



RETURN OF LIVE MUSIC

Two years after our last in-person concert, we welcome the return of live music with our Spring Concert

NEW STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

We welcome in a new era of student leadership with the 2022/23 Student Ambassadors and Prefects

EEP ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Year 9 student Venya writes about the Robotics competition at RAF Cosford





A message from the

Headteacher

Dr. Barbara Minards

Welcome to the May edition of our newsletter, it has only been a five-week half term but within that short time period much has been achieved. We celebrated the return of live music with a fantastic Spring Concert, we have held a variety of extra-curricular events and seen the return of GCSE and A-level examinations.

It has been a positive return to the usual timings and milestones at this time of the academic year. We celebrated Year 11 as they finished lessons, received their year books and hoodies before starting their study leave and GCSEs. Year 13s' final week in school was an emotional one, it was lovely to see how much students valued their time at Sutton Girls, with lots of goodbyes to staff who had supported them throughout

their seven years at school. Their leavers' assembly was special and a fitting way to acknowledge all their contributions to the school community. We wish them well with their A-levels, the next stage of their educational journey and hope they keep in touch with us via our alumni network, Future First.

The half term has finished with work experience for Year 12 and exam week for Years 7 to 10. The process of revising and sitting exams is a valuable learning experience, with the feedback received after half term enabling students to make progress throughout the remainder of this academic year and beyond. Years 7 to 9 finished the week with a choice of activities; watching Encanto in the hall, making posters for the fun run, reading

in the library or "Capture the Flag." A great way to finish the half term!

Please enjoy reading more about what has been happening at Sutton Girls during the first half of the summer 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 a happy half term holiday and enjoy the Jubilee celebrations!

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](#).

Aquila and Phoenix charity quiz battle

During the afternoon of Friday 6th May, school houses Aquila and Phoenix held a joint charity event featuring a bake sale and "Beat The Teachers" quiz.

Based on the popular quiz show, several teams of students banded together to take on eight teachers in quick-fire question rounds in the hopes of winning.

Overall, the teachers won but students fought valiantly with some excellent volleying!



Both houses raised a total of £454 for Birmingham Children's Hospital and the Disaster

Emergency Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

Year 11 Celebration Assembly

Miss E. Hewitt
Head of Year 11

On Wednesday 11th May, we celebrated the successes of our

Year 11 students as they finish normal lessons to begin their study break before commencing their GCSEs next week. They've not had an easy couple of years,

but they have made us all so proud with how they handled it all. This is not goodbye. See you on the other side!



Year 13 Leavers' Assembly

Mr M. Charles
Head of Year 13

On Friday 13th May, we bid a fond farewell to our Year 13 students as they headed off on

their study leave before their A-Level exams. The assembly included kind words from Dr Minards and Mr Charles, as well as an epic rap about their time at Sutton Girls and a gorgeous

duet from their peers.

We need not wish them luck; they are all so ready for this, and we can't wait to see them flourish even more!



A Day in the Life

Year 9 student Venya writes about the excitement and nerves at the EEP Robotics Competition at RAF Cosford

When we got to the competition, that's really where the nerves started to settle in. We sat down and got all our things out, but then came the first real challenge: The speed challenge. We grabbed Zippy - our fastest robot and got ready for his debut. The challenge started and it was here we realized a grave detail we missed - the return. Our robot only went one way, it hit the end and stopped - but it was supposed to come back too! Thankfully, Mr Opong's laptop came through for us and we managed to update the code in time- and this pushed us up into second place for the speed challenge, what a wonderful start!

The rest of the challenges went by in a blur, there were the mat challenges, where we admittedly struggled a little, the teamwork challenges where we banded together as a team to create a robot in 5 minutes, and also the robot design where we all spoke our hearts out about how incredible our robots are. But for me, none of these meant more to me than what our last activity of the day - the presentation.

I had spent so long practicing, preparing and perfecting it, and in less than 15 minutes I would be standing in front of a panel of engineers telling them all about the product I had created, EMC. Although I wish I could say I was buzzing with excitement and confidence, in reality I wasn't. I was scared out of my mind, and reading through the script I had made as many times as possible. The next thing I knew I was walking away from our little 'home base', and walking towards the project presentation room. The room that felt like the make or break



of my career, my life. (looking back at it, I DEFINITELY took it too seriously, but in some ways, I suppose it was for the best) and walked in.

When they told us that they were going to start the 5-minute timer (this was the guideline of how long our presentation was) I freaked out internally. I knew for a fact that even after all the cuts I had made, the pitch was longer than 5 minutes. I looked over to my friends who started the pitch off and mouthed 'speak fast' whether or not she heard me was another question.

