

THE HOOT

THE SUTTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 21 - WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2022



Wise Words

We are in the middle of the busiest term of the school year and, as you can see from this edition of *The Hoot*, staff and students are working hard in and out of the classroom.

I hope you all had a chance to rest and enjoy the football during the Inset Day on Monday. I would like to thank all students and staff for their continued hard work, particularly as we head towards the Year 11 GCSE mock exams.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening was a fantastic event and I would like to make a special mention of our brilliant Head Student Team for all their hard work and organisation, and a big thank you to all the Sixth Form students who helped with stewarding, directing and advising. They were true ambassadors for the school and at the heart of the event.

I am particularly looking forward to the upcoming Christmas Concert and PTA Quiz and I hope to see lots of you there.

Keep Faith.

Ben Cloves
Headmaster

Sixth Form Open Evening



On Wednesday, 16 November, the school held its Sixth Form Open Evening, which was a huge success. The Prefect Team did an outstanding job helping at the event. Visitors commented on how much they enjoyed the evening, and the friendly and welcoming environment. Thanks to all the students and staff that helped to make it such a huge success.

Christmas Jumper Day



Friday, 9 December will be Christmas Jumper Mufti Day. All students can wear their own clothes to school and Christmas jumpers are very much encouraged.

This year our Christmas Jumper Day will be supporting two local charities, Sutton Night Watch and Sutton foodbank.

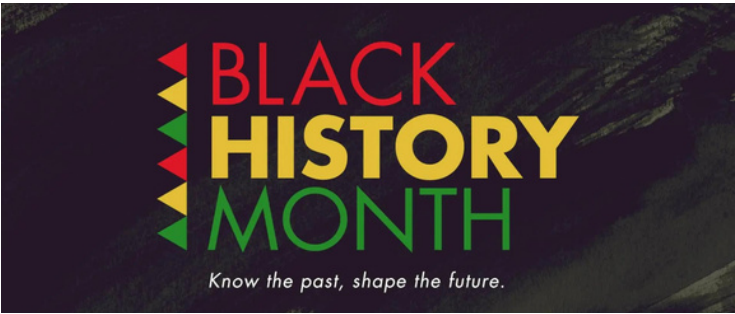
Sutton Night Watch is a local charity that supports homeless people within the borough and surrounding areas. Three times a week, a group of volunteers run a soup kitchen and food bank at the back of Sutton Station. They also give out items such as clothes, blankets, sleeping bags, food and toiletries to those in need. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sutton foodbank provides three days of nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. They are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. Over 90 per cent of the food distributed by foodbanks in The Trussell Trust network is donated by the public, which is why food donations are absolutely vital to help provide food to local people in need.

Students wishing to wear their own clothes will need to pay £2, via [ParentPay](#), with all the proceeds going to Sutton Night Watch. Please also bring in a food donation for the Sutton foodbank. The list below are the items the foodbank needs the most.

Sponge puddings
Instant mash
Tinned carrots
UHT milk (semi-skimmed and whole)
Shower gel
Soap
Shampoo and conditioner
Pasta sauce
Instant noodles
Tinned tomatoes
Meat soups
Tinned peaches
Tinned pineapple
Spaghetti in tomato sauce
Rice pudding

Black History Month



To celebrate Black History Month, Sutton Grammar students have been hearing from the Sixth Form. Moyo Oladipupo-George, Mary Aggrey, Favour Osuporu and Aidan Sinclair put together a series of engaging assemblies about notable figures in black history, with the aim of introducing us to the names and faces of accomplished individuals who do not always spring to mind when we think of Black History Month.

Years 7, 8 & 9 were introduced to Ella Baker, Fritz Pollard and Frederick McKinley-Jones and their achievements in the domains of civil rights, American football and engineering respectively. Year 12 heard about the Portnell Road marches and the progress made by the Mangrove 9, as supported by the British Black Panthers, in campaigning for the right to protest in the face of injustice.

Greyhound House update

The events of last year by House Captain, Zach Dallas

Once again, we come into the year full of unrivalled optimism yet disappointment looming over our shoulders for another year. Still clinging on to the fact we are the only house to beat Warwick in a game of house football. Every Greyhound member is touted as an underdog and this year was no different. The aim is to strive for the win but the podium is something more realistic for the students in green. The House Shield was definitely out of reach but a Sports Day victory would've turned some frowns upside down.

