

Sir Roger Manwood's School



Summer Term 2020
Newsletter

Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Szczerbicki and Mrs Moore on the birth of their babies – Joshua and Alice respectively.

Farewells

Sadly, we have to say goodbye to the following at the end of term...

Mr Avery is retiring from his post of Head of Physics, which he has been in post as since September 2001. Alongside being Head of Physics, Mr Avery also ran an Astronomy Club for many years. However, technically this is not a farewell as he will be easing himself into retirement by taking on the role of Physics technician from September, so will still be around the School. I would like to thank Mr Avery for having led the department so ably over the last 19 years, where he has successfully passed on his love and enthusiasm for the subject for a succession of students.

Ms Carnt is leaving us at the end of term for pastures new. She was first appointed to the staff at Manwoods in September 2001 as a German teacher, and then took on the additional role of Head of Year 9 in September 2012. The following year she added Resident Tutor in the boys' boarding house to the various roles she has done whilst at the School, culminating in September 2014, with her becoming the School's Additional Needs Coordinator. The PE Department will miss her too due to her contributions to the sporting life of the School, especially in regard to both boys' and girls' rugby, where for several years she coached and managed one of the school teams. Ms Carnt leaves with our very best wishes, and the grateful thanks of the pupils and parents who have come under her care either in her AENCo, boarding or PE roles.

Mrs Hill is leaving us at the end of term. She joined the School in September 2012 as a Learning Support Assistant (LSA) to support a student on an EHCP with severe visual impairment. She was always keen and conscientious in her work, very caring towards the students and very giving of her time to them. She was always keen to be involved in the wider school community, and consequently took part in a number of overseas residential trips. Having been on so many overseas trips, Mrs Hill was the Staff Lead for the Easter 2020 sixth form trip to The Gambia this year, which unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the pandemic; a real shame after all of her hard work. Mrs Hill leaves with our grateful thanks for her contribution over the last 8 years, and our very best wishes for the future.

Ms Huang is leaving Manwoods after five years with us. During her time with us, she successfully led on the school's application to become a Confucius Classroom School, which then led on to her overseeing the introduction of Mandarin taster lessons in several local primary schools by our Chinese government-supplied Mandarin assistant, Miss Zhao. She is leaving us to take up a full time post at Langton Boys' Grammar School. We wish her well in her new endeavours.

Miss Lapshina joined us in September last. We thank her for her hard work and dedication and valuable contributions made to the English department, and wish her well for whatever she decides to do next.

Mr Newton is retiring after having been at the school since January 2002. As well as being a Chemistry teacher during those 18 years, Mr Newton first accompanied, and then led, many annual ski trips, and so has made a significant contribution to the out of class room experiences for so many students that Manwood's values so highly. We wish him all the best for his retirement.

Ms Thompson has taught English at Manwoods since September 2011. We thank her for all the contributions to the English department she has made over those years, both in and out of the classroom and wish her well as she leaves to spend more quality time with her husband and young child.

Ms McConnell joined us just before Christmas to take over from Mrs Urquhart when she had to end her maternity cover from Miss O'Dell. We are so grateful for the time and effort that Ms McConnell put into her lessons, especially as a large part of her time with us was spent having to deliver remote learning. We wish her all the very best for her future endeavours.

Mrs Saldonido has been the Biology technician since March 2019. I know the Biology team are going to miss her greatly and she is so well planned and organised, and keeps them on the straight and narrow! We wish her all the very best as she leaves us to become a Science teacher at Sandwich Technology School.

You may remember me writing a farewell and thank you to Ms Wnek in the Spring Term newsletter. However, I am including **Ms Wnek** in this newsletter as she very kindly offered to carry on teaching her Year 10 GCSE Drama class over the last term when she discovered that the person we had appointed as her replacement could not start until September. On behalf of that Y10 class I would like to thank her for that generosity of spirit. She leaves Manwoods having been with us since September 2014, and we wish her well for her retirement.

Congratulations to **Ms Powling**, **Ms Campbell** and **Ms Sinstadt** on passing their teacher training year. Ms Powling is excited to be teaching English at Goodwin Academy and Ms Campbell too, who will be at Sandwich Technology School teaching Spanish.

Although technically not leaving the School as they are both switching roles to undertake teacher training with us next year, I would like to place on record our thanks to **Mr Latham** and **Mr Foster** for their contributions to the Student Support team and Physics department respectively.

A belated official newsletter welcome to...

Mr Mitchell as Head of Computer Science, who has joined us from Chatham and Clarendon, and **Mr Wood**, who has joined us from Barton Court as cover for Mrs Szczerbicki while she is on her maternity leave. Both started after Easter, and have not actually met any of their classes in person yet! Despite this, they have done so well this term, and both have said how lovely our students are and how welcome they have been made to feel.

Welcome back to...

Ms O'Dell as Head of Psychology after her maternity leave. And a thank you to **Ms Farrow-House** for having done such a marvellous job while Ms O'Dell was on maternity leave as the Acting Head of Department.

