

MATILDA THE MUSICAL

Congratulations to all involved in Matilda, all the performances were amazing and the atmosphere was fantastic!

SCGSG CHARITY EVENT DAYS

Cygnus and Delphinus both hold charity event days and raise over £2,000!

BATON BEARER NOMINATIONS

Two students have been put forward as baton bearers for the Commonwealth Games





A message from the

Headteacher

Dr. Barbara Minards

Welcome to the April edition of our newsletter which celebrates a range of activities that have taken place over the last six-weeks. It has been great to see more in-person events return and although we have had to deal with challenging levels of Covid-19 related absences, we have enjoyed a busy, engaging and successful half term.

On Tuesday 1st March we were delighted to host the Year 9 Curriculum Evening, inviting students and their parents, carers and families into school to find out more about the different GCSE option subjects. It was fantastic to see how many of our current Year 10 and 11 students volunteered to help at the event and share their enthusiasm for their learning. The PA held a very successful film night on Friday 11th March with students enjoying pizza before watching *Encanto* on the big screen in the hall.

We hosted a series of tours for our new intake students who are currently in Year 6. It was the first time that many of the students and their families had visited the school, having watched our virtual open evening video! Again, it was lovely to see our current Year 7 and sixth form students conducting the tours and hear them sharing their experiences of Sutton Girls.

The highlight of the half term and indeed the school year so far was the production of *Matilda*. From the dress rehearsal on Monday



afternoon which saw an audience from local primary schools to the sell-out performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, the show was amazing! The size of the cast, the quality of performance and production were all outstanding. It was a great celebration of all the extra-curricular activities that add so much to our school community. Over the last two years we have all had to adapt, cope with changes in plans and deal with many restrictions on our usual activities. With the performances of *Matilda* we once again experienced the magic of a large group of people committed to working together, rehearsing for six months prior to sharing their talent and dedication with appreciative and supportive audiences.

The house charity days have continued with Delphinus raising money for Comic Relief by students paying to watch very

competitive and entertaining staff benchball games. Cygnus hosted a celebration of culture day which not only raised money for *StopHateUK* but saw students wearing a variety of cultural dress and engaging with different cultures through a range of crafts and foods from the stalls set out in the hall at lunchtime.

Please enjoy reading more about what has been happening at Sutton Girls this half term. If you would like to get involved and support the School Charity, please see the link below.

I hope you and your families have very happy Easter holiday.

Dr Minards

If you would like to find out how you could help us continue to develop the educational experiences of students at Sutton Girls, please see this link to the [Charity Update](#).

World Book Day 2022 - Masked Reader Challenge!



Mrs L. Jowett
Head Librarian

For World Book Day this year some of our staff members donned a disguise and read extracts from popular books and poems. The students had the task of guessing all 15 readers behind the masks to earn character points and certificates. It wasn't as easy as you might think!

We had an amazing 252 entries for The Masked Reader challenge! A huge thank you to everybody that helped to make it happen; showing it in class, had a go at guessing or discussed it with the students.

A very special thanks to our Masked Readers, who were revealed as...

1. Miss Hewitt - How we Fall Apart by Katie Zhao
2. Mr Collett - The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman
3. Mrs Appleton - Saw my Teacher on a Saturday by David Crawley
4. Mrs S. Hart - Infinity Reaper by Adam Silvera
5. Miss Silcock - Cinderella is Dead by Kalynn Bayron
6. Mrs Bubb - The Hitchhiker's guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams
7. Ms Hobson - Undercover Princess by Connie Glynn
8. Mr Maguire - Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
9. Ms Wilcox - The Boy at the

Back of the Class by Onjali Q.Rauf

10. Mrs Hardy - Monsters of Rookhaven by Patrick Kenny
11. Mrs Campbell - Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
12. Miss McGivern - Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
13. Mrs Mahoney - Knocked out by my Nunga- Nunga's by Louise Rennison
14. Mrs Greaves - How to Look for a Lost Dog by Ann M. Martin
15. Mrs Gale - The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

We hope that our students enjoyed this challenge as a taster for our upcoming Literary festival in June.