This year we dug deep and were leading the hyped Sports Day for hours but eventually came short, but the whole school had seen Greyhound as a threat for years to come and maybe one day that House Shield or Sports Day Shield will return to its rightful owner and be lifted by a true winner. We will be back next year to fight for the victory but for now we scheme for yet another title challenge next year.

The year ahead by Head of House, Mr Green

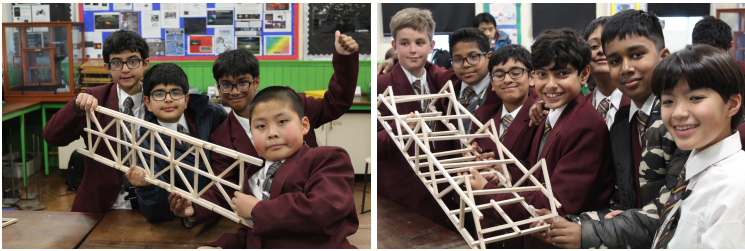
As with any great dynasty, Greyhound has come to a fork in its history. The glory years of the 20s and 30s have eluded the house in recent years and Greyhound have languished in mid-table mediocrity. There was a worry that Greyhound would fall into obscurity, cursed to a future of insignificance. However, there's a special feeling in the air this year. Rumours are circulating of a resurgence. Our teams are suddenly favoured; the students are believing. The embers of the Greenhouse dynasty have been flickering and faltering, but the winds of change are blowing, promising to fan the flames. It might still be autumn term but the future feels almost inevitable. This is our year.

Winter road safety

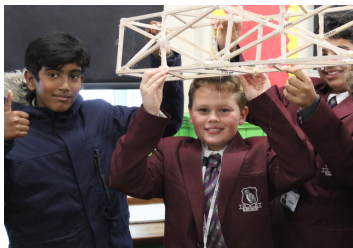
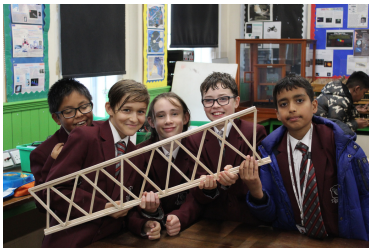
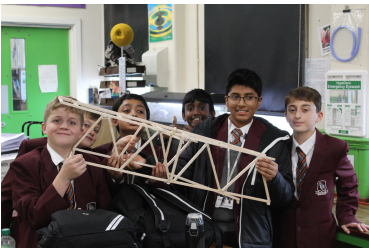
During the winter months when we have darker mornings and evenings, it is important to ensure students are as **VISIBLE** as possible to road users and pedestrians. If cycling, students should have helmets, wear reflective clothing and have working bike lights to maximise their safety on the roads.



House Physics



Year 7 bridge building



(Pictured above) Year 7 teams with their completed bridges

The first round of this year's House Physics is over and Year 7 have shown us what they can do. It's been an exciting learning curve for them. Some of the most important things learnt are:

- Making sure you have enough materials to build before you start your project is vital
- Failing to tidy up properly really annoys Mr Turner
- Teamwork is not based on arguing loudly with each other
- One end of the hot melt glue gun is, er, hot
- The difference between horizontal and vertical, which is especially important when you're designing a bridge

Despite this, the final was well attended and all the bridges that they had put their heart and soul into over the last three weeks were cheerfully destroyed by a vengeful physics teacher. There could only be one winner and that was Manor, though Warwick came very close. Special mention goes to Throwley who, when it came to testing, still weren't sure which way up it should go.

This means that after one round the House Physics board looks like this:

House	Yr. 7	Yr. 8	Yr. 9	Yr. 10	Yr. 11	Yr. 12	Yr. 13	Total
Greyhound	2.5							2.5
Lenham	2.5							2.5
Manor	5							5
Throwley	1							1
Warwick	4							4

Art & Photography news



Our Art & Photography Department is the first one in the country (and probably the world) to have integrated stereoscopy into the curriculum. KS3 students started using anaglyph glasses (pictured above right) to better understand perspective and 3D space, and KS4/5 students have been making their own stereo images using our unique 3D stereoscopic camera (pictured above left). The director of London Stereoscopic Company, Denis Pellerin, who visited SGS last year, said: 'Introducing stereoscopy to school children is the best way to make sure the medium will endure' and that having stereoscopy as part of the curriculum is 'a great achievement.'