As I mentioned in the end of Spring Term newsletter, and has been included on the school Facebook page and the PE Twitter feed, **Mr Neame** and a small team of students (**Matt Boucher, Morgan Chilton and Matt Cockfield-Hall**) were busy making full face visors using 3D printers for local health and care settings. By the end of their efforts they had made around 400 in total. That included:

125 for the Kent and Canterbury Hospital

60 for the Balmoral Surgery in Deal

30 for the Martha Trust home

12 for the White Mill Vets

15 for the Wantsum Lodge in Ramsgate

20 for the Sevenscore Ward at QEQM

40 for St Augustine Ward at QEQM

40 Walmer Care Centre, Walmer, Deal

30 Care Home Services, Herne Bay



Thank you card from St Augustine Ward at QEQM



Photo of hospice care workers wearing the visors



Just before Easter, we delivered 300 goggles, 2 full face visors, plus overalls and gloves from the Science department to QEQM. The photo shows them all boxed up just before they were driven over.

Founder's Day

Our Instagram Live and YouTube recording of our Founder's Day celebrations were watched by thousands of members of the extended Manwood's community, with several watching from their homes overseas.

My thanks to Dr Jackson, Chair of Governors, Rev Canon Roberts (Rector of St Clements and a School Governor) and the 4 Captains of School for their contributions to the event.



Thank You Messages

This has been a most bizarre second half of the year. As I have said several times in my weekly meetings our students have so impressed us in the way they responded to what I said in my very first one – that they needed to step up, take the initiative for their own learning and become very good independent learners. Although the last 6 months have been so difficult for them, I am convinced that in the long term it will have made them better learners due to this.

My thanks first to our superb support staff. Many have been on site for months now, with others doing the majority of the covering of the office, and others working fully from home throughout the closure period.

Our teaching staff have been magnificent throughout, stepping up to learn how to deliver online lessons with minimal training and spending hours in front of a screen whilst having to juggle that with responsibilities at home. The feedback from parents and pupils has been overwhelmingly positive for their efforts, with many noting that the level of feedback given has been extremely impressive. I have included some of the messages we have received below.

Lastly, I want to thank all of our tutors for holding online meetings with their form groups over the past few weeks. I appreciate that they were done during a very busy time of year and the logistics of holding them were not always straightforward. However, having received feedback from the meetings it is obvious that they were a valuable exercise and were worth the time and effort put into making them possible.

Thank You Messages From Parents

I have been hugely impressed with how the school community have met the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. The regular communication from the school has been very much appreciated. I would particularly like to mention Miss Lightfoot's Head of Year message to Year 9 which offered the right mix of encouragement and reassurance and also give huge thanks to Mrs Nelson with her Year 7 live lessons. These have been fantastic and it has been wonderful to hear the pupils engaging with her as they would in a normal class setting, definitely a highlight in my younger daughter's timetable.

I thought I'd drop you a line to say how impressed I am by the accessibility and content of the work the teachers are setting. My son has been able to follow the lesson plans and mostly keep up with the work set. When he has been a bit lost because he has missed the background work the teachers have been helpful and quick to reply. He has found the marking and feedback very helpful. Thank you for all the support and communication we have received from you and the school during this tricky time. I am so glad X joined the school.

There's nothing like a lockdown to make children realise how great school is!

I want to say thank you to you and all the staff at your school for the commitment they are showing to keeping the learning going. I know it is their job to teach however, it must have been a real challenge to revert to online rather than face to face. So please pass on our thanks. It can't have been easy. The structure of the lessons has been good and sticking to the timetable has kept a semblance of routine here. The communication from the teachers has been excellent and our son has felt comfortable asking questions. He has been keen and ready each morning, probably helped by the fact he has been able to talk to his friends during the day and the timings of the lessons have stayed the same. So thank you for making this experience smoother than it could have been and for ensuring independent learning is taking place. I'm no teacher and the thought of workbooks and teaching my son all day was a frightening thought!

I have to say I am very impressed with how your school has continued and provided regular updates from before lockdown and after. I have been so impressed with the work my son has received and this has given him a focus during this time. I feel we were receiving just the right amount to keep his mind occupied whilst we are all out working. Please keep up the good work, and thank you for your continued support.

I just wanted to write a quick email to say thank you. In a time of great uncertainty, you have kept us all very well informed and made sensible decisions. The YouTube videos are a lovely touch. On a personal note thank you for this week. For us as a family it's been lovely. My daughter was able to spend all day yesterday on an RE project she wanted to work hard on. Today we've been able to spend some time playing and she's currently teaching her four year old brother piano. It has been lovely to have a week without the pressure of school work and honestly it was much needed by us.

Just wanted to drop a note to say Thank You to you all - what a fantastic job you are all doing setting and keeping on top of all the school work and keeping us informed on all relevant topics in this strange times.

I know I've said it before but I think it's time to reiterate it - thank you to all of you for keeping things afloat, for doing so well in very challenging circumstances. Thank you for adapting as you go & for supporting the students & others, so carefully. It is very much appreciated. I know my son is finding school work gives his day/week a much needed structure in these open-ended "terms".

As we approach half term I wanted to drop you a line to say thank you. As a parent of a year 7 pupil I have been very impressed by, and grateful for, Manwood's approach to the COVID-19 situation and home learning. Providing 'lessons' within the normal time table has been fantastic, as have the online lessons that have been provided. Staff have communicated very well with students and have been very supportive. We are so fortunate for the excellent job that you are all doing. Thank you.

