

Francesca O'Neill reporting...



22/05/2017 10:03

Geography in Action!

51 pupils in Year 8 recently visited Hanningfield Reservoir to put their geographical skills into action. They completed an orienteering course to explore the idea of sustainability and even produced their own orienteering course to test their map reading and compass skills. They also carried out a water quality survey, gathering their data by pond dipping and identifying the creatures they were finding. One group managed to find a Great Crested Newt, which Mr Richardson was really excited about! They finally had a little time to enjoy the view across the reservoir. The pupils all really enjoyed the day getting

to see what Geography is like outside of the classroom.

Headlines by Andy Hodgkinson

SHOW MY HOMEWORK

As previously mentioned in the Sweyne Park Times, to improve the consistency and quality of homework that is set, we will be introducing an online package in September called "Show My Homework." Many other schools are already using this and the feedback we have received has been highly positive. The main benefits will be that:

- pupils will have a personalised timetable which will detail all tasks that have been set and how long a pupil should spend on each task
- each task will have a countdown to the deadline to assist pupils in managing their time (alerts linked to deadlines can also be set up, if desired, on any device, including a smart phone)
- resources to support pupils' learning can be uploaded for them

to access

- parents have an individual log-in to view the homework, and so can be fully involved in monitoring and supporting this important and integral part of school life
- should you experience any technical difficulties, there is a helpline which is operational 7 days a week!

This new system will be introduced to pupils during assemblies over the course of the first week of term. Parents/carers will receive a letter in the post prior to this with details of their child's personal log-in, as well as their own. Should pupils not have access to the internet, pupils will, of course, have access to IT facilities at school and hard copies of any resources can be provided.

Cont/d...

Parents' Time

A member of the Leadership Team will be available to see parents without appointment:

9:00am-9:45am Monday - Friday

5:00pm-5:45pm Thursdays



Book of the Term

FROZEN CHARLOTTE, By Alex Bell (Young Adult)

This is an extremely atmospheric and tense tale of suspense and horror; one that will have you gripped page by page! Sophie is to spend the summer on the Isle of Skye with her cousins, in the old schoolhouse where they live. Tragedy seems to have occurred regularly here over the decades, including the death of Sophie's young cousin, Rebecca, several years before. What is going on with her weird cousins and what is it with all the antique dolls? Who is the girl with the dark hair?



THE MOST LOANED BOOK SUMMER TERM 2017



NON SCHOOL UNIFORM

LAST DAY OF TERM

FRIDAY 21ST JULY

£1.00

THANK YOU

Mrs Repetti for the lovely piece of fabric donated to the Textiles Department.

CONGRATULATIONS

Samuel (8LWo) on achieving his Gold reward badge.

Headlines (Continued)

UNIFORM
I am conscious that many families are beginning to think about school uniform for next year and, with this in mind, please can I draw your attention to the relevant pages in **pupil planners** and on our **website** <http://sweynepark.com/html/parents/uniform.html> which set out what is acceptable. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated, and really does make a difference. Please ring the relevant Head of Year if you are unsure about anything you are buying.

next year. However, having worked with so many families for many years now, I did want to inform you that, sadly, **June Morgan**, Assistant Headteacher, is retiring at the end of this year. June has made a huge contribution to education in general, and at the Sweyne Park School, and she will be greatly missed. Fortunately, she will be keeping in touch with the school through our Multi-Academy Trust work, and I hope you will join me in wishing her all the best for a long and happy retirement.

RETIREMENT
Once again we have a very low turnover of staff this year, and we are fully staffed for

AND FINALLY
A reminder that next Friday we break up at 12.25pm for the summer! I will write about the start of term arrangements next week.

Mr Softly reporting...

The Music Department has been extremely busy this year with several concerts and events taking place. Along with the usual Christmas and Summer concerts, many pupils and Sixth Formers have been involved in Arts Awards Events, organising and coordinating these evenings themselves. Year 12 and 13 Music Technology students have become more responsible for technical aspects such as sound and lighting as it gives them a taste of what it might be like to work within the industry. With only a few days left of the academic year, both pupils and staff are looking forward to a well-deserved break over the summer holidays!

Music Department



Year 12 Music Technology student, Cameron, mixing for the Summer concert. With Ben in charge of lights, the technical side of the evening went off without a hitch.



The Harmonites rehearsing under the direction of Mrs Hutton - a close harmony singing group, they rehearse after school every Tuesday.



Year 12 Music and Technology student, Ellie, performs for pupils and parents during Open Evening.



The SPS Signing Choir performed for the first time this week in the concert - under the supervision of Mrs Woods and Ms Musson. They did a fantastic job of performing "Human" by Rag n Bone Man.



Pandamonium (minus one drummer!) rehearses in preparation for their latest gig. They closed the Summer concert this week to great acclaim!



Patrick, Ross & Matthew after the Arts Award concert in which Patrick was also responsible for the organisation and coordination of the rehearsals and technical aspects. Patrick also took his Grade 5 piano exam this year - the first one he had ever done and he achieved a Merit. Congratulations!



The SPS Choir performing this week - numbers have risen throughout the year and an extra step had to be incorporated to accommodate the new members.