As it started, things were going awesome. When I was speaking, I was on top of the world. I felt so happy that these people cared, and about how far we, as a team, had come. But then something I knew inevitably was going to happen - the timer went off. It was while I was telling them all about the cooling mechanism in EMC when a loud DING! Sounded. I expected them to make me stop and that would be the end of it - but instead they told me to keep going - and exactly 47 seconds later I finished with the words "That's it from us! Any questions before we go?"

The next few minutes of me talking to them went by in what felt like seconds. I would absolutely love to tell you all about what happened as we left the room but I was shell shocked by how incredible it went. You can ask anyone in robotics how I walked around in a state of pure shock.

When the engineers in charge of the presentation talked about the winners and how amazing they were and how impressed they were, I think we all knew there and then that we had won.

There's something so amazing about seeing something you worked so hard for it all to come together so well, and for me I felt so happy that the judges loved EMC so much.

All in all, robotics was an incredible opportunity that I know I am never going to forget. It's not just the robotics aspect of it that I loved, it was also the social aspect of it. I have made so many amazing friends and had some good laughs with the people I can only call my friends because of robotics club. Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity Mr Opong! None of this would have happened without you.

Lord-Lieutenant Cadet Selection



Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of West Midlands and the select committee chose Year 11 student Lillie to be this year's Lord-Lieutenant Cadet from the Sea Cadets for the West Midlands!

The selection process was highly competitive and rigorous, requiring an in-depth citation on all her achievements outside school, her contributions to charities and the voluntary

sector, education and her leadership and management skills at Sea Cadets, which she has attended since the age of 10.

This is the highest honour that any cadet can receive. Lillie will accompany the Lord-Lieutenant, Mr John Crabtree OBE (who represents the Queen), on many engagements throughout the year.

Year 12 Psychology/Sociology trip to Chester Zoo

by Khadija in Year 12

On the 16th of May the Psychology department and its students went on a day trip to Chester Zoo! It took a while to get there, around two hours in a coach that was blasted with A/C at a time much too early in the morning for me, but my tiredness and shivering subsided once we actually got to the zoo and it was so worth it. The sun was out and so were the animals – when we first got there I remember the elephants being the first thing I saw (and the gift shop).

We then split up into groups and our group was able to explore the zoo freely at first where we were particularly interested in Boris, a chimpanzee, who liked to observe humans. My favourites had to have been the baby chimpanzees! I think me and my friends spent a good twenty minutes watching them play, they genuinely were so cute, we tried interacting with them and I remember I was smiling and waving at them to get a reaction but we later found out, in a primate workshop, that smiling with your teeth is actually



an aggressive facial expression – so probably not the best face to pull!

Most of our time was spent with the chimpanzees and orangutans but there was also a beautiful tropical bird enclosure home to a lot of angry sounding but exotic birds that we went to. It was a very stinky trip with a special mention to the giraffe enclosure which smelt absolutely foul on a hot summer's day, but all in all it was a good day out where we saw a variety of different animals – I don't think I've ever

seen so many different coloured frogs before and of course since it was a Psychology trip we did observations on animal behaviour whilst we were there.

Lastly was the gift shop where I found myself observing once again because of the prices, and even though I was very tempted I couldn't justify spending £20 on a stuffed turtle!



The SCGSG Spring Concert returns

On the evening of Wednesday 4th May, we welcomed a triumphant return to live music with our Spring Concert featuring over 200 students! Due to the large number of ticket sales, the concert took place in the Sports Hall for the

first time.

The evening was a fantastic display of talent and skill from across all years, with Sixth Form students Esme and Layla conducting the orchestra at times.

We raised an incredible **£1,314** for the Disaster Emergency Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the concert, it was a joyous evening!



Parent gives Career talk to Year 12 Computing Students

by Jyoti in Year 12

It was a pleasure to have Mrs Underhill, Senior Agile Project Manager, West Bromwich Building Society, come and give us a career talk.

The session involved a combination of a talk, interactive session and discussion. With the task to plan how we would create pizzas for more 'demanding' customers, the session was highly interactive and taught us a lot about the fundamental requirements that go behind the planning and implementing of a project. Furthermore, it exemplified the need to consider potential risks and contingencies, to satisfy a client, and ensure we maintained good quality, within a suitable budget and time frame.

