



ISSUE 86

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2021

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A Word from our Executive Headteacher and Head of School

Welcome to our May half-term newsletter and it's good to be able to read about many of the activities our students, and staff, have been involved with over the past 7 weeks. It has been great to have students back in school for the whole half-term and we look forward to gradually being able to increase student access to specialist teaching spacings and other activities during next half-term.



We say a brief farewell this week to our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they will be returning towards the end of June/ early July for their official Leaving Day activities. We hope that by then the further removal of some restrictions will allow us to give them a more enjoyable send off. I have been really impressed with the way our Year 11 and 13 students have approached both their learning and the challenges of the assessment changes for grade awarding.

Please do spend some time reading through the articles this month, there are some great examples of the leadership and curriculum activities students from across the age groups have been involved in.

Finally, I hope all our students have a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Mr M Turner
Executive Headteacher

Welcome to this term's newsletter.

School is slowly returning to normal and after a busy half term, lateral flow testing in the studio in January seems a distant memory! Students have been working hard in lessons and are enjoying re-establishing those important friendships with each other.



Extra-curricular activities are up and running again and the take up from students has been fantastic, I would like to thank those staff and Sixth Form students who give up their time freely to provide these opportunities for others.

As we finish today, we say goodbye to our Year 13 and Year 11 students, we look forward to celebrating with them after half term and wish them good luck as they embark on their next stage.

I hope you have an enjoyable break.

Mrs F McMillan
Head of School

Go Lead Qualification

During the last few months, over one hundred of our amazing students have completed the Go Lead qualification, and seventy-five other amazing leaders in year 10 have now completed their Sports Leaders qualification. These students have done fantastically well, and can now add these qualifications to their CV's and use the leadership skills they have learnt in many different ways in the future.

Another mention goes out to every single student who has been attending our extra-curricular clubs. We have seen incredible numbers of students attending, and the participation in every single club has been amazing – from having over 60 attending football, to having over 30 at both junior and senior rounders, as well as all the students attending tennis, cricket, netball and dance. It has been great to see you having fun and improving your skills in a number of different activities.

If you have not been coming to a club, but think you would like to start, please see your PE teacher to find out how to get involved. Remember, we have before school, lunchtime AND after school clubs for you to join.

Miss Starr
PE



#TeamPoetLaureate

As Lockdown begins to ease and Spring has sprung (albeit with added storms and hailstones!) our #TeamPoetLaureate have been reflecting on hope and healing as we move into the next phase on the 'Roadmap out of Lockdown'... We are so proud of our wonderful Poets, and so glad to be able to share their words with you. after school clubs for you to join.

Miss Silver
English

As Time Flies By

By Holly Mcbeth, Year 8

*As time flies by,
We begin to realise that everything comes to an end.
Search for the light
In a room that's dark;
It will open up your eyes.*

You've done it before.

You can do it again.

*Believe in yourself:
Trust your heart.*



Scars Can Heal

By Sai Chinmayee Naresh Kumaar, Year 9

*Though it's been
So many months
Since that fated battle
Started,
Every moment clamours out
At our fleeting minds:*

*That one-sided fight
And the double-wielded blade
Our tiny enemy carried.
The memories never fade:
We've had to dig graves
In the millions...*

*And, of course,
With the war there came scars
In their thousands:
Blades slashing at the tendons
In our hearts
And minds
Until we were hanging on...*

*It wasn't easy.
But we knew
That if we held hands (with gloves on!)
We could bring the fallen
To our paradise.
And when we looked back at our scars
We saw the red flesh
And blood
Was no more than a mark of our
Battle.*

*When we arrived, we realised that
All the wounds we faced were less
Than the people we helped,
And from this we learned
That scars can heal
As sorrow fades.*