Thanks so much for your continuous support in trying to keep, not just our son but all of the School children on schedule in this very difficult time. How you are all managing to do this from home and in front of a computer is truly amazing, Thank you all!! The effort it must take to co-ordinate, update and encourage all the children to keep on keeping on is astonishing. I just wanted to let you know - you have my deepest gratitude.

Just to say we think the School has dealt with the pandemic extremely well, right from the beginning when you provided hand gel, etc. You were one step ahead of the country in general. We are very impressed how our son (Y8) is being taught via the online lessons.

I wanted to be in touch to thank you everyone at Manwood's for your hard work in very challenging circumstances over the past few months. Communication throughout this time has been excellent, with regular and comprehensive updates. It is clear that much thought has been given to how to manage this situation well, always trying to stay ahead of the curve, and thinking of the welfare of the students and staff. Our daughter has managed very well, and all in all, for her the home learning experience has been positive. I'm sure the past few months have been exhausting and frustrating at times, but I wanted to encourage you all and thank you for doing such a good job.

I would like to say the efforts made by the school to keep us informed throughout have been excellent. We have found them very reassuring. Thank you to you and all the staff at Manwood's for your ongoing efforts to keep our children's' education continuing as close to normal as possible during this unprecedented time.

I attended the Art Show in person last year and have done so this year virtually. What a brilliant idea! This virtual environment shows off the students work superbly and you are able to step back and move close to a painting which I would do normally at a gallery. Congratulations to you and your students.

Can I just say that I can't imagine what a stressful year you must have all had, with such a huge responsibility for so many children's continued education and safety - both physical and mental. However, you have all done an amazing job through such a steep learning curve, and engaging the children so that their education continued. I'm under no doubt that my children's learning has not suffered, but in fact has been enhanced through additional learnt life skills at home, due to the gift of time together. Thank you so much!

I would like to express my gratitude to the staff for the high standards they have set, and the encouragement they have given to help my son during the school closure period. The feedback on his work has helped him to understand what he has done well, and what he must do to improve. I have watched him become more confident and independent in his learning, and I am so pleased for him. He has also really enjoyed Maths Club during lockdown too. I know the decisions that the school has had to make have not been easy, but I wanted to say thank you to all of you for all that you have all done for my son, and long may it continue. I hope that all the staff are able to have some sort of rest over the holidays – you deserve it!

I just wanted to thank the staff for the fabulous job you have done over the last few months. The transition to home-learning was seamless and so quick that it made the experience for my son as a student, and us, as parents, so much easier. The speed and efficiency with which the home-learning platform was implemented and the consistency of the work set by the teachers has provided him with a 'school day' routine that has been so important during these difficult months. He doesn't have siblings at home so the experience for him was isolating at times and he did struggle with working independently but the online lessons he did have were very welcome. Thanks also for the weekly video updates as this provided further communication and in fact having watched these, I also feel more connected to the school than I have previously. I have no doubt that we made the right choice of school.

Thought I'd just take a moment to thank the staff for all their hard work and adapting to a very difficult situation over the lockdown period. My daughter and myself feel we have been well supported during this unusual time.

I just wanted to thank you all for what you've done over the last few months. I haven't envied your position throughout this, nor do I envy the position you are in now making decisions for September. You have kept us informed well and always kept smiling in your video messages, I am sure it's been very difficult. For us the home learning has worked very well. I am in no hurry for 'normal' to resume! I hope you all manage to get some time off over the summer to rest.

Please accept this email as a thank you for the hard work all staff have put in at SRMS during this difficult time. Our children have had the opportunity to work hard during lockdown and continue with their education in these exceptional circumstance. We are both teachers ourselves so really do understand the pressures staff have faced. Virtual Sport's Week and the Sports Awards have been a real highlight in our household. Have a lovely summer.

Student News

Congratulations to **AvaBeau Bowman** (Y7) whose story got through several rounds of BBC Radio 2's 500 Words story competition - from 135,000 entrants to 5,000.



We are very proud of her achievement and have reproduced her story below:

Alone. Anna would be alone - stranded in space. With no help. It was like suffocating; like she was in a crowded room, screaming at the top of her lungs, with no-one paying attention. Except she couldn't scream. Her lungs don't work that way. In fact, she couldn't scream at all. Her eyelids gently closed.

5...

The astronauts braced themselves; took deep breaths and buckled seatbelts.

4...

The speaker announced loudly to the gathered crowd.

3...

The view outside of the window called out to her. Her failures, her successes, her uncontrollable sadness.

2...

One last journey. One last time. One last flight. Last moments.

1...

It was like a rollercoaster, the anticipation, the suspense. And the gut-wrenching pull as she was launched into space. Soon she'd be floating without effort, the moment she'd waited for.

Finally, in control. Leaving everything behind. Flying into a new beginning.

The gravity seemed to disappear behind her as she closed her eyes. Calm washed over her. Stars scattered across the sky as the sight of the moon came closer.

With a gentle bump, the rocket landed as the rocky surface crunched beneath it. The door shut behind her; dust gathered around her feet. The blackness of the silence was a welcome change to the conflicting thoughts that had ravaged her mind moments before. Deep breath in, deep breath out.

A few tentative steps on the uneven surface made her stop and regroup. She was safe. Alone, but safe. The clarity was refreshing. It was as if she was seeing, hearing and feeling everything for the very first time. Deep breath in, deep breath out.

