



ISSUE 97

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2023

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A Word from our Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will see from our newsletter and the articles that follow, we have had another busy half term. A running theme has been opportunities to get outdoors, learn about careers and experience new settings. Thank you for your support with these experiences and thank you to all staff involved. As well as these wonderful experiences, students have been working very hard in school and I have really enjoyed seeing them in action in their lessons, working on challenging concepts, asking questions and exploring the innovative and creative curriculum that their teachers provide.

Another common theme that you will notice in our newsletter is the links that we continue to maintain with our alumni and parent community. We are very thankful to the parents, community members and past students who take time out of their busy schedules to share their valuable life and career experiences with students. These talks enrich the work we do in school, broaden aspirations and show students the wealth of opportunities that await when their school education is completed.

As we move into spring time, the lighter mornings and evenings are approaching and our grounds are coming back to life, with daffodils and blossom emerging. Our gardening club have big plans and we would be very grateful if families could share clippings of any perennials that you may have at home that could join our school community! If so, please ask your child to bring them into school or drop them at reception yourself.

Next half term sees the start of external examinations taking place which is both an exciting and challenging time for students and their families. I urge you to use the Easter holidays to balance revision with rest, time outdoors and opportunity to reset. If your child is finding this time difficult, please encourage them to talk to their form tutor who will be able to offer advice, guidance and practical strategies to support.

I hope that you all have wonderful break and for those celebrating, Happy Easter and Ramadan Mubarak .

Ms M Featherstone
Headteacher

Ms M Featherstone
Headteacher

GCSE Science Live



Year 10 visited St George's Hall in Bradford for an enriching science trip. The day started with Dr Anna Ploszajski who spoke about her experience swimming the English Channel. She discussed matters regarding energy conservation and which types of food are better suited for strenuous exercise.

Next, we saw Professor Steve Jones, an ecological geneticist who shared his research involving the relationship between habitat and genetic traits. After a quick lunch break, we returned to Professor Lord Robert Winston, a pioneer in science, well renowned for his development of precision surgery on the fallopian tubes, his work has helped bring thousands of babies into the world.

Later, we heard from one of Cambridge University's Inspirational

and Successful Women in Science, Doctor Hannah Critchlow. Interestingly, she invited a volunteer onto the stage to examine his brain activity. She then invited a teacher on stage to put an electric current to his arm and it began shaking ecstatically – shocking!

Last but not least, Professor Dave Cliff took to the stage. As an accomplished man, Dave invented the seminal 'ZIP' trading algorithm; he passionately told us about the possibilities of computing, if only we can overcome the various challenges – but overcoming those challenges, he admitted, would be a lot of fun. As the day ended, we left the theatre enlightened and even more informed than before, with insights into science-related careers such as histology, genetics, neuroscience, material science and computer engineering.



What a great day of fun!

**Alisha Barket and
Tamanna Begum**
Year 10

Harry Potter World & London Science Museum

On the 7th March our GCSE and A level Computer Science students took a career enriched trip to London to experience how Computer Science is embedded in such a wide variety of professions. We left Skipton at 6.30am and travelled to The Harry Potter Studios in London. We were amazed from the second we walked in to the second we left. It is a fantastic place to inspire and enthuse future generations.

Some students had never delved into the world of Harry Potter, yet, found themselves drawn to the maze of opportunity and excitement that a place like a film studio can bring. We started our Harry Potter experience with a seminar about the art of foley and the digital enhancements of today's film industry. The industry experts, with a CV of many blockbuster movies, spoke passionately about Computer Science and its integral place in nearly everything they do.

We then thoroughly enjoyed the tour, which enlightened both students and staff about the diverse careers which the film industry can provide, coupled with an incredible and immersive experience. We paid particular attention to the digital enhancements section; the entire day was one to remember for all!

After an overnight stay at the YHA at Lee Valley, we visited central London and The Science Museum. We had booked a tour of The Information Age. This is steeped with real life examples of the computing curriculum. We witnessed the first cable that was laid across the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean to form the "backbone" of the Internet, saw technology through the ages in all its forms and a plethora of ways in which the world of computing and programming has changed the ways of the world.