Queen's lead guitarist, Brian May, owns the London Stereoscopic Company and more information about this form of photography can be found [here](#), including an article about Ms Trentinella.

Remembrance Service



(Pictured above left to right) Niall Hutton, Zac Stone, Ben Scott, Keeran Kirubakaran & Mr Clowes

On Friday, 11 November the whole school took part in a Remembrance Service. The service began with an introduction from the Headmaster and was followed by the names of the fallen Sutton Grammar students from World War I & II and other conflicts. The names were read by Ben Scott, Zac Stone and Head Student Keeran Kirubakaran, who also laid a wreath below the school war memorial.

Trumpeter Niall Hutton then had the honour of sounding The Last Post, which was followed by a minute's silence. The service ended with The Reveille, played by Niall, and a Remembrance prayer. It was a moving and fitting service to remember our brave and fallen Suttonians.

Year 10 bloggers needed

The Library has launched an exciting new initiative for Year 10 students to become bloggers through our monthly library blog. If your child is currently in Year 10, enjoys reading, current affairs and media, then this opportunity could be for them.

The commitment will be a quick monthly meeting on a Tuesday after school. Please email [Mrs Payne](#) for more information or ask your child to come into the library to sign up. There are a limited number of spaces so it will be a first-come first-served. They will learn lots about how we run the blog and become a published library blog author.

Year 10
BLOG
Buddies

Christmas Concert

Tickets for our Christmas Concert next Wednesday, 30 November are now on sale through [ParentPay](#). The PTA have kindly offered to supply refreshments at this event and our students are working hard to showcase their musical talents and make it a memorable night.



Safeguarding at SGS

Our Safeguarding Team

Ensuring the safety of students in our school.



Mrs Kate Ross
Deputy Head & DSL
☎ 020 8661 4501



Mr Bob Murrill
Safeguarding Governor



Mr Tony Blunt
Head of P.E. and Games
& DDSL

☎ 020 8642 3821 ex 237



Mr Chris Robson
Head of Lower School
& DDSL KS3

☎ 020 8642 3821 ex 206



Mr Alex Marsh
Head of Upper School
& DDSL KS4

☎ 020 8642 3821 ex 205



Mrs Lynda McDonald
Head of Year 12
& DDSL KS5

☎ 020 8642 3821 ex 233

At Sutton Grammar School the safety and wellbeing of our pupils is our highest priority. Together with providing exceptional pastoral care, we are proactive in ensuring all students have the information and knowledge to keep themselves safe at school and online, and that they know how to communicate any concerns they have personally or about others.

All staff and students are aware of which members of staff make up the Safeguarding team (pictured above) and know the procedures in place to raise any concerns. If you have any worries or questions about safeguarding, please get in touch with a member of the team.

Lost PE Kit

As you can see from the photo (right), the PE department has a large pile of tracksuit tops that have been left in the Sports Hall. Please encourage your child to come and look for missing tops before the end of term. Lost property items that are unnamed and not collected will be passed to the PTA to sell as secondhand uniform.



PTA Quiz Night

Please come and join us on Saturday, 10 December for the SGS PTA Autumn Quiz. Parents, students and siblings are all welcome, and it's a great way to get to know other parents, teachers and friends of the school in a fun and informal atmosphere, with questions covering a wide range of topics.

The quiz takes place in the School Hall at 6.30pm (doors open at 6pm). Teams will be in groups of six to eight people. Don't worry if you are not part of a team – we can allocate you to a team. Please let us know if you would like to sit with parents of students in a particular form or from your postcode area.

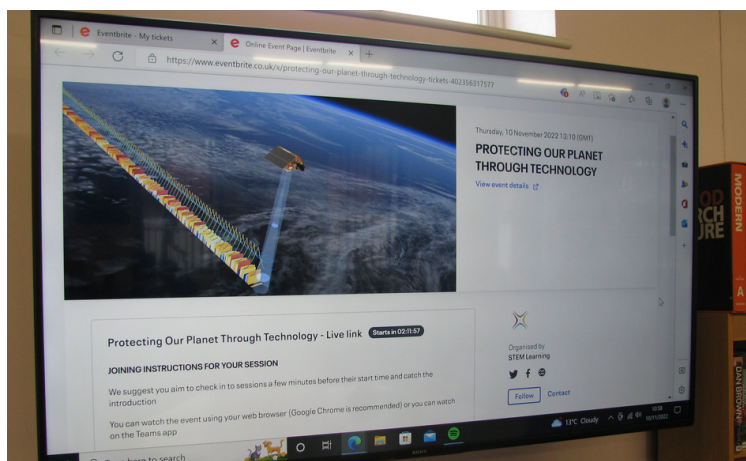
Prices are £15 for adults and £8 for staff (and their guests), students and U18s and includes a margherita pizza. Please bring along drinks (including cups), nibbles and other food with you. To reserve places, please follow the links below.