Without warning a cloud of fog filled her helmet, making it impossible to see; to breathe. Pulling and yanking she tried to free herself. The fight using up the last of the air-tank. She had to get back. Deep breath, deep...

Anna's eyes shot open. The bright lights of the hospital ward burned in a cruel juxtaposition to the darkness. Her lungs felt tight. She couldn't breathe. The noise of the ward was deafening outside of the hollow echo of her sterile room. She opened her mouth to call for help. Only a small croak escaped her dry chapped lips. She gasped and whined. Gradually a strange numb sensation began to ripple through her body from her toes, up through her legs, through her torso and then into her arms and fingers. Her lungs tightened further. The pain searing through them as she gasps for breath.

Her head fell to the side. Her eyes focussed and adjusted to the light in time to see her nurse enter with a crash cart. Her eyes glazed. Nothing. She was faintly aware of the noise and commotion surrounding her but was unable to find any words, any actions. She wanted to scream at the top of her lungs. Except she couldn't scream at the top of her lungs: they don't work that way. In fact she couldn't scream at all. Her eyes gently closed.

Emily Paul (Y7) received a handwritten letter and certificate from her local MP for all the many things she has done during lockdown to make people smile. These included:

Making gifts to leave at the end of the drive at Easter weekend for local children to select a gift, as they probably wouldn't get many Easter eggs. There was a host of different gifts and the children were so excited. I advertised it on the village Facebook page and people used their daily exercise to walk passed with their children.

Holding a plant giveaway for people when the garden centres were closed but people were trying to grow their own veg. She potted up lots of tomato plants that had self-sown from last year and took cuttings of many plants in the garden. People were so grateful.

Decorating windows with very large rainbow designs to make people smile as they walked passed.

Making gift packs of goodies for her friends that she couldn't see, to cheer them up.

Endless baking of cakes to drop off to neighbours and even flower arrangements made from hedgerow finds.

Making handmade birthday cards and anniversary cards for local people to post to family and friends, when they couldn't go shopping for a card. It created such delight for the senders and recipients.

She has also learnt how to use a sewing machine and made some scrub bags for carers to use.

She's made endless amount of book marks and posted them to people living on their own.

It gives her such joy to make people happy, and she loves to create, so it has been a win win for everyone.



Joshua Paul (Y9), brother of Emily above, and his gymnastics partner won the South East Regional Acrobatic Championships in November 2019 and went on to win the National qualifiers in March 2020. They were due to compete in the National British Gymnastics Finals in May as part of the South East England squad, but unfortunately it was postponed due to Coronavirus.

Two Year 9 students, **Sam Ericson** and **Josh Kitson**, have been informed that they will be assessed for the U15 boys' national Hockey Performance Centre later this year. If successful they will join goalkeeper Eddie Rowney who is already part of the Centre. Good luck boys!

The **Year 12 Young Enterprise team (Woods Group)** won the Best Presentation Award and were the overall runners up for Best Company at the Kent County Final and progressed to the South East Regional Final. They were up against teams from Kings Canterbury, Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School, Walthamstow Hall School and Hadlow Rural Community School, with the team from Kings' being the winners of this round. As a result of the lockdown, the competition had to be done remotely this year, with teams submitting their report, pictures of their trade stand and a recording of their presentation online. It was then announced on Monday 18 May that they had come third out of all the YE teams in the whole of the UK for the *Young Enterprise UK Sustainability Award 2020*. Many, many congratulations to the team, and to their teacher mentor, Miss Parfitt.



With no staff or other adult input, the **Manwood's 1st XV rugby team** took it upon themselves to raise money for the local charity, the Martha Trust, by setting themselves a tough challenge and asking for sponsorship. The challenge they set themselves was to run and cycle the distance of 20,000 rugby pitches (which is 2,000 km!!!!!!) Well done to all who took part. For anyone who has not yet had a chance to make a donation, their Justgiving page can be found at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/manwoodsrugby>

Sampson Marquis (Y12) walked 20km to raise funds for the elderly during the coronavirus pandemic. He raised £449 for Age UK and was happy that he exceeded his target of £250. Well done Sampson! If anyone would still like to donate to his fundraising page they can:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sampsonmarquis20kmwalk>

Several of our older students volunteered with the Deal Food Bank service, and a recent alumnus (**Austin Brazier**), who is hoping to join the Royal Marines volunteered to help with the armed services response to the crisis.

Millie Thomas (Y13) took a job as a part time community carer at the beginning of the year, working weekends in Deal with the elderly and disabled, enabling them to stay in their own homes. Once school was closed she worked non-stop, sometimes working 14 hour shifts, covering staff absences and has twice come into contact with patients with Covid 19. Well done Millie – a shining example of the Manwood community spirit in action.

Twelve Year 12 students took part in the Biology Olympiad earlier this term. The results can be found later in this newsletter but special mention must be made of **Grace Riley** who achieved a Gold Medal. Congratulations Grace!

SUBJECT NEWS

Art

Lockdown has obviously meant many major events had to be cancelled or postponed this summer. But not this one. Well, sort of. One of greatest disappointments for our department this summer term was not to be able to showcase the talent of our GCSE and A-Level students and celebrate with them the end of 2 years of hard work in our usual way. The summer exhibition – that was due to be held in the final week of the school year – is one of the nicest events of the year for us. An event that brings together our school community to congratulate and showcase our students, whilst also saying a kind of goodbye and good luck to those who are moving on to pastures new.