To quote one of the exhibits. *"The most profound technologies are those that disappear. They weave themselves into the fabric of everyday life until they are indistinguishable from it"* - Mark Weber 1991 .

Mrs Lofthouse
Associate Assistant Headteacher

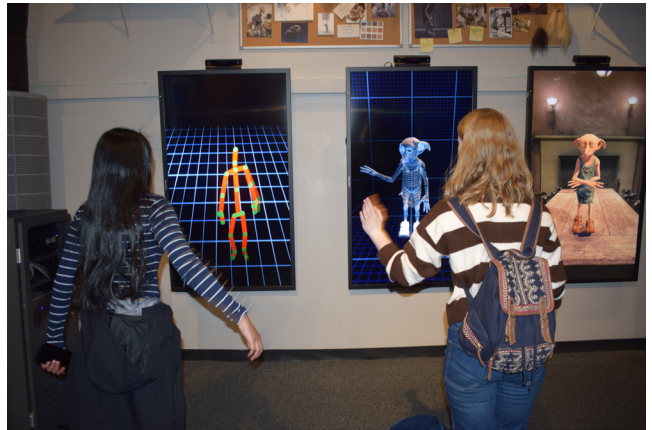
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I really liked the museum, we visited the Maths Labs, they had instruments showing how people used to calculate things like Pythagoras and one of the earliest forms of calculator which was a huge computer, yet it could only do very simple additional and subtraction calculations. This really showed us how much technology has advanced in a relatively short amount of time. It was really exciting!

- Aleena Patel and Alisha Ali, Year 12

”





Morocco 2023

Preparation is Well Underway

The Sixth Form Team that are going to Morocco in the summer with the Outlook Expedition Team had a trial weekend in the Peak District to put their camping and cooking skills to the test. All students were absolutely superb and a real credit to themselves during a very cold, blustery and damp weekend. Staff were super impressed with the creativity in cooking and providing food for the whole team along with the challenge of cooking on a Trangia stove.

Well done to all students that took part and even though this was a very different experience to the one ahead, the students worked well as a team and the support for each other was outstanding. Morocco here we come!!



Year 8 Passport to Success

This half term we have launched the Passport to Success with our Year 8 Students. This is an initiative launched with our year 8 students providing the opportunity for students to identify, complete and reflect upon a range of new experiences allowing them to focus on personal development and what is important for them to grow as a young person.

From February half term until the end of the summer term, students have been set the challenge of completing a task from each RESPECT category, creating a personal blog and recording evidence of what they have done and the impact this has had on them.

We would like to congratulate students on their progress so far and encourage them to update this as they progress through the year and look forward to seeing their completed passport in the summer term.

