

THE HOOT

THE SUTTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 20 - MONDAY 24 OCTOBER 2022



Wise Words

It is with great pleasure that I write my Wise Words in the first anniversary edition of The Hoot.

In this twentieth edition we once again have much to celebrate after another busy half term. The house competitions are well underway for the coveted House Shield, and we have had fantastic success at several sporting events and many brilliant academic achievements.

With our huge timetable of extracurricular clubs and activities running, our students have been throwing themselves into new clubs and societies since the start of term. We are adding new clubs all the time, so please look at the [timetable](#) over the half-term holiday.

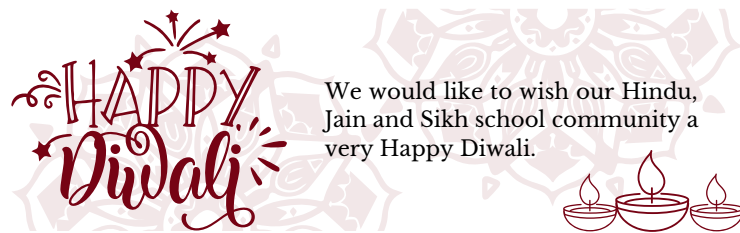
It just remains for me to wish Happy Diwali to our school community celebrating the festival of lights today, and to everyone a happy and restful half-term break.

Keep Faith.

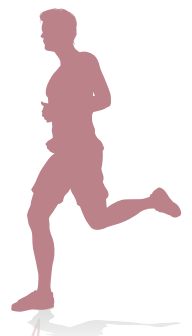
Ben Cloves
Headmaster

Borough Cross Country winners

On Thursday, 13 October we hosted the Primary and Secondary Schools Borough Cross Country Competition. Our teams (pictured below) did exceptionally well, with our Senior boys, Senior girls, and Intermediate boys all taking first place and our Junior boys coming in third. Congratulations to everyone who took part.



We would like to wish our Hindu, Jain and Sikh school community a very Happy Diwali.



Comic Club

Comic Club has had an excellent start to the new school year, with lots of creative ideas and cartoon drawings, as well as reading and learning about the Pop Art movement. We have recently bought some more graphic novels so the students can access new and classic stories through this visual and popular style of reading. Year 8 Comic Club runs every Monday during period 7 (Year 8 early release day), in the Library. New members are always welcome.



Cartoon by Eric 8W



(Above) Year 8 Comic Club brainstorming ideas with Mrs Payne.



(Above) Rayyan and Mrigank (8L) starting their comic storyboards.

House Debating Competition



From 24 November to 14 December, the Wednesday lunchtime debating club will host the House Debating Competition. Teams will include students from KS3 and KS4 in a knock-out style tournament. All students are encouraged to come along and support their House team and listen to the debates.

History Club signs Green

By Harry Kirk (8G)

After a long summer of scouting, History Club are delighted to unveil the signing of Mr Green (pictured far right with Mr Burke left). The future star gained fame with his consistently impressive performances at Debating Club, which he runs, and says he is 'delighted' to be a part of what is arguably the best club in SGS. When asked for comment, club founder Mr Burke stated, 'He's one of our own.'



History Club's campaign has kicked off with style, as its first challenge is the creation of a WW1 trench. Tactically forming into small groups, the club continues to showcase its creativity and new ideas, with clay and soldier minifigures getting their first appearances of this season. Cardboard has also become an increasingly common sight within the club. It appears this club is really building something, with new members, bright ideas and lots of fun. If anyone would like to join the popular History Club, it runs every Friday lunchtime in Room 47 and all students in Years 8 to 10 are welcome.

CyberCenturion IX

On 14 to 16 October, 13 SGS teams competed in the first round of CyberCenturion IX. Our teams were made up of 55 boys and girls who are studying Computer Science at both GCSE and A Level. After making it to the finals last year with one team, we are hoping to match that success this year. Watch this space for results.

House competition news

Our house competitions are now well underway for this school year, and Warwick are just in the lead with 18 points.

Manor 15.5	Warwick 18	Greyhound 17.5	Lenham 12.5	Throwley 11.5
---------------	---------------	-------------------	----------------	------------------

Chess



Have you got a passion for chess? Why not join our [Lichess](https://lichess.org) online team? Anybody can join, regardless of experience, and take part in our monthly online battles against other schools.