Knowing that we wouldn't be able to do this in the usual way, we set about looking for a new way to show off their amazing work. It took many hours of fun to create, but we really hope that our online virtual exhibition provides the opportunity for our students, their family and friends, and our wider school community, to see and appreciate the talent and dedication of our students.

We really hope that at some point in the near future we get to do this properly and to say a proper goodbye to those who are leaving us. We are really proud of all of you.

To visit the online virtual exhibition please follow the link below:

<https://www.artsteps.com/view/5eddd41f515e18619e1453fdc>



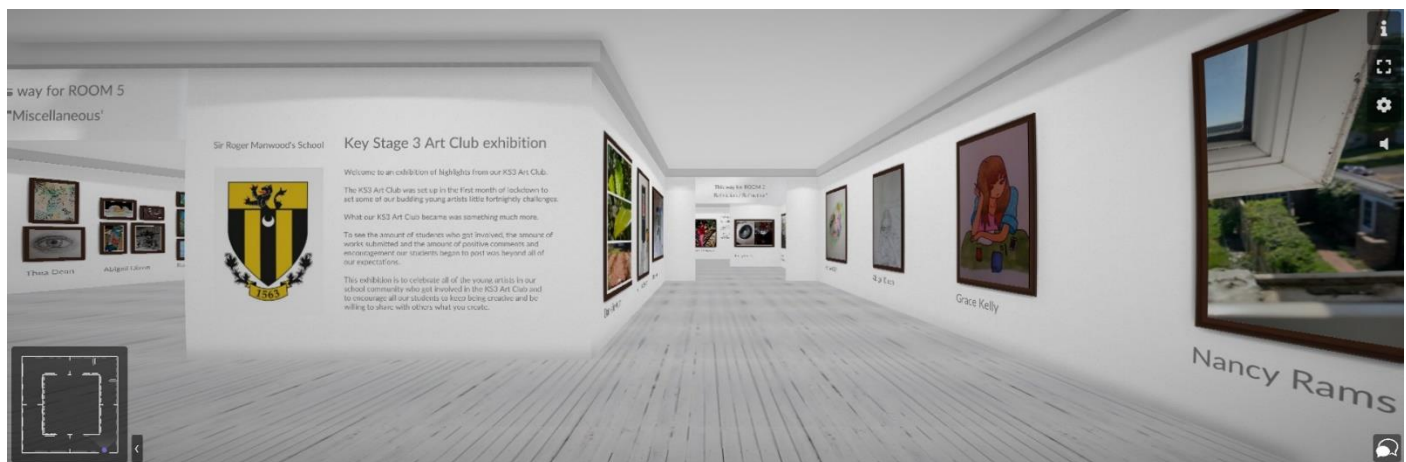
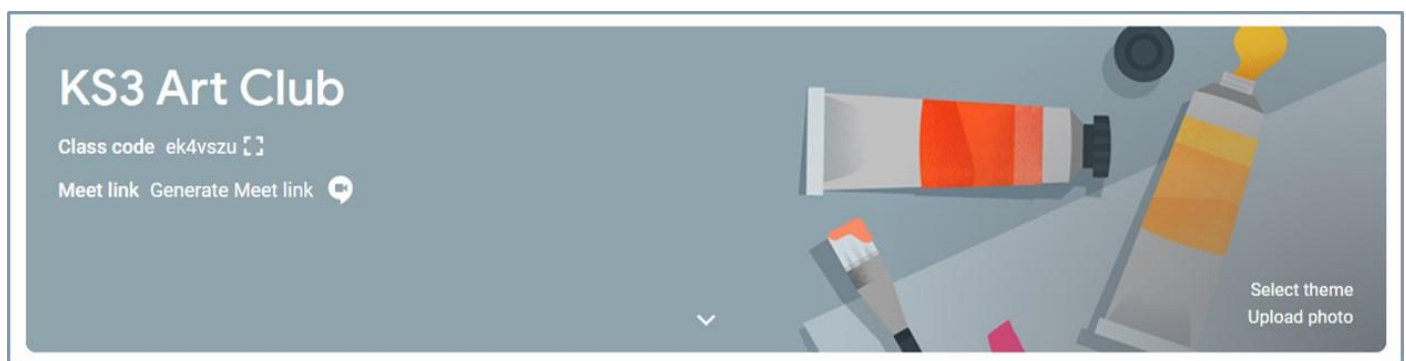
The KS3 Art Club was set up on the school's Google Classroom in the first month of lockdown to set some of our budding young artists little fortnightly challenges. What our KS3 Art Club became was something much more.

To see the amount of students who got involved, the amount of works submitted and the amount of positive comments and encouragement our students began to post was beyond all of our expectations.

Whilst we can't yet display the work in any physical kind of gallery space, this online virtual exhibition has been created to help celebrate all of the young artists in our school community who got involved in the KS3 Art Club and to encourage all our students to keep being creative and be willing to share with others what you create.

