I, Shaniyah Sood 7I, Megan Houghton 7I, Siofra Darrer 7I, Freya Jones 7I, Eleanor Frost 7T, Eloise Pauling 7T and Millie Lewis 7I.

Year 8: Emily Marriage 8T, Harriet Dunkin 8T, Eloise Greig 8T, Poppy Dascombe 8T, Daisy Bayer 8T, Saarah Kamali 8G and George Ringer 8S.

Rambert Workshop- Miss Manklow

On Tuesday 5th February the Rambert Workshop took place in preparation for the Evening of Dance. This was a full day of dancing for those who successfully auditioned, taken by an2animateur from Rambert Dance Company. The day started with

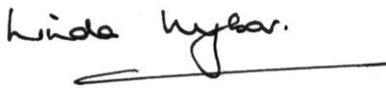
a contemporary warm up followed by learning a short phase of choreography from 'Rooster', a current Rambert piece. The girls were then able to split into smaller groups to continue to develop the phrase. This piece will form the finale dance for the Evening of Dance taking place on Wednesday 13th February. This was a great day for the dancers to experience high level choreography and develop their contemporary repertoire.

Pencil Case Donations – Mrs Julie Robinson, Ghana Education Project Trustee

Thank you very much for all the kind donations of pencil cases, maths sets and other materials. We were overwhelmed by your generosity. I had a very rewarding trip to Ghana where the girls at Kyabobo Girls' School are extremely grateful for all the support that comes from the fundraising at TWGGS. The girls and staff in Ghana send greetings and thanks to everyone at TWGGS.

Thank you also to those who attended the PTA quiz and purchased tea and cakes. We raised £200 for Ghana Education Project. As with all fundraising by the Ghana Team, this money goes to the charity and not to pay for the girls' trip. The girls fund their own trip costs from other sources and do not fundraise for these. The amount raised at the quiz will support two girls for a whole year at the school. Thank you to the PTA for giving us this opportunity to raise money for Ghana Education Project. If you would like to know more about what we do with the money raised at TWGGS, you can see a short video using the following link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LI_tX2qXyKM

We have two school trips taking place over the holiday: a group of Year 8 pupils are going skiing, whilst Sixth Form History and Politics students are off to Russia. I am sure they will all have a wonderful time, and we look forward to hearing all about their experiences on their return. With best wishes to you all for a pleasant half-term break.



Mrs L Wybar, Headteacher