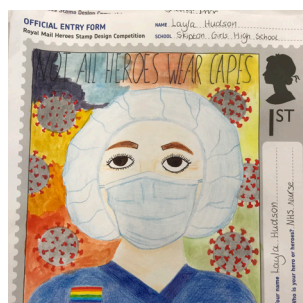
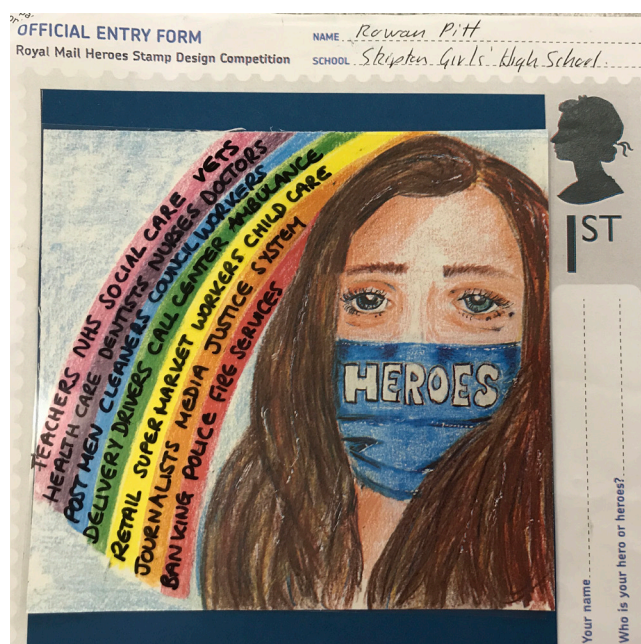
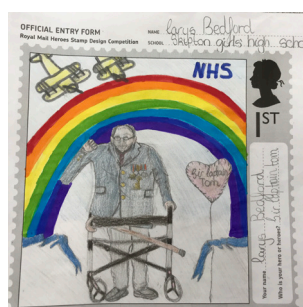
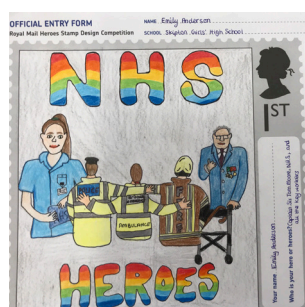
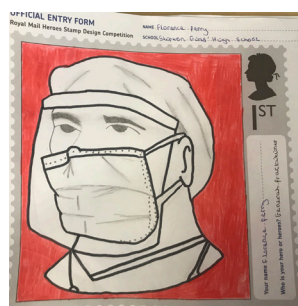
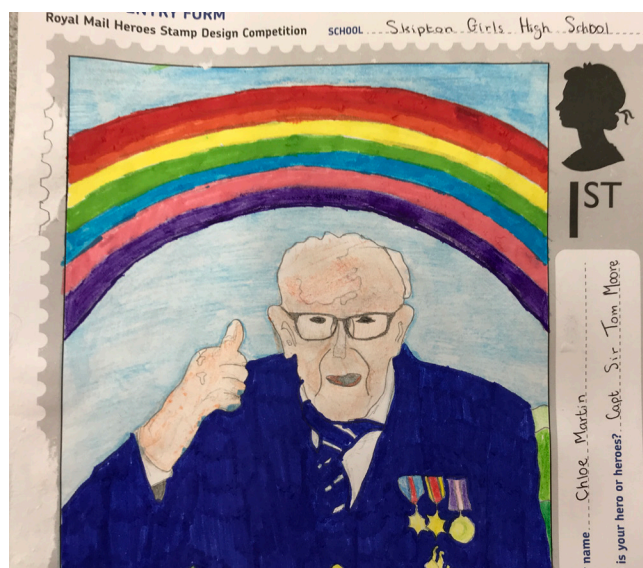
*Thank you
For forging links
Of crystal diamonds
Between us so that
Humanity will never let go
Of each other
Again.*

National Post Office Stamp Competition

Thank you to all the students who have sent in some fantastic designs for the national post office stamp competition. After half term you will all receive a certificate. Fingers crossed for a winning entry from SGHS! Well done and thank you for entering!

Mrs Scott

Curriculum Leader: Art and Design



Art Trail 2021

Watch This Space

Over the next few weeks you will slowly see some amazing Art and Photography work go up on the walls, and elsewhere! This year we will be doing something different and creating an Art Trail around the school, this will showcase the superb Art and Photography from every year group. You will all get an opportunity to see this, and with the help of Mrs Lofthouse there will be some exciting new ways to view this!

We are hoping that the trail will also lead you to see the new refurbishment of our Art sixth form room, this is very exciting for us!

We would like to thank **Friend of SGHS** for helping us with this, and all those involved with the successful sponsored walk.

THANK YOU!

Mrs Scott

Curriculum Leader: Art and Design



Duke of Edinburgh Award

On Saturday 17th April the students were out on the Award and completed a minutes silence in respect of his funeral and to take a moment to think about the opportunities for new experiences and challenges that hundreds of SGHS students have befit from over the years the Award has been running with many remembering their experiences decades into the future.

Aside from these moments of reflection there was still plenty of time for the students to enjoy their expedition experiences and pull together in their teams.