To visit this online virtual exhibition please Ctrl+Click one of the images below (or follow the link below):

<https://www.artsteps.com/view/5ef7d18e7f8e5a1d59ddf265>



Biology

In early June, twelve of our keen Year 12 Biologists took part in the Biology Olympiad run by The Royal Society of Biology. The competition was a rigorous and challenging online test aimed at Year 12 students across the whole country. Some of our students scored very highly and are to be congratulated for their excellent efforts: huge congratulations to Grace Riley who achieved a prestigious Gold medal, Maya Stedman and Arran Gallagher who achieved Silver medals and Hannah Kuruvilla who achieved a Bronze medal. Ben Glossop and Emily Whittaker were awarded 'Highly Commended' and Lily Dewick, Katie Carney and Nancy Williams-King were awarded 'Commended'. A massive well done, to everyone who took part, for stepping up to a difficult challenge.

Business and Economics

The following report on the Young Enterprise Competition this year has been written by Katy Kenicer, the Marketing Director for this year's team - The Woods Group.

Being a part of the Young Enterprise programme was a truly enriching experience for us all. Though our YE journey encountered a number of issues the most prominent of which being the Covid-19 issue currently influencing us all, we all feel the lessons that it has taught us have been invaluable.

One of the most crucial aspects of creating a product is deciphering a gap in the market, of which there seems to be very few. We discovered through research that even with expanding media attention the general public is still dangerously unaware of how everyday home-ware and stationary items negatively impact the environment and therefore we decided to offer an alternative, \ thus the Woods group released our line of sustainable stationary and home-ware. A collection currently including geometric coasters, phone holders and rulers, with more to come, all fully customisable.

We were at an advantage regarding sales considering the business climate in Sandwich and Deal favours independent businesses, we chose to market our products, coasters specifically to restaurants resulting in two bulk orders from popular places in the area. This appeared to be a promising start and the response to our branding and marketing all showed promise. We were soon after put on lock down and like many other personal and small businesses we suffered, forced only to communicate remotely we had to halt production.

However, we were still able to compete remotely in our district and county Young Enterprise competition securing runner up for the best student company in Kent along with the best presentation award. We were also awarded 3rd place in the UK's Sustainability Award. We hope to continue with our business upon our return to school.

The Young Enterprise company members for 2019-20 were: Ariella Musleh, Frederick Larsen, Will Morris, Matt Cockfield-Hall, Sean Lee, Abigail Harvey, Otto Appleby-Lansley, Will Grant, Katy Kenicer, Thomas Siddons, Kimberley Uchejuafor, Shay Rogers, Lilly Koschlakow, Zahra Adeniyi

We are currently looking for a Business Mentor for the new academic year. This is an individual who can support our Young Enterprise students for one hour per week by providing mentoring and support using their own experience from working in business. If you feel you are able to help could you please contact Ms Parfitt (h.parfitt@srms.kent.sch.uk). We look forward to hearing from you!



Maths

The UKMT have made the Junior Mathematical Challenge 2020 was completed online this year, in response to our school closure. Pupils from SRMS sat the challenge at home on 24th June, all together at 3.30 pm. We met through the google classroom, overcame the technical problems, with 30 pupils participating in total.

The thresholds were 102+ Gold, 86+ Silver, 70+ Bronze.

4 pupils were awarded Gold, Henry Shek (Best in school), Jeremiah Saldonido (Best in Year 7), Babak Amin Ejiasi and George Heath. 6 were awarded Silver and 10 Bronze.

This was a unique experience and impressive scores from all.

Music

I just wanted to update you on a couple of points for our long anticipated return in September.

Firstly, Instrumental Teaching – We have decided that individual lessons will not start in September. We hope to re-instate them as soon as we possibly can, once some clarity and stability has returned.

Many of our instrument teachers have offered online lessons and I know there has been some uptake with this. I suggest that you continue in this way until things are clearer. If you have decided to stop lessons for whatever reason would you, please let me know by email so we can let the individual teachers know.

Email address: d.smith@srms.kent.sch.uk

If you have not been offered online lessons but you are interested, then please let me know and I may be able to put you in touch with a teacher who offers this option. Please get in touch with any questions/concerns and I will be happy to help.

Secondly is Extra Curricular Music – There are so many opinions flying around as to what is safe with regards to singing and wind instruments. I aim to provide as much normality to our music groups as possible. We will have to wait to see how we return and what is safe and work from there. There are Google Classrooms for Elastic Band, Manwood Strings, Senior Strings & Woodwind Ensemble. I will also be expanding the music on these areas and adding some vocal content too. Please make sure your children check GC and emails over the summer for new content and opportunities. I am also to do some remote recording projects. I have not pushed this during the term as I know your children have been working hard online and for some it has been hard. Some of our Music students took part in an ECO Group recording project. Thanks to Charlie, Alex, Dan, Alana, Issie, George and Lucy.

Let's hope we can return and get back to normal as soon as possible.

All the best

David Smith

Head of Music

PSHE

Ms Hall has been reading through all of the end of year self-review sheets that students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been completing, and is very impressed by how they have engaged with the process, making honest and evaluative reflections of their learning accompanied by effective and achievable strategies to help meet their targets for next year. "It's such a positive learning culture and ethos and I think it is clear that students are on board with the process" is how she summarised her thoughts. Well done to all those students! And parents, do ask your children to share their reviews with you.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Eco Society

During lockdown, the Eco Society and Music Department at Manwood's joined forces with Wickhambreaux Primary School to record a lockdown version of Coldplay's *Orphans*. Coldplay have stopped touring until they can find a more eco-friendly way to travel the world and that decision inspired us to choose this song. Any Coldplay fans will notice a few changes to the lyrics. Those reflect our feelings about lockdown as well as our hope for one day having more renewable energy at our schools. And we've used lockdown to find out more about the opportunities for solar at Manwood's although we're still in the early stages of thinking about that. We hope you enjoy the song - we really enjoyed putting it together.