These concepts can be used

in any sector of the business-technology world, and have helped us to understand overlaps in skills that can be used

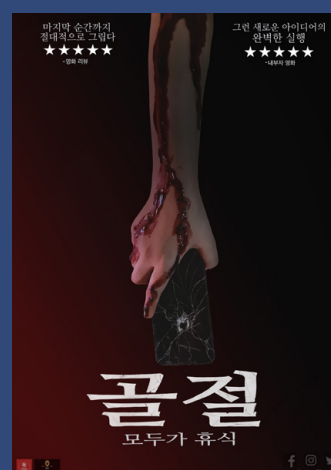
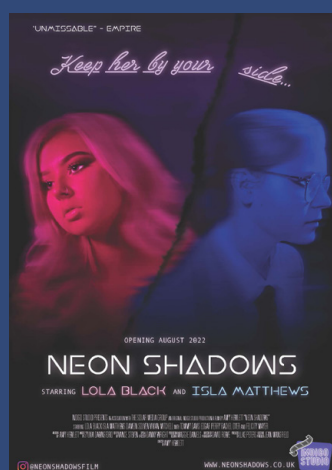
where applicable in our career journey! We found the session very enjoyable and useful.



Would you like to inspire young people into Computing or Information Technology?

The Computing department are looking for parents or carers working in the IT sector who would like to give short career talk to our students. Please contact [Mr Opong](#) for further information.

Our first A-Level Media Studies students submit impressive coursework



Miss L. Hobson
Head of Media Studies

This year saw our very first cohort complete A-Level Media Studies coursework. Working

to a specific brief from the exam board, students created a variety of print and audio-visual product as part of their portfolio. Many students were working with the software for

the first time so it was a steep learning curve. However, the work they have finally submitted is stunning and a real credit to them. The Media Studies team are extremely proud of them!

Junior Maths Challenge Success



by Sara in Year 7

I've always been passionate about mathematics but had never heard of the UKMT until Mrs Appleton gave me some questions to try as extension work during a lesson. I found the paper both challenging and intriguing. The questions I had difficulty with Mrs Appleton helped me understand and taught me new ways to approach.

As a class, we went on to do more questions like this in our weekly

maths challenges, and I always look forward to these. There were also questions from past UKMT papers on the Dr Frost maths website which is a great resource to help prepare for the paper and familiarise yourself with the different types of questions.

By the time the actual maths challenge arrived I was slightly nervous, yet fairly confident that I could make a good go of it. The paper was challenging but I applied the experience and

knowledge I had gained over the year and somehow managed to complete it in the given time.

When I got the results and found out that I had qualified for the Maths Olympiad, I was both surprised and over the moon, as I did not expect that I would make it nearly as far as I did!

I'm looking forward to the next stage and see it as an amazing opportunity to further my mathematical knowledge.

Literary Festival – June 27th – July 1st

Mrs L. Jowett
Senior Librarian

Our annual Literary Festival is fast approaching! We have lots of wonderful events and competitions for the students

to look forward to, including our Scholastic Book Fair as well as three book signings with bestselling, award winning authors!

We are looking forward to

welcoming Savita Kalhan, Peter Bunzl and Amy Wilson to Sutton Girls as part of our celebration of reading. More details will be shared with students after half term.

A new era of Student Leadership

Mrs M. Lucas
Assistant Headteacher

The outgoing team of Student Ambassadors were the first team to be appointed to the new Student Leadership structure based on the school's Character Strengths - Respect, Positivity and Resilience, Making Good Decisions, Integrity and Love of Learning. Nur, Issy, Jasmine, Lily May and Aarya have done a fantastic job in embodying and encouraging all members of the school community to embrace Character. They have also participated in an 'Introduction to Leadership Skills' workshop each fortnight to reflect on and develop their own leadership skills.