English Power Writers Club

This half term, some Year 7 students have joined the English Power Writers Club! It has been a huge success and we have adored watching our Year 7s develop Power Writing strategies and fall in love with writing for pleasure! Next half term, we will be running Creative Power Writers after school on a Wednesday between 3.30 and 4.15pm.

Any Year 7 student wishing to join in should email:

silverd@sghs.org.uk



Week 1 - The Introduction

The first week we were set to learn about the Power Writers club and what we would do in the future. We also had the chance to learn what SGHS means in Power Writer:

S: stands for structure

G: stands for good grammar

H: stands for high standards and

S: stands for sentence types.

Week 2 - Writing to persuade

The second week, we began to look at writing to persuade (SETTING THE TONE, EMOTIVE LANGUAGE, REPETITION, PERSONAL PRONOUN, STATISTICS). We had the choice of writing about children being glued to their screens and not spending enough time outside or whether dogs are the best pets.

Week 3 - Writing from the heart

Week three, we wrote about a personal treasured memory. We had to know what happened and why it was important to us. In a way it's a bit like a diary entry. You have to use a description and repetition to emphasise and exaggerate the memory to entertain the reader.

Week 4 - Journalistic writing

For this week, we learnt about journalistic writing, with facts and research. We also had the chance to research famous and popular journalists like Jeremy Clarkson and Caitlin Moran.

In the final week, we improved on one of the articles we had previously written.

As I said at the start, I wasn't really looking forward to it but now I look back and see the way I have progressed with my skills and I would give this a big thumbs up because I felt free, and happy.

“

Power Writers is a brilliant club where you can deepen your knowledge about writing. It helps with all different genres and vocabulary. Power Writers has helped me develop skills I never thought I had and it has made me have so much courage and freedom in my writing!

- Evie in Year 7


”

“

I have enjoyed that there has finally been a class that lets me feel free in my writing and I loved that I learnt so many more techniques in English writing!

- Zahrah in Year 7

”



Here are some examples of the wonderful work produced by our Year 7 Power Writers during their last week in the club. We wish we could publish all of them and hope to make display somewhere around school to celebrate everyone's work!

Disney has historically been filtered through a masculine lens

Journalistic writing, by Chloe

Director Brenda Chapman is today's feminist role model.

Brenda was a girl who had curly, red hair and loved to draw. When she was fifteen, she called Walt Disney studios. She said: "Will you give me a job? I'm really good at drawing!" But they told her to wait and get back in touch when she was older. She studied character animation and, a few years later, she was working on animated films for Disney in Los Angeles.

However, she soon discovered that she was one of the only women animators there.

"That's when I realised why Princesses were so helpless in their films: they had all been created by men."

Brenda promised herself that she would create a new Princess: strong, independent and....

"BRAVE! What a great name for a film!" Brenda said.

Princess Merida is everything but weak. Merida is a strong, determined and brave Princess. She doesn't want to get married or find her Prince. She is also rebellious as she turned her mother in to a bear!

Brenda Chapman created many amazing Disney films like: Pocahontas, The Lion King and many more.

Brenda is a feminist role model.

Music

Personal writing by Evie

My most favourite thing in the whole world is music. Music helps me escape so much and somehow teleports me to another world when I listen to it. And there are so many different types of music that fit so many different moods and feelings – pop, punk, metal, cyber, dance... I would correspond metal with anger, pop with happiness, dance with excitement and cyber is just other-worldly!

My favourite type of music is definitely metal or rock. I love these two genres because they are kind of like a stress reliever to me; the heavy drumming and loud guitars really correspond with rage and listening to this type of music feels like I'm getting my anger and rage out. But obviously not everybody likes this genre, maybe because of the loud shouting or aggressive bass or it's just not everyone's style. Pop music is quite happy sounding and cheerful and makes you want to dance.

It's also good to try out new music and new bands or singers – you never know what you might like! At first, I didn't understand why people listened to loud music but I tried it and I actually loved it loads! This style of music has also drastically changed my style and clothing for the better! I now feel so much more free and like myself; I feel like I'm making a change in society. I dress how I want without any exceptions for what people say. And when people do say hurtful things it actually knocks me down, but what I do is get straight back up again.

Memoir

Personal writing, by Fiza

When I get home and out of the car, I always see this tiny little girl looking out of her window and she reminds me of my childhood and my life...

