

# Sir Roger Manwood's School



Autumn Term 2017  
Newsletter

# The Headteacher's Message Autumn 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

## DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

The start of term seems a long time ago now, but as always a wide range of events and activities have taken place.

### HOUSE COMPETITION

Neither our July or September newsletters had reported on the results of the 2016-17 House Competition. As it was so excitingly close last year, with three of the four houses gaining over 1000 points, and just 7 points separating first from second place, I thought it important to rectify that in this newsletter... Tudor ended up in fourth place with 809 points but there were notable highlights for them. They won the Year 7 University Challenge and pipped Knolles in the Manwoodian competition, beating both Dorman and Trappes by a huge 115 points. Robyn Marchant won both the poetry and six word story sections. Inspired by Ernest Hemingway who in 1910 won a 10 dollar bet with the story "For sale: baby shoes, never worn," students were asked to write a 6 word story with a beginning, middle and end using the theme of messages. Robyn winning entry was : "Social media. His Account. Marriage Over". Natasha Mitchell of Knolles came second with "The 6:17am. Eyes Meet. Hello Again." Dorman ended up in third place with 1051 points. They dominated the University Challenge competitions with particularly strong performances in Years 8 and 10. They also won the Year 7 Science Model Cells competition and each of the book review competitions in January, February, March and April. Going into Sports Day, Knolles had a significant lead over Trappes. Knolles scored more points than Trappes in the Manwoodian competition, Sixth Form University Challenge, Suicide Chess and the Colouring Book competition. But Trappes had won the Art History Competition, Santa's Grotto drawing competition, and the Y7 Spelling Bee. However, with 1233 points, last year's winners of the House competition were Knolles.

The photo below shows the Knolles house captains with their staff leader, Ms Noy, after the presentation of the House Competition trophy in the July assembly.



### ART SHOW

The first big event of the term was held in the second week of September - the school's now annual Art Show, put on as part of Sandwich Art Week. The photograph below shows the members of the Art Department (Ms Garrett, Ms Noy and Mr Grimshaw) with the Right Worshipful Mayor and Mayoress

of Sandwich. Thanks must go to the Art Department for the effort they put into holding this event each year, especially given the logistical difficulties involved with it being so close to the start of the academic year. Most pleasing, was the evident enjoyment that the event gave to everyone who attended, especially those who had not previously visited. All commented on the extremely high quality of the students' work.



### **SPEECH DAY**

Our annual Prize Giving was held on the Friday we broke up for the October half term holiday. The picture below shows all of the Prize Winners other than the Y13 leavers, who are coming back to school on the evening of 3 January 2018 to be presented with theirs, along with the rest of their Year group, who will receive their A Level certificates.



This year's VIP guest and presenter of the prizes, was Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles, who currently works for HSBC Bank but has previously been the UK Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan and Israel. He gave a very interesting talk about what he thought the essential point of a good education was, and at the same time, gave a very enlightening lecture on the background to the current Middle East issues. The photo below shows Sir Sherard with the Mayor Deputy and Lady Deputy of Brightlingsea, the Right Worshipful Mayor and Mayoress of Sandwich (who is also Speaker of the Cinque Ports this year), Mrs Daniels (the Chair of Governors), Mrs Rebecca Jackson and the Headteacher.



On Friday 2 December over 100 local senior citizens were treated to a delicious 3 course meal and entertainment, with each table being hosted by several members of the Sixth Form Charity Committee. Thanks go to Miss Lupton and the members of the Sixth Form Charity Committee who organised the event, and of course to our magnificent catering team, who produced this dinner in-between providing a normal school lunch service and the evening meal for boarders!

Thanks must also go to our catering team for the magnificent job they did in managing to produce such a high quality school Christmas lunch on Wednesday this week, when over 450 members of the school community were served a full Christmas dinner, which even included a cracker.

Congratulations also need to go to the following individual students:

- Lily Beamen, in Y8, for achieving second place at the 2017 International Karate IKK Clicker Tournament.
- George Simcox for his involvement in the Creative Jazz Orchestra event that took place at Goodwin Academy recently as part of the Deal Festival of Music and the Arts. The school received a lovely letter praising how helpful he had been on the day
- Jimmy Pays, Phoebe Ireland, and Coco Tranter who, we heard literally on the last day of term, and just in time to be included in this newsletter, have been judged one of the best entries (from among over 700) for the University of Greenwich's 'Design a Robot' competition. As a result of winning they will now receive support in terms of technical expertise, materials, time and manufacturing facilities to build a robot which will compete in the Robot Wars arena, which will be held on the University of Greenwich Medway campus in September 2018. An academic from Greenwich will be coming to an assembly next term to present them with their certificates.

Lastly, it only remains for me to wish you all a restful holiday and I look forward to welcoming the students back on Tuesday 2 January 2018.

With very best wishes,

Mr Hunter

# VOLUNTARY PARENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

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To help us to calculate school income, please complete the appropriate sections below:

## STANDING ORDER

- It is my/our\* intention to contribute £... *(please give what you can – even if not £10 per month, every little helps and will be used solely to provide the extras that government funding does not cover) monthly by Standing Order.*

## BY CHEQUE

- I/we attach a cheque for our contribution for the year *(this would be £120 per year if it were to match the £10 per month).*

## GIFT AID

- I/we would like our Voluntary Parental Contributions to the school to be Gift Aided. The Gift Aid Form is on the school website. *(Please remember to do this if you are a UK tax payer as the school will get £12.50 for every £10 you donate).*

SIGNED ..... PRINT NAME .....

CHILD/CHILDREN'S NAME/S: .....

CHILD/CHILDREN'S FORM/S: .....

\* delete as appropriate.

## Geography

In early October Mr Anderson, Mr Rivers and Ms Poole took 30 Year 10 students to the Bay of Naples. We were blessed with fantastic weather and thoroughly enjoyed our visits and fieldwork. Our local guides were an interesting bunch, with a particular highlight being the special guide at the top of Vesuvius who proved somewhat challenging to understand! The students were brilliant at being thoroughly engaged throughout the trip, whether on the island of Capri studying the coastal formations, at the top of Vesuvius considering what might happen if it erupted or discussing our findings back at the hotel in the evening. Well done to all the students who got back into lessons the day after we returned after a long trip and late arrival back at Manwoods.

## University Challenge

This year's senior University Challenge competition continued the tradition of fiercely contested matches. In the house matches, Dorman won their Year 10 final against Tudor and Knolles piped Tudor to win the Year 13 competition. As usual, under pressure there are some comedic answers such as the answer to the question of "Which dog, has a name that in German means badger hound". It turns out that "Chihuahua" is not the right answer (and not very German either). In the regional competition, we entered two teams to take on Harvey Grammar and Chatham & Clarendon, with one of our sides winning that competition and progressing to the next round. Congratulations to Sera Sutherland, George Verrier, Grace Riley and Finley Beaman who will go on to compete in the next round to see which school will represent the South East of England.

## MFL Department

As part of trying to keep our ties with the community, and in particular primary schools, the French department organised, for the second year running, a day trip to Barham Primary School. Sixteen year 13 students, along with myself, spent a very enjoyable day teaching all pupils different languages. From making punch (without alcohol of course!), to painting (Klee, German artist), as well as decorating biscuits with European flags and learning to play petanque, everyone had lots of fun and it was good to see our students being teachers for a day. They did realise how difficult it was!

Our thanks go to Mrs Gooderham for organising the day and well done to all our apprentice teachers.

