

SENSATIONAL SCIENCE!



“As part of our Science Week celebrations, we welcomed back to Sweyne Park, popular and entertaining author John Townsend. (John has written over 200 books, both fiction and non-fiction, with many of them available in the school Library!). We also welcomed into school the whole of Year 5 from Glebe Primary School, as John kick-started the day with an entertaining talk in the hall. John then spoke with three Year 7 classes in the Library. The theme of the talks was *Amazing Animals* and the inspiration they give scientists to develop new ideas and technology.

John showed how the gecko has inspired scientists to create the “stickybot”, inspired by the sticky pads that enable geckos to move up vertical walls and ceilings, and how this could be a useful tool. He discussed how echo location, which bats rely on, has been adapted to create a “smart cane” for blind people and that the saliva from vampire bats is being used in medicine as “Draculin” to help prevent blood clotting. There were many more scientific adaptations explored and all the audiences agreed that they enjoyed a lively and entertaining time. *Michelle Waghorn*

Acting Headlines by Katharine Dines

I have had the privilege of being Acting Headteacher this week whilst Andy Hodgkinson has undergone his operation. I am sure that you will be pleased to know that he is recovering well and looking forward to being back on our return on Monday 16th April.

It has been an extremely busy and productive term, and it never fails to amaze me how many activities the pupils engage in, nor the many opportunities they embrace to extend their learning, both within and outside the classroom. Thank you for all the support and encouragement you show as parents and carers to enable this.

STAFFING UPDATE
We are sorry to be saying farewell to Adam Wesley today as he has made the

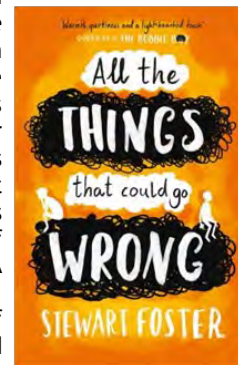
decision to emigrate and pursue his career in a warmer climate! We all wish him well in his new school and every success in the future. His tutor group will be covered by Emma MacGregor who we are delighted to welcome to the English Department, initially to cover a maternity leave and, then, as a full-time member of staff from September.

AND FINALLY
May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Happy Easter and ask for your support in encouraging attendance at the many Easter revision sessions taking place for examination classes. (Full details of these are available on the school website).

We will look forward to seeing the pupils back after the break for the Summer Term, with the exception of Year 10 pupils, to whom we wish the very best of luck in their Work Experience placements.

Book of the Term

ALL THE THINGS THAT COULD GO WRONG
by Stewart Foster



Alex has OCD and struggles with his anxiety and worries. Life doesn't get any easier when bully Dan and his mates single him out at school. The two boys are forced to work together after school, and it becomes clear that Dan has problems of his own. A powerful read full of warmth and compassion.

SCIENCE WEEK - LIBRARY QUIZ

Which Element am I?

- Monday Oxygen (O)
- Tuesday Yttrium (Y)
- Wednesday Sulphur (S)
- Thursday Fluorine (F)
- Friday (16th) Thallium (TI)

Spells: (Mr) SOFTLY

Congratulations to:

Joe (10HSt), Cody (8EPo),

Miss O'Neill and the Science Department who all got the correct answers!

DUTY PUPILS

Thank you for all your help:

- Kyle, Rosie, Keira, Honey, Charli & Kai (7CFr)
- Keira, William, Joshua, Erin, Leah & Annabel (7KCo)
- Jake, Sienna & Regan (7LGr)

Pupil Services

PARENTPAY FOR CATERING

Please remember to top-up your child's account on ParentPay at least a couple of hours before lunchtime. If possible, please top-up the day before.

PTA LOTTO WINNERS MARCH 2018

- 1ST: MRS EVELYN KING
- 2ND: LISA GROOM
- 3RD: PAULA STEADMAN

CONGRATULATIONS ON ACHIEVING YOUR BRONZE BADGE

SCARLET (7RJ0)

HONESTY BOX

KOBIE (11LRi)
FOR HANDING IN A MOBILE

SASHA (9AHU)
FOR HANDING IN A RING

English Department



“The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge was a very insightful workshop, set up with the goal of helping us improve our public speaking skills. I personally enjoyed the experience very much, and I gained some key knowledge about how I can improve the way I deliver speeches and communicate with others. I feel it was a very successful workshop and would love to do it again. It was great fun!” *Jack (10ACm)*

Amy Climpson reporting...

On 22nd February, Sweyne Park School welcomed two guest speakers from the Jack Petchey Foundation, who delivered four very creative workshops to 30 of our Year 10 students to help them improve their public speaking, but also with the aim of helping the pupils gain in confidence. Our two visitors taught the pupils about the importance of the content, structure and delivery of their speeches, as well as giving them advice on how to stand with confidence on stage. With the aid of a few drama-based games and activities, the pupils were hooked and fully engaged.

The workshops allowed the pupils to explore different topics for effective speeches. In the final session, every pupil was expected to give a small, one minute speech on their chosen topic. In that final session, despite some initial nerves, every single pupil performed their speech with confidence and it was amazing to see the transformation of these students into entertaining public speakers. Two pupils were selected as the most effective and entertaining speakers and these two pupils have been chosen to represent the school in the Regional Final of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge in May. We are all very proud of how these 30 pupils engaged with the workshops, and I personally had a very enjoyable day working with this group. We wish our two finalists lots of luck for the Regional Final. It is very exciting!



“The Speak Out Challenge was an excellent opportunity for me, and I am so glad I took part. After the workshops, I realised that I had a greater appreciation for public speakers because of the skills they have mastered. The workshops have enabled me to improve my levels of confidence as well as communication just in time for the Spoken Language GCSE exam.” *Charlotte (10ACm)*