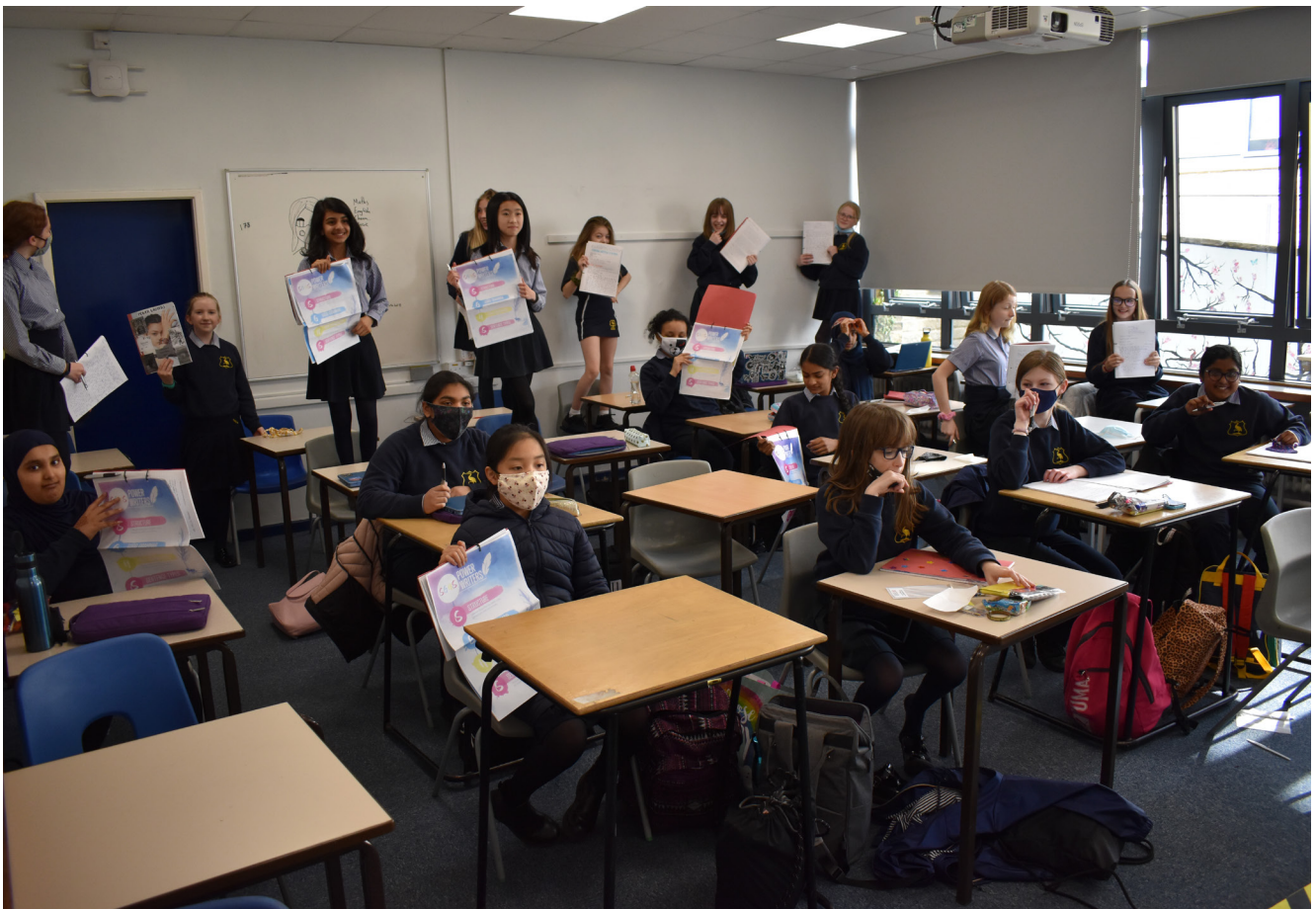
I moved to my house when I was one. I can't remember much, but my parents say that our house looks completely different now to how it was then. Now, our house is painted white with a little flower garden. This is the front side of my house – in the back, we have a swing set, apple trees and even more flowers. We have a two apple trees: one that grows green and another that grows red. Once, when they were fully ripened, my dad took them off and we ate them – they were so yummy and juicy.

My parents were quite young when they got married: my mum was twenty-three and my dad was twenty-five. They are now thirty-seven and thirty-nine and they have been married for four-

teen years. My mum and dad were born in different countries; my mum was born in Pakistan and my dad was born here in England. The story that my dad always tells me is how they got married and it is a nice story. My mum wears a head scarf because it is part of our religion and that is why I wear one now.