Matilda the Musical

by Ruby in Year 8

I had the honor of playing the lead role of "Matilda" in our school production of "Matilda the Musical" this year! As this was my first ever show (I started school during the pandemic), I didn't really know all that much about what the school show was like and what it meant to the school community. I also had no idea just how many hours we put into the rehearsals and practice time that were needed to make such an amazing show!

Opening night was such an experience. Even though our first "real" performance was in front of an audience of primary school children, it was such a thrill to perform in front of



parents, friends and staff!

But of course, none of this could have even been possible without the amount of energy and time our fantastic Drama teachers, Miss McGivern and Mrs Downie, put into producing this show and all the staff and students

dedicated themselves to the show.

This was such a fun opportunity and learning curve for me! I can't wait to see what is in store for next year! If you haven't thought about auditioning yet, I think you should try!





'A Celebration of Culture' for the Cygnus charity day raising money for *Stop Hate*



Miss H. Patel
Acting Head of Cygnus

This year's Cygnus charity day saw the theme of 'A Celebration of Culture'. Students dressed to celebrate culture, and their efforts resulted in an explosion of colour and happiness around the school.

It was truly fantastic to see students and staff unite to celebrate culture at Sutton Girls.

Students were also able to engage with different cultures from around the world, through making flower garlands, worry beads, rangoli and origami. They were also very keen with

purchasing foods from different cultures, including samosas, doughnuts, cakes, nachos, and profiteroles. As a result, £470.75 was raised and combined with non-uniform contributions, an incredible £1,493.81 was raised for Stop Hate UK. A superb outcome from celebrating culture!

Delphinus raise money for Comic Relief



Miss L. McKinney
Head of Delphinus

Friday the 18th of March was Comic Relief/Red Nose Day and students of Delphinus House raised an excellent **£689.23** with two staff benchball games; Humanities vs. STEM with the

Humanities winning 21:5 in the first round, and STEM pulling it back in the second game to win 21:3!

Staff involvement was fantastic, and it was so good to see everyone getting active and having fun! Some impressive



players and rising sports stars were uncovered on the court in the form of Miss Patel, Mr Biggin and Mr Charles!

As a school, we raised an amazing total of **£1,846.53**! Thank you to everyone that donated and participated!

A Day in the Life

Year 9 student Emily talks us through their day taking part in the Week 2 **Cloud 9** activities...

Every Week 2 on a Wednesday afternoon, Year 9 students are able to participate in a stimulating programme known as Cloud 9. It is an excellent opportunity for students to build confidence, develop their communication and teamwork, as well as learning essential skills for life. We can choose from a range of activities such as: first aid with St. John's Ambulance, volunteering for the community, Drama, Batik art, macramé, Bake Off and Sports Leaders, naming just a few!

These Cloud 9 sessions help us to develop skills for later life as they prepare us for the future, as well as being enjoyable and useful. For example, in self-defence we learned how to defend ourselves in a variety of situations. We learnt how to spot any signs of danger;



it raised an awareness of how to cope with difficult situations and gave us an understanding of the law. Personally, I enjoyed the role play as it was a great opportunity to interact with new people and made the experience enjoyable.

Some of us participated in the voluntary group with Miss Silcock. This enhanced their social skills and developed an awareness of aiding other people in the community. They performed a show for the local retirement village, which aims to develop students' confidence and they were enthusiastic to talk to them. The community thoroughly enjoyed their performances!

When participating in first aid rotation, we gained an understanding of how to deal with stressful situations, perform

CPR effectively and handle minor injuries, such as burns and sprains. We were shown videos to give us a clear idea of the reality of the situations. I enjoyed this rotation as I now feel more confident and I am proud to have achieved my young first aider qualification. I would recommend this as it could be essential in saving somebody's life.