<https://youtu.be/4v5-9FgeJ5Y>

Sport

I am sure that many of you will have followed the virtual Sports Day on the PE Department's Twitter feed, and well done to all students (and staff!) who took part.

Many thanks to Mr Pearce and his team for organising such an inspirational event, and for the end of year Virtual Sports Awards.

Sandwich Rotary Club Photographic Competition

We wish the 27 students who entered the competition all the best for the judging. We will report on how they got on once the results are published.

Duke Of Edinburgh Award

I was delighted to receive the following email from the regional organiser of the Award...

Dear Mr Hunter

It goes without saying that this year has been one where so many people have shown immense courage, patience, and resilience.

I hope that your students, in particular those who have embarked upon the DofE, have managed to support those nearest to them and hopefully many have found it within them to help others in whatever way they can through the volunteering section of the Award.

On this basis I am delighted to include a certificate showing the level of community hours, and its monetary equivalent, that your DofE participants have achieved in the last year.

Please pass on my gratitude to Mrs Young and Miss Deveson for the work that they have been doing, along with the other leaders at your school. Without their commitment we would not be in such a strong position to continue with the delivery of the Award.

I wish you all well and send my best wishes, more so than ever before, for all that you have done to support the DofE within Kent.



Thank You

to The Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants from

Sir Roger Manwood's School

Who between April 2019 and March 2020 donated

2691 hours

of voluntary service to the local community.

The social value of these hours is

£11705.85

in addition, participants completed

2418 hours

of Physical activity

&

2509 hours

working towards a Skill

PETER SINGLETON
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

ALUMNI NEWS

The School was saddened to hear of the passing of **Robin Garden**. He taught at Manwood's in the late 1980s and early 1990s after retiring from St. Lawrence College where he was Head of Maths. At Manwood's he taught in Maths, Physics and RE. He was also a Deacon/Chaplain at St. Clement's Church and St. Bart's Chapel in Sandwich. Robin was 93 and lived with his wife in St. George's Road.

From an article in the East Kent Mercury on 3 June 2020:

Laura Westcott, a classically trained singer and creative entrepreneur, responded to music composed by **Chris Marshall**, a former pupil of Sir Roger Manwood's School to create *Somewhere in Time*, a "supersonic musical safari of the senses" that is a soothing and angelic meditation to help people de-stress and drift off to sleep. The result is a "beautifully somniferous" piece according to comedian and broadcaster Stephen Fry who has become a mentor helping the former Finglesham resident handle the agoraphobia which prevented her from performing. Further praise came from actress Joanna Lumley who said: "It is literally hypnotic... I felt as calm as an egg".

Article written by **Peter Turay (2010-12)** in the Metro on 3 June 2020:

Most days I don't wake up thinking about my skin colour, but in these last few weeks it's felt inescapable. Whether it's seeing the injustice of Ahmaud Arbery being fatally shot while out for a jog in his own neighbourhood, or George Floyd being killed in broad daylight at the hands of police officers, it's pretty painful to be black right now. Painful to watch videos of their deaths shared on social media. Painful to be introduced to someone, like George Floyd, as their life is taken away from them in eight minutes and 46 seconds of brutality. But most of all, it's painful to see the same injustices arise again and again. The black community in America have gone through this tragedy repeatedly and many of them feel like they've exhausted every option.

The community – and many across the world – are angry, not just about George Floyd's death, but the structural injustices that lead to deaths like these. Structural injustice is the cornerstone of racism, and sadly, it isn't just present within the police force in the US. Right now in the UK black women are 4.3 times more likely to die from COVID-19 than their white counterparts, while black men are 4.2 times more likely to die according to research conducted by the Office for National Statistics. Studies have already shown that these results are partly due to the socio-economic disadvantages faced by black people in the UK. This week, the government published their long awaited review into the disparities in the risk and outcomes of Covid-19, which only confirmed what we already knew. People from BAME backgrounds are more likely to live in urban or deprived areas, live in overcrowded households, or work in frontline jobs – all factors that increase the chances of them being exposed and killed by the virus. But crucially, the report was silent on how these risks – which are amplified by racial and health inequalities – would be reduced or tackled. On top of that, just last week, the police watchdog announced that it would be investigating West Midlands police over their use of force on black men following multiple claims of racially motivated brutality. The allegations include a black man being tasered in the throat by a police officer while observing the scene of a car accident, a 15-year-old black

boy being punched to the floor by a police officer and a 44-year-old black man being pulled off his bicycle before being punched in the back three times while pinned against the bonnet of a police car by two officers. The manner may be less overt, but the same injustices across the Atlantic happen here in the UK. And as if these injustices aren't enough, we also have to deal with equally demeaning microaggressions that crop up in our everyday lives.