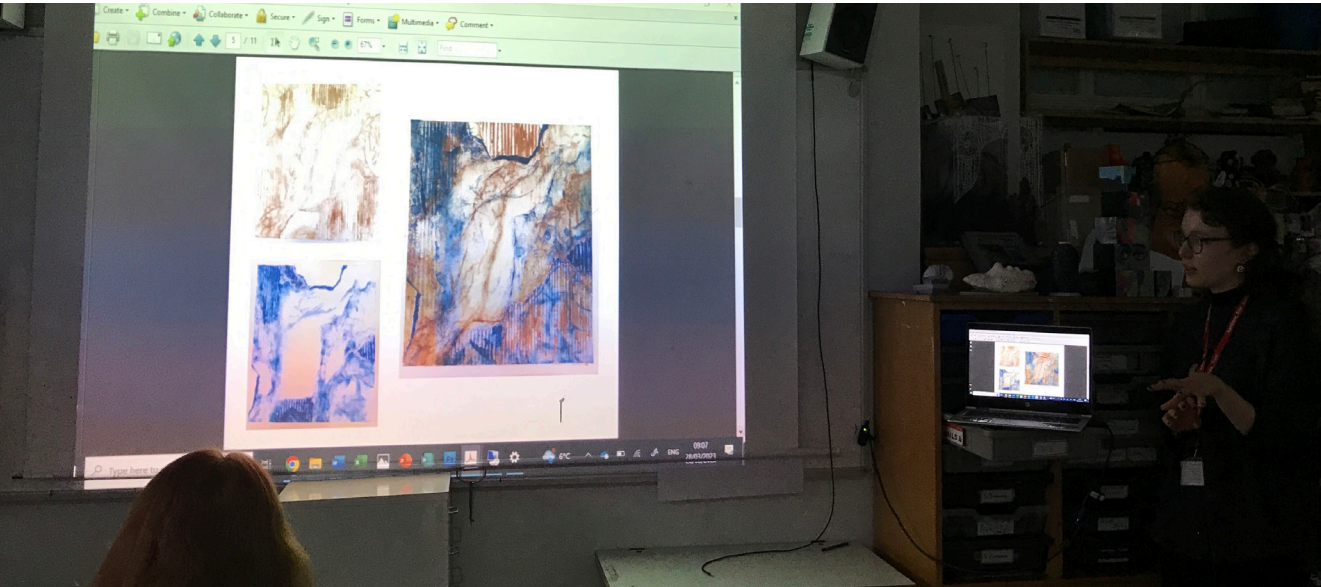
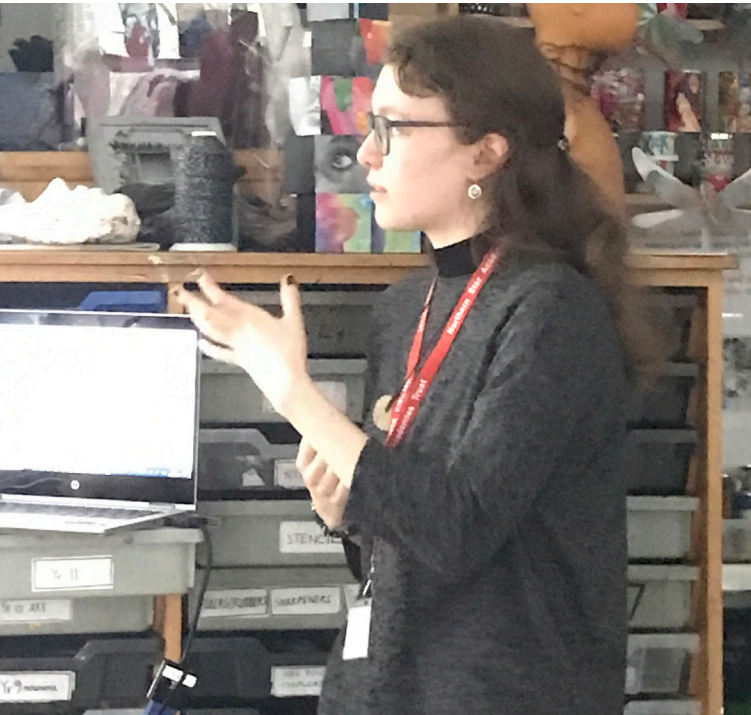




Fine Art - Careers in Art

It was lovely to welcome Connie back to school. She gave a super talk to our Year 12 Art students about studying Fine Art at Newcastle. She talked about the many career options open to students in the creative industries, for example: Graphics, Art Therapy, Photography, Film, Media etc. After her talk she gave advice to students on their Personal Investigations; all in all a super productive morning for Year 12 Art students.

Mrs Scott
Curriculum Leader: Art



Alumni - Zoe Stott

On the 23rd February our Sixth Form were invited to join a Teams meeting with a member of our alumni, Zoe Stott. Zoe kindly shared her journey since leaving us in 2013 and her foray into the creative arts industry. The students enjoyed listening to Zoe as she explained the world of internships and found out how many vast and varied roles there are within the arts. The key point of roles are emerging as rapidly as the internet and social media develops. Zoe herself is working in a role that did not exist when she was studying at SGHS. We were so grateful for this very current and helpful insight to such a fast paced industry. Below is an account from Zoe.



After leaving SGHS in 2013 I went on to study Art Foundation at Leeds College of Art then secured a place at Kingston University (which I highly recommend) to study Illustration Animation. During my final year at Kingston, I interned with a large scope of creatives from set designers, illustrators and fashion houses/agencies to figure out exactly what field of work I wanted to go in to.

