

THE HOOT

THE SUTTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 9 - FRIDAY 18 MARCH 2022



Wise Words

This edition of the Hoot has a lot packed in.

This week the Basketball Team became Surrey Champions and we have already sent off the rather large trophy for engraving. And last week I was with my family at the opening performance of Little Shop of Horrors, a fantastic show with some brilliant performances. At school we marked World Book Day with an author visit and 'The Masked Reader' and I'd like to thank the library staff and our Literacy Lead for all their hard work putting together a great day, raising over £1000 for charity to boot. We also marked International Women's Day with a very popular Krispy Kreme sale and again raised money for charity, this time for the Sutton Women's Centre.

The students proudly represent the school in so many competitions, often achieving highly on the national stage, but most importantly they embody the school's ethos of participation, of taking part and enjoying a challenge.

It was also great to see our Year 9 families in school for GCSE options Evening; a reminder that there's a quick turnaround on those options with a deadline of Monday. And it will be good to see even more families in at the weekend for our International Evening which promises to be a great event (Mr Gunning's German table alone is worth a visit).

As ever, all of this is only possible with support and encouragement from home, so thank you to you all.

Keep Faith.

Ben Cloves
Headmaster

Chemistry Olympiad 2022

Earlier this year, a few Sixth Form chemists sat the RSC Chemistry Olympiad 2022, a challenging national examination aimed at Year 13 students. Well done to all participants. Congratulations to the following students who achieved awards:

Gold

Henry Kim
Ziad Elderini

Silver

Bogdan Isaev
Christopher Gebka

Bronze

Stefan Bosnjak
Jassim Araim
Benjamin Wright
Seran Mervin Primson
Krusan Mahenthiralingham
Miraa Ganeshan
Joshua Surendrakumar



#ICanEngineer Competition Winners

Sutton Grammar School proves that it pioneers the way with creative minds, as our Year 9 team became 'Innovation' winners in this year's #ICanEngineer competition. Luca Giannini (9T) and Oscar Waurdbby (9L) fought off fierce competition nationally to scoop the accolade for their ground-breaking design of an energy-producing domed station, located on the River Thames and connecting the O2 to the existing DLR.

Hosted annually by the Institute of Civil Engineers, this year's challenge was to design a sustainable and environmentally friendly new train station, linking the Isle of Dogs to the O2 arena. Named the H2O, the 'station on the river' boasted special features including a bouncy platform made from recycled trainers, electricitree car charging points, an energy-generating gym and a Thames water ski slope during the winter.

Luca and Oscar (pictured left) spent an interactive day of learning at the Institute of Engineering, alongside Mr Turner, followed by an award ceremony, where they were praised for their innovation.



International Evening

Please come along to our International Evening tomorrow, Saturday 19 March from 5pm to 7.30pm to celebrate the multicultural community that we have within our school. There are 15 country tables, offering everyone the chance to sample food and drink from around the world. Free parking is available in the school playground, via Greyhound Road.



Chess Club news



We are now approaching the end of the season for the Briant Poulter League.

Sutton As sit in second place on the Division 2 league table with three wins, one draw and one loss. A very close match was played last Friday where they secured a draw against King's College School. They play their last match this Friday - an ultimate decider as to who wins the Division trophy. Sutton Cs sit comfortably in the middle of Division 3 and have played all of their games, while Sutton Bs have one more match to go.

Congratulations to all the boys on the Chess team for their hard work this year. Some very close-run matches have been played and we are proud of all of them.

E=mclub²

Our new physics society began this month and has been set up by four Year 12 students (pictured below). The group was formed to try and educate our KS4 and KS5 students on topics that are not covered in lessons at the school. Zac began the programme with a talk on Special Relativity and other topics that will be covered over the coming weeks are: General Relativity, History and the Future of Telescopes and Black Holes.

E=mclub² runs at lunchtime on a Wednesday on week B in Room 22. Hope to see you there.



World Book Day

Thank you for all your support for World Book Day. We managed to raise £1,100 for The Tanbok Project to build school libraries in Vanuatu and we gave 160kg worth of books to the charity Books2Africa.



As you can see from the pictures below, students had a fantastic day, with many getting to meet and join writing workshops with the writer and illustrator Roland Chambers, most renowned for his prize-winning book on Arthur Ransome, the author of *Swallows and Amazons*. The Masked Reader was also hugely popular, with students having to guess the book that was being read, and the teacher reading the book behind the mask.