I only have one brother who is four years younger than me, four! I can remember when he was born; my grandma, my nana and my uncle took care of me when my mum was in the hospital. When he was born, my mum picked him up and said: "My Faraz!" and that is what my mum called my brother. He was born a week before Eid and that was when I picked him up for the first time. He was a tiny little baby and he was very light when I held him. He is now seven years old and he has gone a long, long way from what he was like seven years ago..!

I only have four people in my family, only four. Just me, my mum, my dad and my brother. We might be a small family, but we love each other a lot.



Friends of SGHS News



It's hard to believe there are just a couple of months to go until this school year ends and this is Friends' (SGHS Parents' Association) penultimate update.

We were blown away by your incredible support for our most recent fundraiser, our very first **Sharpaw Sponsored Hike!** We **raised a phenomenal £2,590** between us.

Thank you! All money raised will go towards the projector & screen for the gym, iPads and £650 to install and display the upcoming Art Exhibition.

Blessed with warm spring weather, this three-hour, 12 km hike on 9th May, saw around 120 students and their families don their hiking boots and make it to the top of the fell for some amazing views! Tired but happy sponsored walkers were welcomed back to school at the end for free hotdogs and drinks (served socially distanced), and even the dogs had a snack.

A £40 voucher was awarded to students Arabella Thornton & Thea Longthorne. They fundraised together, making £356.18. Well done to them on their tremendous sponsored walk efforts!

The 2021 **150 Club** supports the school's **Hardship Fund**. Will be offering half price membership, of just £10 for the remaining six months (July through to December 2021). Get in touch to buy a number for six more monthly lucky draws. First prize each month is £40!

The lucky numbers for May are:

1st Prize

No 82

2nd Prize

No 140

3rd Prize

No 129

For a 150 Club number:

team@friendsofsghs.org.uk or www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofsghs or via ParentPay.

Our new fundraising target over the coming months is £5,000 towards **the Hollow's renovation for sports use**. The plan was put it on hold a few years ago, but it now looks set to go ahead over the summer holidays.

The Friends' **Summer hamper and raffle** is currently being assembled. Might you have a raffle prize to donate?

Available through ParentPay, tickets are £5 a strip of five numbers, and will be drawn on **19th July 2021**. Raffle prizes will include Bollywood Indian restaurant meal vouchers, a Trinity Shopping Centre voucher, a well-stocked hamper of goodies and much more!

Thank you for your amazing and ongoing support.

Have a lovely half term!



Year 10 German Students Win a Boxful of Prizes for their Coronavirus Poems

The Goethe Institute hosted a competition for German students in year 10 in England to write poems using some of the new German COVID vocabulary. According to the Leibniz Institute for the German language, the coronavirus pandemic has produced over 1200 new words in German over the past year. This includes words such as: der Coronakater, die Kinnwärmer (chin warmer/mask) and die Krisenfrise (hair crisis). All eleven of the students won prizes and learned new interesting vocabulary. We had fun learning the new words and hope to take part in further competitions to learn new language in the future.

Clemmie Swiffen and Emma Charlton



(Above) Year 10 modeling their new face masks and other prizes

Here's one of the student's poems and its translation:

der Kinnwärmer

*was ist das?
Wenn sie mich fragen, ist es stupide
Dummkopf, dumm
Spucken, schreien, niesen
aber unter deiner Maske
habe Verstand!
schütze andere
seien Sie clever!!!*

.....
*the chin warmer
What is it?
If you ask me, it's stupid
Stupid, stupid
Spit, scream, sneeze
but under your mask
have a little sense!
protect others and
be clever !!!*



(Above) View of Sharp Haw on the sponsored hike.



Save the Children Fundraiser



DONATE TO GAZA CRISIS

Save the Children urges all sides to end the deadly cycle of violence in Gaza and Israel. Please donate now to help save children's lives.

On Thursday 27th May, the school, with the leadership of the Head Girl Team, organised a charity day, to raise funds for the 'Gaza Crisis'.

The fundraising was incredibly successful with students of all year groups coming together to raise money. The money raised will be given to the 'Save the Children' Charity which is currently helping to provide vital supplies to injured children and their families living in Palestine and Israel.

Currently, in this region, thousands of children are experiencing the aftermath of violence, destruction and personal loss. Houses have been turned into rubble, schools and hospitals damaged and thousands of families ripped apart and displaced.

Save the Children is ready to support these families.

Overall on Thursday, we raised £270. If you would like to add to Thursday's total, please donate via Parent Pay!

Thank you, everyone, for the support!

Amelia Bradley
Head Girl





This Edition, and previous issues
of the Newsletter, can also be
viewed on the School Website...
www.sghs.org.uk/newsletter



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