For adult tickets @ £15 click on this [link](#)

For students/U18s/ staff & their guests @ £8, please use this [link](#)

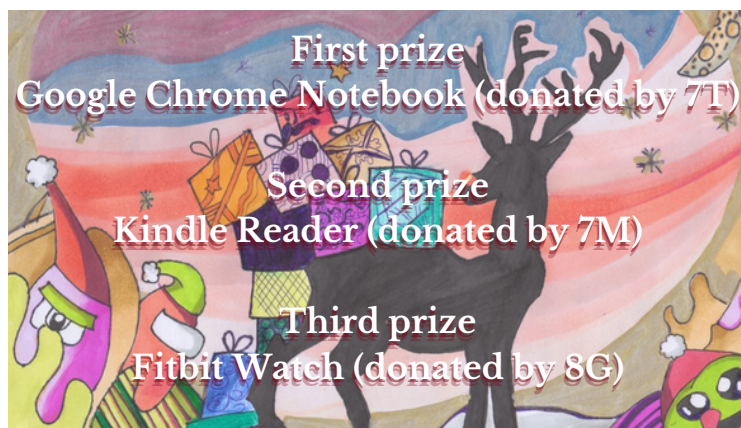
When booking both adult and student tickets, you will have to log in separately and make two payments. Your email will be used to join the bookings together. The quiz sells out quickly, so please book early to avoid disappointment. Click [here](#) for full details.

Protecting our Planet Day



On Thursday, 10 November the school came together to watch the first live streaming of Protecting Our Planet Day 2022. This captivating programme was delivered by a series of online events throughout the day. Students got to watch experts and innovators in STEM talk about the challenges, effective actions and possible solutions facing our planet and what we can do to help preserve and protect it. During Mr Turner's physics lessons students were able to access the 'Protecting Through Science' and 'Protecting Through Maths' events. During lunchtime all students were able to watch the 'Protecting Through Technology' session in the Library.

PTA Christmas Raffle



Thank you so much to everyone who has generously donated towards the fantastic prizes for our Christmas Raffle this year. We would also like to thank Dhruv Sadawana in 7M for the lovely artwork for our poster. As well as the amazing prizes listed above, we have the following runners-up prizes:

£60 John Lewis voucher (donated by 8W)

£30 Tesco voucher (donated by 9M)

£30 Sound Lounge voucher (donated by 10G)

£30 Dotty's Tea House voucher (donated by 10G)

3 x £50 (anonymous donor)

Tickets for the raffle are £1 each and are available for purchase via [ParentPay](#). We will also be selling raffle tickets at the upcoming School Christmas Concert and PTA Quiz Night. All proceeds will go towards helping purchase much-needed new audio-visual equipment for assemblies, concerts, plays and other events. Ticket sales will close after 11.59PM on Monday, 12 December, with a draw by the Headmaster on Tuesday, 13 December. Full details on the raffle can be found [here](#).

Cyber Explorers for KS3



All students in Years 7, 8 & 9 have been invited to participate in an optional extra-curricular activity called [Cyber Explorers](#), which they can do either at home or during IT club. The programme is aimed to help them learn more about cyber security. Students have been sent a link to register if they would like to take part, they need to use their school email [***.319@lgflmail.net] to register. Ms Corkery will verify their accounts.

Online safety at SGS

To improve our filtering and monitoring of computers in school, we have purchased a new system called Senso. Computers in the library and all computer rooms can be monitored from the teacher's desk and students should be expected to follow the Acceptable Use Policy at all times. More further information can be found [here](#).

Important Dates

30 November
9 December
10 December
16 December

Christmas Concert
Christmas Jumper Day
SGS PTA Quiz
End of term