Although World Book Day is now over, don't forget to keep reading. Students should continue to:

1. Explore SORA
2. Use the Reading Cloud
3. Visit the library (you could even read our visiting author's book)
4. See what teachers recommend (there are lots of posters on classroom doors)
5. If you are in Years 7 to 9, don't forget to use your reading passport to log what you have read and get achievement points from Ms. Taylor.

Little Shop of Horrors

By Miles Searle (12E) - Lead cast member

Given the time away from drama these past few years, back in September I was predictably apprehensive about auditioning for the school musical. A joint venture between Sutton Grammar and Sutton High School, "Little Shop of Horrors" charts the story of Seymour Krelborn, a florist who lives on urban Skid Row and works in a failing florist shop owned by his adoptive parents. However, after discovering a mysterious plant his luck begins to change as he gets the girl he always dreamed of and accrues fame and fortune beyond his wildest dreams.



But fame and fortune always comes at a price... The now man-eating plant begins to take over Seymour and soon enough takes over the world, with the musical pleading with the audience - "Don't feed the plants!" in its final number.

Faced with this plot, and despite the nerves of the cast almost palpable at auditions, I felt something special about this musical from the beginning and knew that the end product was in safe hands. As we worked through the play by scene and song these nerves began to dissipate, with each member of the company settling into their soon to be familiar roles. And as we all bonded as a cast and caught the theatre bug the show was soon upon us.



Months of rehearsals had led to... a week of yet more rehearsals as the set was built, dances were polished and high notes were perfected, all of us waiting with baited breath for opening night. And just like that it was over. The four shows ended up a resounding success, with performances that Olivier himself would have been proud of. I would like to thank the entire cast of the musical, the band, the backstage team, and all the teachers at both Sutton Grammar and Sutton High for their work in creating such a wonderful production. I hope that all that attended enjoyed and I'm grateful to have had this wonderful experience - making friends that will last a lifetime.

Comic Club new look

Well done to Debarun (8L) who has designed SGS Comic Club a super new logo. We think it really packs a punch in the comic world.



Comic Club continues to run for Year 8 on Mondays from 2.50 to 3.35pm.

So far, we have covered the background to both comics and Manga styles. We are starting to put our own comics into Photoshop and will be producing our first comic book. All sessions include reading comics and graphic novels and we are adding new material to our library. Remember, all students have access to 'Sora', our online reading resource.

Basketball Champions

Mid-March saw a triumphant end of an era for the Sixth Form Basketball Team. The boys had done extremely well to make both the Surrey Cup and Surrey League finals, and it was great to witness the support from their peers and teachers (thanks to Mr Sollewijn for bringing a coach load of pupils to Guildford).

Unfortunately, the Cup Final did not go as planned: though the team did well to battle back, an inspired squad from St Andrew's made the most of their three-point shots, winning the contest 66-58.

With this in mind, it required a lot of resilience for the boys to bounce back against an even stronger team from Richard Challoner in the subsequent League Play-Off Final - especially without the exceptional Danilo De Souza who was absent with illness. But that's exactly what happened, with Michael Kennedy putting in a trademark captain's performance.

The boys took an early lead and never looked back, with every member of the team stepping up in their last match for Sutton Grammar School. The calmness under pressure was epitomised by Ajezan Srianantharajah, who was 100% from the free throw line. It's the first time this century that we have won the U19 Surrey League - and it was also an undefeated league season for this talented group of basketballers. Coaches Karlsson and Zakrzewski are very proud of the team's spirit and dedication to this sport.



(Pictured above) The Sixth Form team with the League trophy

Cyber Explorers for KS3



All KS3 students have been registered for a new extra-curricular activity called [Cyber Explorers](#). Students will be completing this program in their own time outside of lessons and the program is aimed to help them learn more about Cyber Security.

Careers of the future will demand digital skills so Cyber Explorers, an initiative led by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), showcases how the skills being taught in class are linked to real world situations, through an immersive, gamified learning experience. Cyber Explorers will uncover how digital, computing and cyber security skills are integral to successful career paths.

Students visit Westminster



Twenty three members of our Sixth Form recently visited Westminster as part of their studying of A level Government and Politics. After visiting the UK Supreme Court, the students undertook a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament before participating in a workshop on voter representation, organised by the Parliament Education Service.

We would like to extend our gratitude to both Mr Paul Scully, MP for Sutton and Cheam, and Sir Robert Buckland MP for giving generously of their time and engaging in a wide-ranging question and answer session, which very successfully concluded the students' visit.