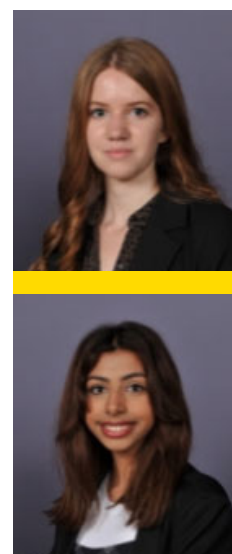
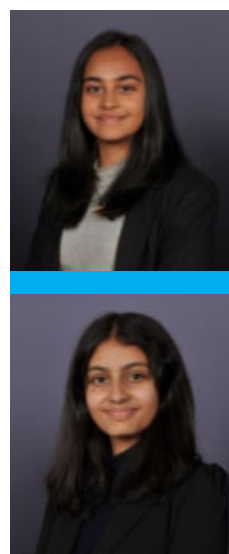
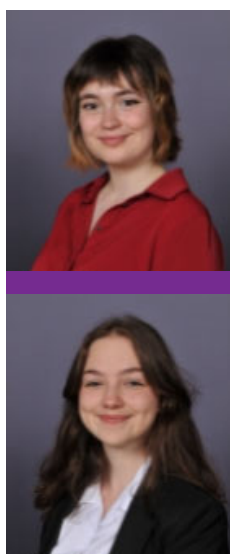
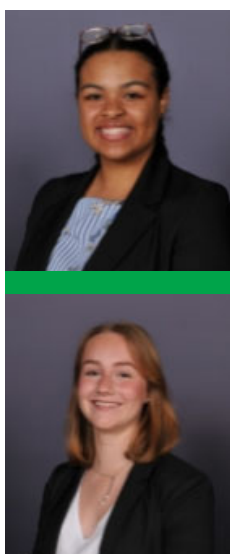
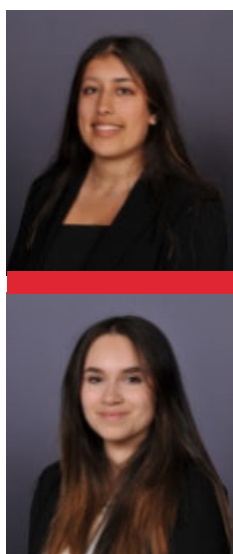
The Student Ambassadors have been assisted by the Senior

Prefects - Priya, Kaneefa, Olivia, Jessica and Willow in the running of whole-school events and committees responsible for a range of aspects of school life. The Respect team have worked on promoting equality and diversity through events such as the Black History Month Exhibition. They have also overseen charity events in school to encourage a sense of kindness through helping others. The Positivity and Resilience team have organised a series of fun well-being activities including quizzes, crafts and an Easter Egg Hunt. Student Forum and the Environment Committee have been run by the Making Good Decisions Team. Student Forum have met with the school catering company and the Environment Committee have been raising awareness of the school's impact

on our planet and looking at ways we can be more sustainable. The Integrity team have co-ordinated charity events and encouraged house spirit in sporting, academic and creative events. The team for Love of Learning has shared study tips and tricks and has been mentoring students in younger years in their subjects.

We would like to say a big thank you to the outgoing team of Student Ambassadors for their leadership, to the Senior Prefects what they have done to support their teams and to all the Prefects in the different teams for their amazing contributions to the school community.

We wish them well in their exams and the next stage of their journeys.



During this half term, the selection process for the new Student Leadership Team has been taking place. Congratulations to:

Respect Team:

Student Ambassador - Hana
Senior Prefect - Sasha

Positive and Resilient Team:

Student Ambassador - Savannah
Senior Prefect - Katie

Make Good Decisions Team:

Student Ambassador - Grace
Senior Prefect - Charlotte

Integrity Team:

Student Ambassador - Cara
Senior Prefect - Gaveena

Love of Learning Team:

Student Ambassador - Naomi
Senior Prefect - Liya

Over 100 other Year 12 students have also gained leadership roles as House Captains and Prefects. It is fantastic that our students are so enthusiastic to contribute to the whole school community in this way.

We are looking forward to working with the new Student Leadership Team and wish them every success in their new roles.

Spring Interhouse sporting events

Mrs K. Tunstall
PE Department

Well done to everyone who took part in the netball inter-house competition. It was a fantastic event with over 400 students taking part across Years 7 to 11!

A big thank you to all the wonderful Bronze & Gold Duke of Edinburgh students, the Year 12 Sport Leaders and the Year 13 house prefects who volunteered their time to help the events run smoothly - we couldn't do it without you!



Interhouse rounders is well underway and will be completed in the next half term.



Year 7 Netball

1 st	AQUILA
2 nd	PEGASUS
3 rd	PHOENIX
4 th	URSA
5 th	CYGNUS
6 th	DELPHINUS

Year 8 Netball

1 st	DELPHINUS
2 nd	URSA
3 rd	AQUILA
4 th	PHOENIX
5 th	CYGNUS
6 th	PEGASUS

Year 9 Netball

1 st	PEGASUS
2 nd	PHOENIX
3 rd	DELPHINUS
4 th	AQUILA
5 th	CYGNUS
6 th	URSA

Year 10 Volleyball

1 st	URSA
2 nd	DELPHINUS
3 rd	PHOENIX
4 th	PEGASUS
5 th	CYGNUS
6 th	AQUILA

Year 11 Volleyball

1 st	URSA
2 nd	CYGNUS
3 rd	PHOENIX
4 th	PEGASUS
5 th	DELPHINUS
6 th	AQUILA

You can look forward to our next newsletter at the end of Summer 2 in July 2022.
In the meantime, keep up to date by following us on:

[facebook.com/suttcold](https://www.facebook.com/suttcold) or twitter.com/suttcold



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