In 2017 I interned for Beauty Papers, a beauty, art and culture magazine printed bi-annually. 5 years later I am now Digital Content Director of the company and Art Director/Video Editor for their in-house agency, where I have worked on large-scale art direction and film projects for fashion and beauty brands such as Byredo, MAC, Gucci, Off-White, NARS, Jo Malone, Dior and had the chance to meet so many amazing people whilst working on the shoots for the magazine!

Alongside this, as I work on a freelance basis, I have (somehow) managed to split my time working for other brands and creative design agencies over the years, working as an Art Director/Video Editor for brands such as ME+EM, Teresa Tarmey, ECCO, Adidas, Rose INC, OFFICE and Balenciaga. More recently, I was made design consultant for fashion house, Bella Freud, overseeing all digital design and campaign films.

I love working in fashion and beauty and being freelance in particular has allowed me to meet so many incredible people and do something different day-to-day, but one day I hope to have my own art direction and design consultancy studio...TBC!

Robotics Lego League

On 23rd March, the SGHS robotics team ventured across the border to take part in the Lancashire Regional Finals of the worldwide Lego League Robotics Tournament. This was our first visit to the University of Central Lancashire, having previously always competed in the Yorkshire Finals at the University of Bradford. This year, with 40 competitors, we had too many teams to enter the Yorkshire tournament venue, but as we comprised 90% of the female competitors in the regional competition, we remained determined that we would take all of our teams and were warmly welcomed at the new venue.

The day did not disappoint. The University of Central Lancashire provided a stunning and inspirational backdrop for our students. The competition was held in the “Centre for Engineering Innovation”, which is at the very core of our robotics club. We had the opportunity to see the advanced laser cutters and 3D printing labs on an entirely different level.

Our 4 teams had to not only design, build and program robots to compete in the various challenges on the day, but also competed in other categories including : The Innovation Project and Core Team Values.

As always, Skipton Girls’ students didn’t fail to pull out all the stops. From inflatable caterpillar costumes, lego-built sustainable theme parks, dramatic performances, green screen adaptations and professional level presentations on profit and loss. Fran Ward, in his 30th Year of organising national robotics tournaments, said, “in all my time, I have never experienced



one school with so many diverse, innovative and exciting ideas that have been presented in the most extraordinary and creative ways”.

It was an absolute pleasure to watch our students not only support each other but interact with other schools, tell jokes to the judging staff and all in all have a thoroughly good time.

In the results, the Team “Duckeland”, with their sustainable theme park, won the Innovation Project 2023 Award, and came

home with their lego trophy, fully supported by the other teams.

We admire all the work that the robotics teams have put in this year and a special mention to our Sixth Form mentors: Ifazaa Ahmed, Molly Buckley, Katy Cook and Emily Birtwhistle, without whom Mr Mira and myself could not run the club.

Well done team SGHS!