Les Joutes Oratoires

Huge congratulations to Miles Searle (12E) and Keeran Kirubakaran (12GA) who took part in the French debating competition, Les Joutes Oratoires at Whitgift on 23 February. They had to take part in three debates, arguing both for and against, and were the only state school in this heat of the competition. They did not get through to the national final this time but next year might be a different matter.



(Pictured above) The competing debating teams in Les Joutes Oratoires

Why not share your news?

We are very proud of our students at Sutton Grammar School and would love to share their special achievements with everyone in the school community.

If you have any news you would to share, please send us an email and a photo to erc@suttongrammar.sutton.sch.uk

Have you thought about taking Art or Photography GCSE?



What is Art & Design and Photography?

Art & Design and Photography gives you the skills and knowledge to create personal and imaginative work. You can choose to focus on a specialist area of study from a variety of exciting processes and media to suit your individual interests and abilities. This can result in A-Level/degree opportunities and careers in a variety of fields such as medicine, law, science, video games and architecture.

If you have an adventurous, creative and enquiring mind and are excited by shaping and determining the visual world around us, there is a career opportunity waiting for you.

- There are currently over three million creative jobs in the UK.
- Creative industries earn the UK alone 92 billion pounds a year.
- UK creative industries employment is growing at four times the rate of the UK workforce as a whole.
- 72% of business leaders look for creativity in potential employees.



Why choose GCSE Art / Photography?

Why choose GCSE Art / Photography?

- Apply skills learned to ANY career.
- Students who take at least four years of art have been found to score at least 58% points higher on maths and verbal tests.
- Art improves spatial awareness and functional connectivity which is linked to stress resistance and resilience.
- Involvement in the arts is a predictor of academic achievement.



How will I be assessed?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✓ Exam | ✓ 60% for Component 1
(Personal themed project) |
| ✓ 10 hours of sustained
focused study (exam) | ✓ 40% for Component 2
(Externally set brief -
project set by Edexcel) |



International Women's Day 2022: #BreakTheBias

To celebrate International Women's Day, posters were placed around the school advertising our fund-raising event. At break time on Friday 11 March, we held a Krispy Kreme doughnut sale in the snack shack. In 11 minutes all 240 doughnuts were sold and the playground was filled with lots of happy faces.



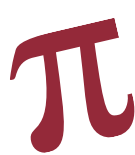
We also sold purple, green and white ribbons (the colours of IWD) to raise money, as well as holding a raffle. So far, we have raised over £200. The profits will go to a local charity – the Sutton Women's Centre, which empowers women in the community to reach their full potential. A group of students are speaking to the charity directly to learn how they help break the bias in the local community.

On Friday 1 April, Sixth Formers will deliver presentations and organise activities to continue the discussion about equality with Year 7 students. Look out for Year 7 students competing to win a scavenger hunt, where they will learn about women who have made significant contributions to many different fields, even if those achievements were sometimes overlooked.

A piece of artwork has been created by Jayalakshmi Alackan (12B) with contributions from students in both Upper and Lower school. This will be a permanent tribute to celebrate the spirit and power of the women in our world.

Prime magazine

By Soham Sud (12Z)



This magazine was created with the hope to show everyone how interesting and important mathematics is. Whether you despise the thought of doing sums for hours on end, or you relish the delight of completing a few intense problems, mathematics is an elegant yet essential part of your everyday life.

The articles in [this issue](#) mostly stray away from the maths that you may have been taught at school with the aim that you learn something new that you would not have otherwise.

Forgotten school equipment

Please note our office staff will do their best to deliver forgotten items such as, PE kits, homework and lunch boxes to students. However, the office is often very busy and we cannot guarantee that your child will receive late items in time for their lessons.



Important Dates

4 April
19 April
21 April

Easter Holidays
Summer Term Begins
Year 7 Parents Evening



House Physics - Round 2

A record 42 Year 12 students took part in the British Physics Olympiad Senior Challenge for their round of the House Physics competition. This took the form of a one-hour exam of questions designed to stretch the very best students in the country.

There were four Gold certificates, six Silver, 22 Bronze and 10 Commendations awarded.

The top six results in each House were totalled and their results were:

- 1st Lenham
- 2nd Manor
- 3rd Warwick
- 4th Greyhound
- 5th Throwley

Added to the Round 1 results, the table looks like this:

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 1st Lenham | 9 points |
| 2nd Warwick | 8 points |
| 3rd Manor | 6.5 points |
| 4th Throwley | 3.5 points |
| 5th Greyhound | 3 points |

Year 11s have sat their Olympiad paper and results should be announced next week, whilst Year 7s have started competing in their round. More details on those results soon.