News from SGS PTA

A warm welcome to new PTA trustees, Keith Robinson, Rita Mankertz and Ramprasad Jayarman, and special thanks to Sue Springate and her refreshments team for supporting all the Meet the Tutor events that took place recently.



PTA volunteers were also active at the second-hand uniform sale on Friday. Many thanks to Margaret Exelby and her team.

Raffle - Virtual tickets for this term's raffle will go on sale via ParentPay the week after everyone returns from the half-term break. This time, raffle proceeds will go towards paying for new audio-visual equipment for school assemblies, concerts, plays and other events. At the moment, the raffle team are inviting form groups and/or individuals to donate prizes, to be handed into the school office by Thursday, 10 November. Please see the latest PTA newsletter (emailed 18 October) or PTA Facebook page for further details.

Quiz Night - The new date for this term's Quiz Night is 10 December. This event provides a great opportunity to meet and get to know other parents, as well as being a lot of fun. Full details about how to sign up will be published during the first week back from half term, but, in the meantime, why not start recruiting your team?

Next PTA meeting - This will now take place on Thursday, 17 November. Further details will follow after half term. Meanwhile, we wish you and your families a very enjoyable half-term break.

Library update

Our school library has lots of new books available for KS3, KS4 and KS5. Here are two books that have just come in: *Akata Witch* by Nnedi Okorafor, and *Unwinnable*, *Britain's War in Afghanistan* by Theo Farrell. For more book suggestions and library news follow the [Library Blog](#).



Football news



Our football teams have played an amazing 72 games since the start of term. These have taken place during and after school, and at the weekend. Well done to all our teams. You have played brilliantly.

Bebras Computational Thinking Competition



From 7 to 18 November all Computer Science students in Years 7 to 13 will participate in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge hosted by Oxford University.

The Bebras Computing Challenge introduces computational thinking to students. It is organised in over 50 countries and is designed to get students all over the world excited about computing. Each participant answers questions that focus on computational and logical thinking. Students will participate during their regular Computer Science lessons.

Half-term book worm

Don't forget that an easy way to achieve Achievement Points is to show off how much you read outside of the classroom! Simply fill in the reading log in your planner and show it to one of the librarians.



**K
S
3** Photography Club

Wednesday lunch time
Room 63

**ART DROP-IN
EVERY DAY LUNCH TIME
ROOM 63 OR 64**



Contact The Hoot

The Hoot editorial team welcome comments, feedback and contributions.

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 like to share, please send us an email and a photo to erc@suttongrammar.sutton.sch.uk



Out-of-school support

We recognise that half term can be difficult for some. If you are feeling low or unsafe, it is important you talk to someone and let them know how you feel.

Sometimes it can be difficult to talk to friends and family so here are some other contacts and the link to our school signposting page.

<https://sites.google.com/suttongrammar.london/sgs-signposting/home>

School Nurse Duty Line - 020 8770 5409

Childline – 0800 1111

Samaritans – 116 123

Hopeline – 0800 068 4141

NSPCC – 0808 800 5000

CAMHS – 0203 513 3800

www.talkofftherecordonline.org

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.youngminds.org.uk

www.kooth.com

www.papyrus-uk.org



Lost property



As you can see, the school lost property box is starting to fill up with uniform, bags and particularly rain jackets and coats. If your child is missing items of clothing, please encourage them to look through this box so they can be reunited with missing items. We would also like to remind parents to clearly mark your child's belongings – especially PE kits and coats – so that we can return items to them.

The PE department also has a large number of tracksuit tops that have been left in the sports hall. The following initialled tops need to be collected as soon as possible: LSC, MUH, IE-T, AB, ASN, AM, MZ, WY, ASHR, NP, RB, NC, MW, JL, KB, DDC, JM, MHN, MRK. There is also a top with the name Savana written on the tag.

Lost property items that are unnamed and not collected will be passed to the PTA second-hand uniform to sell at the end of term.

Important Dates

24 October - 4 November

16 November

21 November

23 November

1 December

16 December

Half-term holiday

Sixth Form Open evening

INSET Day

Year 9 Challenge Day

Christmas Concert

Autumn term end