Mrs Lofthouse
Associate Assistant Headteacher



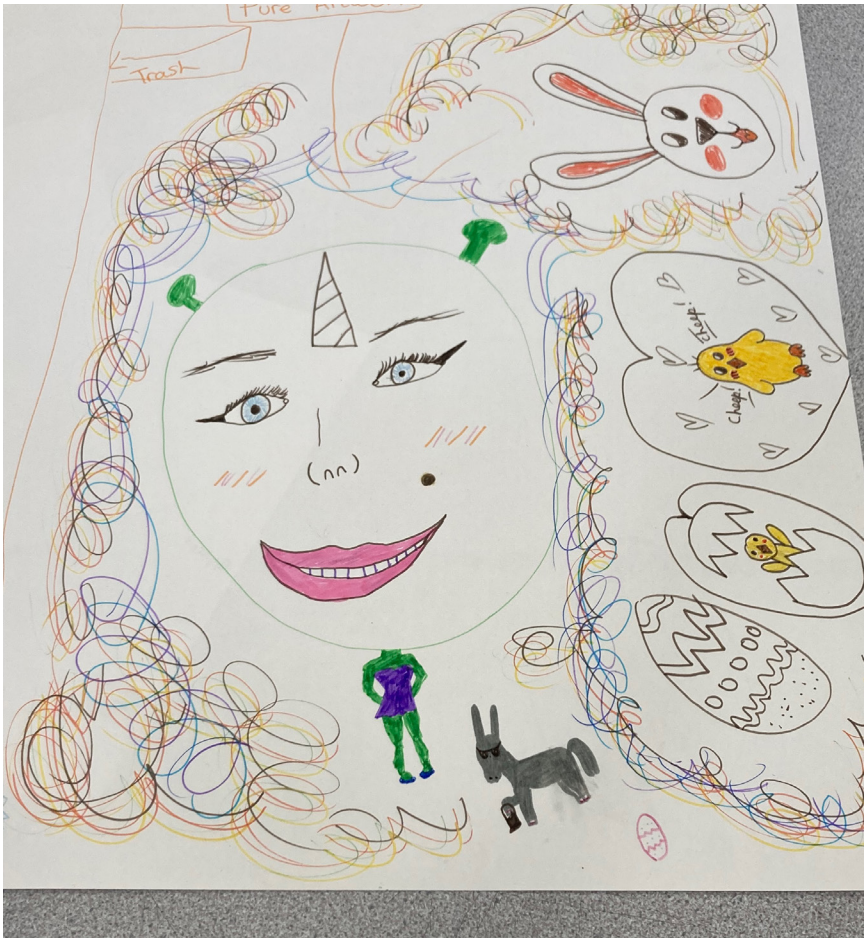
Year 7 Art Club

This term at Art Club, we have been focusing on a project inspired by Greek vessels and roman amphoras - creating paper mâché vases in the style of ancient pots but with a modern twist. The students were extremely successful in their designs using bold colours and historical motifs, and then further added to their pieces by creating origami flowers based on the coming spring months. Towards the end of term, the club held a spring themed art competition, which provided them with the opportunity to use a variety of resources and materials. The winning team 'the bunny hoppers' incorporated a beautiful spring scene with a blossom tree made from layered tissue paper. It has been a very exciting term here at art club - and we are certainly looking forward for the summer term!

Clemmie Swiffen
Year 12

Mrs Scott would like to say a huge thank you to Anisa, Maisy, Clemmie & Emma for running this great club!

“
I enjoy art club because it is very creative and fun.
”
- **Niamh Binns**





Fashion - Maddy White

On Thursday 23rd March we were joined by Maddy White who left SGHS in 2019 to forge a career in the arts. After studying Art, French and Media at A Level, Maddy went to Leeds Arts University to study a Foundation year. Here she developed a love for knitwear and applied to study at Kingston University, London. At this point Maddy had never made an outfit before and quickly learnt how to cut patterns and use a sewing machine. Maddy has focused on knitwear design.

Fast forward to 2022 and Maddy spent a year in Industry, working for fashion designers in London and Berlin, helping to put designs into realisation and curating fashion shows. Maddy worked at both London and Paris Fashion Week. Maddy is now busily preparing her final year show and is looking forward to finding a career as an art/fashion director. Maddy gave lots of insight to her journey so far and really gave our students some career possibilities and directions that are available to them.

Mrs Pitt
Teacher of Art and Sixth Form Team



Stop The Press

We are very excited in the Art department as we have just taken possession of a superb new large printing press. A huge thank you to Friends for funding this; watch this space to see what we do with it!

Mrs Scott
Curriculum Leader: Art



Library News

We've had a busy half term in the library. Lots of lovely new books have been ordered (a big thank you to the Friends of SGHS for their generous donation), which will be gracing our shelves soon. Other activities of note have been:

Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing

The Skipton Shadows (our Y7-10 prize-shadowing group) have got off to a great start with reading their way through the seven shortlisted books. In the week since the shortlist was announced, some shadowers are already on their third book! Their reviews are coming in thick and fast (you can read them here):

yotocarnegies.co.uk/reading-group/skipton-shadows

Our weekly book-club meetings are lively and well attended. Below are Olivia and Ella (Year 8) co-reading *The Eternal Return of Clara Hart* by Louise Finch, a time-loop novel that is particularly favoured by the group.