We've also had the opportunity to participate in creative activities like Batik, macramé and Anime painting with Miss Ahmed. I've thoroughly enjoyed this experience as it helped build creativity, artistic flair and was a great source of mindfulness! As a group, we've created some impressive art work (if I do say so myself!) using wax which we melted into masterpieces.

Students compete for World Maths Day

by Cherry & Gabrielle
in Year 8

Wednesday 23rd March 2022 we celebrated World Maths Day! This was marked in school with an inter-house maths competition between the houses in Years 7, 8 and 9.

Four participants from each form were chosen to represent their house for their year group.

These representatives were put into pairs: each pair was placed on opposite sides of the sports hall, along its width (if it had been the length of it I think I would have been out of breath after one question, given there was a lot of running involved!). Sixth Form helpers were positioned in between the two pairs, holding a batch of questions, related to maths of course, many linked to what we have learnt in past lessons.

Mrs Appleton was the host of this game and at the start of the 10 minutes, she shouted, "Go!" and off we went. One person from one pair ran to the middle, where their sixth former stood



and got a question, then ran back to their table to answer the question. After the pair had finished answering the question, someone from the pair ran to the middle to check if it was correct (scoring two points if it was) and it then alternated to their other pair who ran back, answered their question, and ran to the middle to hand in their answer, this happened repeatedly until the 10 minutes were up.

When we had finished, we thought that there was no chance that we were going to win because we assumed that the other forms had answered so

many more questions than us so when the results came out and saying that we had won in Year 8, we were confused at first, but then super happy that we had done so well.

The reason that both of us signed up for this was because we really enjoy maths and we decided to give it a try. It's an amazing experience and we can't wait for more inter-house competitions to take place as these are fun and they teach you how to work as a team. It was a good chance the work with people we normally wouldn't have.

Year 7 build their embroidery skills



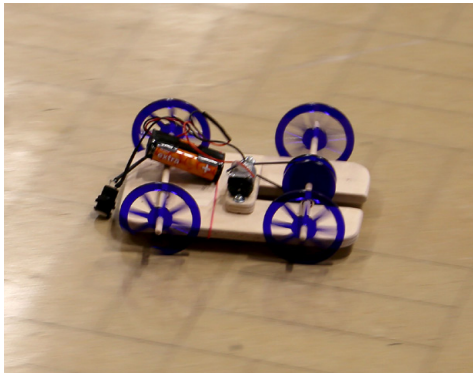
by Bethany in Year 7

I enjoyed textiles with Mrs Little because it was fun and I learnt a lot! She taught us the skills we would need for this project well and I was immediately able to understand what I needed to do.

We sewed a fish with a painted sea background and other details to make it look realistic and add more skills to our repertoire. We learnt how to use a sewing machine, paint on

fabric, add details and hand sew – many of which I hadn't done before and am glad I have now learnt. We had plenty of options to adapt our fishes and make them our own.

Mrs Little was very encouraging and always pushed me to do more and improve my piece of work and I am very happy with the outcome of my fish wall hanging!



Year 8 Design students race their creations in the Sutton Supercar Cup

by Connie in Year 8

Hello, my name is Connie, and I am a Year 8 student who has recently taken part in the Sutton Supercar Cup. EVs (electric vehicles) are the future and this project taught us about how these work and the how they are made. The overall process of making the actual car was challenging and quite complex at times, but with a lot of support from Mr Perks and Mrs Parkes, all my class made fantastic working cars!

To make the actual car we first had to cut down a piece of plywood to size, sanded it down and then drilled holes in the chassis for the axle supports to

