

## WHAT AN HONOUR!

Congratulations to Emily (9DGa), who was invited as a recipient of The Jack Petchey Achievement Awards 2018 for Girl Guiding Essex South East on Thursday 25th January at the Towngate Theatre. Emily's award is in recognition of her always being kind and willing to help at any given opportunity, making her a valued member of the group which has also helped her gain confidence. Achievement comes in many forms and the evening celebrated and acknowledged the range and diversity of these individual developments.



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### Headlines by Andy Hodgkinson

#### POST-18 VOCATIONAL DESTINATIONS

As promised, having published our University destinations online, we have now had confirmation of the majority of apprenticeship and employment destinations for the year. If you would like to look at these please do visit our website and click on the link below:

<http://sweynepark.com/html/sixthform/universities.html>

#### UNIFORM

As I wrote about recently in The Sweyne Park Times, we have now consulted our Parents' Forum, School Council and Governors on how we can ensure high quality uniform which also represents good value for money. After much consideration, we are only proposing a change to the school skirt,

which will be a pleated style kilt with a school badge, and clarifying what we mean by tailored school trousers. Parents were keen to ensure the skirt would be high quality as cheaper skirts often need replacing regularly. The school skirt and trousers will be available from Danielles and ourselves, and suitable trousers will be available from M&S and Asda too. With cost in mind, we will expect pupils in Years 8 - 10 to be wearing the new skirt/trousers by no later than February half-term 2019.

Our new Year 7 pupils, starting in September 2018, will wear the new skirt/trousers from the start of the new academic year. Year 11 pupils will not be affected by the uniform change, as they will only have 4 months of school remaining. If you would like to find out more, or let us know your views, please contact the school via the school's email address: [admin@sweynepark.com](mailto:admin@sweynepark.com) before the end of the month. Thank you.

## Book of the Week

### THINGS A BRIGHT GIRL CAN DO by Sally Nicholls

Despite being both rich and clever, 17-year-old Evelyn knows she could never go to university like her brother.

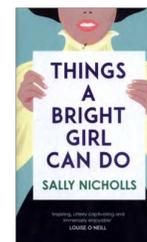
She is supposed to marry, instead of furthering her education, so Evelyn joins the Suffragettes, vowing to pay the ultimate price for freedom. May is only 15 and is already sworn to the cause, but as a Suffragist, refuses violence. Then she meets Nell, who has grown up through terrible hardship.

Three courageous young women join the fight for women's votes in a wonderfully-told tale, woven with history and politics.

6th February 2018 marks the centenary of the

Representation of the People Act 1918.

This allowed some women over the age of 30 to vote for the first time.



## DUTY PUPILS

Thank you for all your help:

Noah, Alexander, Jack, Isabelle, Jake, Charlotte & Olivia (8EPo)  
Joshua, Shayla, Armina & Lauren (8SMY), Daniel (8NGA)

Pupil Services

## LOTTO WINNERS FEBRUARY 2018

1ST: MRS C MORRIS

2ND: ANTHONY NORTH

3RD: REBECCA CHAPLIN

## HONESTY BOX

Asher (11LRi) for handing in some money.

James & Lewis (7MSm) for handing in some costume jewellery.

## THANK YOU

Mrs Moss for donating material to the Textiles Department.

Pupil Services

## LOST PROPERTY

Please remember to put names in school uniform.

## HEADLINES (CONTINUED)

### THE ARTS

As you may have realised from the media, and indeed the interview I was asked to give on BBC Essex last week, there is a great deal of pressure on secondary schools to cut subjects such as Art, Music and Drama. It is certainly true that school finances are currently the most challenging, in the 11 years I have been Head, however, I can assure you that we have no plans to change our approach to the Arts, as we believe our pupils gain so much from the opportunity to study these subjects.

### REVISION SKILLS

As promised in a previous edition of The Sweyne Park Times, please find, in our centre spread this week, some suggestions for how you can help at home in maximising revision and study skills. I hope this is of use.

### AND FINALLY

Thank you for support with your children this half-term, and enjoy the half-term break.

# Revision that Works!

QUIET PLACE TO WORK AT HOME, WORK AND SOCIAL LIFE BALANCE AGREED, REVISION BOOKS PURCHASED, POSITIVE GOALS IN PLACE

Family support is central in determining a child's academic success. The good news is that you don't need to be an expert in any of the subjects your child chooses to make a real difference.

..... WHAT NEXT???

## Securing knowledge

Putting information in your long-term memory.

- Learning key facts.
- Learning quotes.
- Learning key words.
- Learning storylines and plots.
- Learning formulae.
- Learning vocabulary and grammar rules.

### Productive strategies:

- 👍 Make flash cards. Use 'Quizlet' App.
- 👍 Use mnemonics. (e.g. SOHCAHTOA).
- 👍 Put post-it notes with key information around your home.
- 👍 Use colour, pictures and images.
- 👍 Make recordings and play them back.
- 👍 Read revision notes aloud.
- 👍 Vary how you present your revision notes.
- 👍 Get someone to test you!

## Building understanding and extending skills

Retrieving and making sense of knowledge and information helps pupils remember it. This means it is ready to use in exam questions. No-one has ever found a better way to develop skills than to **practise, practise, practise!**

### Productive strategies:

- 👍 Do something at least 40 times to master it!
- 👍 Practise exam questions. Re-do answers to questions in response to feedback. (This really works!)
- 👍 Practise exam questions in timed conditions.
- 👍 Make your own quizzes.
- 👍 Make mind maps to see how facts and topics link together.
- 👍 Get someone to cross out key parts of your notes and try to fill them in again.
- 👍 Ask 'Why..?' 'How..?' questions to test understanding.
- 👍 Discuss the facts and ask questions so information is regularly retrieved and explored.
- 👍 Put key words into a sentence.
- 👍 Put facts on post-it notes and cluster them. (Clustering information into categories really helps!)
- 👍 Summarise notes and summarise the summaries!
- 👍 Access and use on-line resources, e.g. 'Mymaths', 'Mathswatch', 'Mygcsescience', 'Mr Bruff', YouTube', 'BBC Bitesize', 'My studyplan'.
- 👍 Don't just write out notes – do something with them!

## How can parents help?

- ✓ Make sure your child has a folder for each subject to keep key information in. This helps organisation and builds motivation as more notes are added.
- ✓ Suggest that they revise in 30 minute bursts with short breaks in between.
- ✓ Allow your child time to revise; they may have less time for family commitments when revising. **Build in rest days.**
- ✓ Encourage your child to focus on what is most difficult and what they least enjoy doing first (primary recency effect).
- ✓ Sit and listen if your child wants to read their work aloud to you. Test them on key points using a revision guide.
- ✓ Good hydration, nutrition and rest are all important when your child is revising, as is fresh air!