Life Stories

We invited friends from the SGHS wider community to come into school and share their varied experiences of life and the world. So far, we have heard Mrs Jay (maths teacher here at SGHS) talking about her years living and working in New Zealand, and Dr Frank Swinton (consultant anaesthetist at Airedale hospital and the climate-change lead for health and social care in West Yorkshire) talking about his work and travels in far-flung places and the work he does to reduce the environmental impact of health care. We have several more visitors booked in to talk to us the coming weeks, including: (female) Head of Marketing Andie Walton, who has achieved success in a number of male-dominated

sectors including blacksmithing and tech businesses; Duncan Faulkner, who grew up in Northern Ireland in a divided community at a time of violence and unrest; Sophie Weekes, a conference interpreter for the European Union – and several of our teachers have offered to talk to us about their own interesting backgrounds and experiences. These events show us that everyone has a story to tell.

The library has now become a silent-study space until after the exam period. Revision seems to be well under way – good luck to all the Year 10s, 11s and 13s.

Pateley Bridge Art Trip

Year 10 went on a trip to Pateley Bridge last week. Staff were so impressed with how engaged the students were in their drawing and photography activities. Direct experience of bravely experimenting with creative processes can be applied to careers in all kinds of creative fields, from graphic design to fashion.

Students also gained invaluable experience of researching, developing and articulating intentions, planning a field trip, preparing resources and making work independently and confidently as a result. These skills can be applied to almost any career! A big well done to all involved.

Here is a beautiful drawing made by Grace Beck, just one of the many examples made by this super-talented bunch!

Mr Dryland
Teacher of Art



PE News!

Netball

A huge well done to all our students who attended our Netball clubs since the start of the year. We have had over 100 students attending weekly Netball sessions since September! Whether this has been before school, at lunchtime or after school, we really appreciate your effort and determination to improve and work as a team. Many of those 100 students have also been competing regularly for our teams in the Bradford Schools' Netball League. We also had three students playing for Bradford Schools, two of which recently played in their first tournament for the club, coming in second. The Netball season has now come to an end, but well done to all that trained and played!



Cross Country

Throughout this term we have continued attending events with our wonderful Cross Country teams. This year, our Junior Girls have competed at the ESAA Cross Country National Finals and were the first place team in the Keighley and Craven Cross Country events. Our Intermediate girls competed in the ESAA Cross Country Regional Finals, and were

the second place team at the Keighley and Craven Cross Country events. We have seen some excellent team and individual performances since the start of September, and we cannot wait to get back to Cross Country again next academic year.

Dance

The fantastic Competitive Dance teams have been busy this term creating their dance for the Great Big Dance Off Regional Competition. Both teams danced wonderfully and were great representatives of SGHS. The two teams are determined to come back next year and go one step further by reaching the National Finals. A huge thank you to the dancers who have put in so much effort each week to create two excellent dances.



Summer Sports

Our winter sports have now come to an end, and as the weather starts to improve we can finally get excited for SUMMER! This means a new extra-curricular timetable will be coming soon. Keep an eye out for when Rounders, Athletics, Cricket and Tennis are going to be taking place. We hope to see as many of you as possible attending clubs and representing school in fixtures next term!

Thank you,
Team PE



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150 CLUB

Launching the Friends' 150 Club for 2023.

The 150 Club is a great way to support the school's Hardship Fund whilst having a bit of a flutter!

£20 FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

How does it work?

- After payment of £20 via ParentPay you will be entered into three draws monthly for 12 months. See Friends' page on www.sghs.org.uk for details.
- At time of payment state three number preferences (between 1-150). You will then be informed which is your membership number.

For queries contact:
team@friendsofsghs.org.uk

1ST PRIZE £40

2ND PRIZE £25

3RD PRIZE £10

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE OVER 16

77

3

19

96

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**Skipton Girls' High School,
Gargrave Road, Skipton,
North Yorkshire, BD23 1QL**

Tel: 01756 707600

Fax: 01756 701068

Email: reception@sghs.org.uk

Website: www.sghs.org.uk

Tweet: @skiptongirls