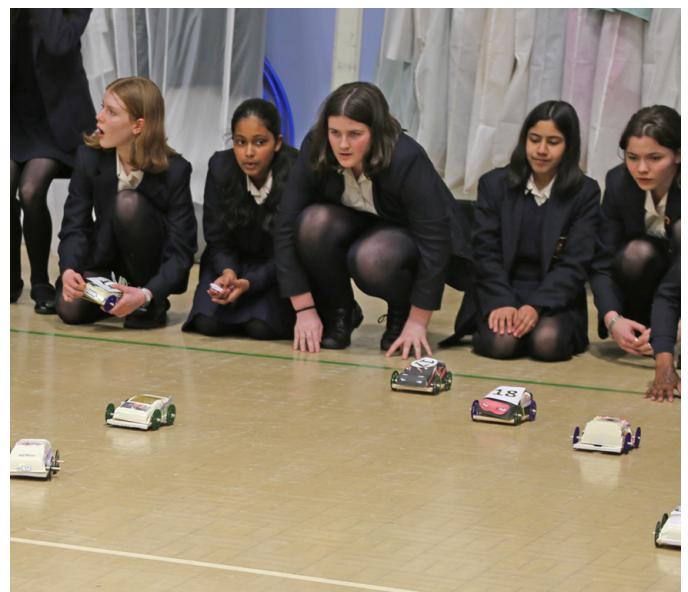
go in.

We then designed our wheels on 2D Design (a CAD software package!) and cut them from acrylic on the laser cutter then attached those to our car. Then we assembled the actual electrical parts and the gears and pulleys, which made our cars actually move by themselves. This included trimming the wires and attaching them to a battery pack and connecting a switch.

Lastly, to make the shell of the car we used the vacuum forming machine. Then our cars were tested and adjusted by ourselves to make them go as straight and as fast as possible!

It was great to learn so many new skills and great to be so busy in the workshop. Then finally, it was time to race, we took them to the hall and people who won their individual heats, got to battle it out in one last final race. I ended up winning the speed race which was a thrilling experience and I really enjoyed myself.

There were trophies and rosettes for other categories too, so everyone felt like winners! Overall, the experience of being in the workshop and being able to make a moving electric car with my friends was enjoyable and will be an excellent memory throughout my school life here at Sutton Girls.





Fish Heroes - Alaskan Salmon

Mrs J. Holden
Food and Nutrition

At the beginning of the spring term we were lucky to receive 40 wild Alaskan salmon fillets via the **Fish Heroes** programme. All Year 10 Food Preparation and Nutrition students had the opportunity

to use some of the salmon to prepare, cook and present a salmon and tarragon tart with a homemade tomato concasse and tarragon mayonnaise.

They all thoroughly enjoyed the challenge; some students brought extra ingredients

into school and made extra accompaniments including sweet potato wedges and fries.

The remaining fillets were frozen and will be used to make a range of dishes from different countries at the beginning of next term; watch this space!



Nominations for the Baton Relay for Commonwealth Games 2022

With the 2022 Commonwealth Games only a few months away, we are incredibly proud to share the news that two students have been put forward as baton bearers:

Lily in Year 11

In January 2022, Lily was named in the U17 England Netball squad. Lily's netballing career started, aged 8, at a local club; her success since gained selection for Loughborough Lightning and Wasps.

Her selection for the Roses Academy Programme in 2021-22 helped forge her pathway to the England team. Lily is a



devoted netball player; maintaining exceptional progress whilst studying for her GCSEs.

Lily gives back to the community volunteering for her club and school, upskilling the next generation of netballers. Since her selection for England, Lily has launched a shooting workshop at school, looking to inspire more netballing talent.



Photo credit: Ben Lumley



Isobel in Year 11

Isobel is an active member of her local community, volunteering for RSPB, based at Sandwell Valley Nature Reserve; she's been involved for 4 years.

Isobel undertakes ranger roles: litter picking, tree felling, building park structures, weeding, and running workshops for children. A keen environmentalist, Isobel attended a 'Youth Emergency



Plan for Nature Workshop', and engages with visitors about her work.

Isobel is training to become a first aid leader with St John's Ambulance, and expects to become operational at local events soon. Within her school community, Isobel launched a gardening club, which has grown in popularity since its inception last year.

You can look forward to our next newsletter at the end of Summer 1 in May 2022.
In the meantime, keep up to date by following us on:

facebook.com/suttcold or twitter.com/suttcold



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