Whether it's being rejected entry into a bar or nightclub because 'you look like trouble' or having someone randomly grabbing your afro-hair as if you're some sort of exhibition, it can be tiring and belittling being black. Growing up in a predominantly white area I was always told that I wasn't 'really' black because I didn't sound or act like the black people my school friends watched on TV or in movies. It took me years to realise that there wasn't a right or wrong way to be black – it was just a generalisation, and one which looked to further ingrain a racial bias against black people. Speak to any black person you know and they will be able to name countless times they have gone through the same thing. When Stormzy said that he 100 per cent believed that there was racism in the UK, many people seemed to be outraged by a simple truth. As someone in the black community I was neither surprised by Stormzy's answer nor the damning response it got. It was typical of a society that struggles to talk openly about the issues of race and racism – instead opting for a defensiveness and awkwardness that tries to ignore, shut down or, worse, gaslight the debate.

It's exhausting for the black community. Imagine being told that racism doesn't exist in the UK when so many of us see and experience it in our everyday lives. And when we try to explain the instances of racism, we're told to be fortunate that the racism isn't as overt or blunted or widespread as it is in America. We cannot stare in shock at what's going on in the US and not take the action needed to combat racism in the UK too. As the Rapper Killer Mike said in Atlanta last week, now is the time to 'plot, plan, strategise, organise and mobilise' in order to turn George Floyd's death into a trigger for change. We cannot allow our own political leaders to dodge this conversation, like the Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab did over the weekend when he refused to comment on the numerous inflammatory comments and actions made by Donald Trump regarding the ongoing protests. This felt like even more of a kick in the teeth when Raab rightly went on to criticise the reaction of the Chinese government to protests in Hong Kong.

And crucially, we – the black community – cannot do it alone. It's been uplifting to see so many people wanting to address and educate themselves on the issues of race and racism over the past week. People who have previously been silent or unaware of their privilege wanting to speak out, show solidarity and urge for change. This is something that should give us all hope. The greater the movement against racism and injustice becomes, the harder it will be for those in positions of power to ignore our voice. So don't let this be a passing phase – take action to back up your words and help change our society for the better.

A LEVEL RESULTS DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Results will be ready for collection between 8am and 11am on Thursday 13 August.

If a student is not able to collect them in person on the day then they should email Miss Wadsworth (p.wadsworth@srms.kent.sch.uk) by noon on Wednesday 12th or 19th (i.e. the day before results day!) to give permission for someone else to pick their results up for them. If something arises on the Thursday itself then please telephone the main office (01304 610200) and let Reception know who can pick up the results for you. They will pass the message on to Miss Wadsworth. The results for those unable to come in themselves, or send someone else in to collect them, will be posted to them first class at the end of the day. Boarders who live outside East Kent will have their results emailed to them. Results will not be emailed to any other students - if on holiday, a student should arrange for their results to be picked up in person on the day by a friend or relative (with prior notice having been given of this as above).

Please enter the school site ONLY via the gate on St George's Road (at the back of the School) that leads to the drive way down to the Art/Geography block.

If coming by car, parents and siblings should remain in their cars. I know you will, but please do be considerate of our neighbours when parking. If coming by public transport, please follow the government requirements that are in place at the time e.g. if current regulations are still in place, wear a face covering.

There will be cones out along the driveway to indicate 1 metre distances, all the way down to the side entrance to the sports hall opposite the entrance to the Art/Geography block.

Outside the sports hall there will be a hand sanitiser point, and each student will be required to use that before entering the sports hall.

A member of staff will be standing at the entrance door to control the rate of entry so that there are never too many students in the sports hall at any one time.

Named envelopes containing the results will be spaced out on tables running along two sides of the sports hall in alphabetical order. They will be spaced out so that they are not overlapping, which means that each student can pick up their envelope without touching anyone else's envelope.

Once a student has picked up their envelope, they should then exit the sports hall via a door that leads on to the field, then turn right and exit the field back on to St George's Road by the 'sports' gate that leads to the Farrer Field.

You can find a hand drawn sketch to explain the one way system below.

Students are encouraged to wear a face covering.

GCSE RESULTS DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Results will be ready for collection between 9am and 11am on Thursday 20 August.

If a student is not able to collect them in person on the day then they should email Miss Wadsworth (p.wadsworth@srms.kent.sch.uk) by noon on Wednesday 12th or 19th (i.e. the day before results day!) to give permission for someone else to pick their results up for them. If something arises on the Thursday itself then please telephone the main office (01304 610200) and let Reception know who can pick up the results for you. They will pass the message on to Miss Wadsworth. The results for those unable to come in themselves, or send someone else in to collect them, will be posted to them first class at the end of the day. Boarders who live outside East Kent will have their results emailed to them. Results will not be emailed to any other students - if on holiday, a student should arrange for their results to be picked up in person on the day by a friend or relative (with prior notice having been given of this as above).

Please enter the school site ONLY via the gate on St George's Road (at the back of the School) that leads to the drive way down to the Art/Geography block. If coming by car, parents and siblings should remain in their cars. I know you will, but please do be considerate of our neighbours when parking. If coming by public transport, please follow the government requirements that are in place at the time e.g. if current regulations are still in place, wear a face covering.

There will be cones out along the driveway to indicate 1 metre distances, all the way down to the side entrance to the sports hall opposite the entrance to the Art/Geography block.

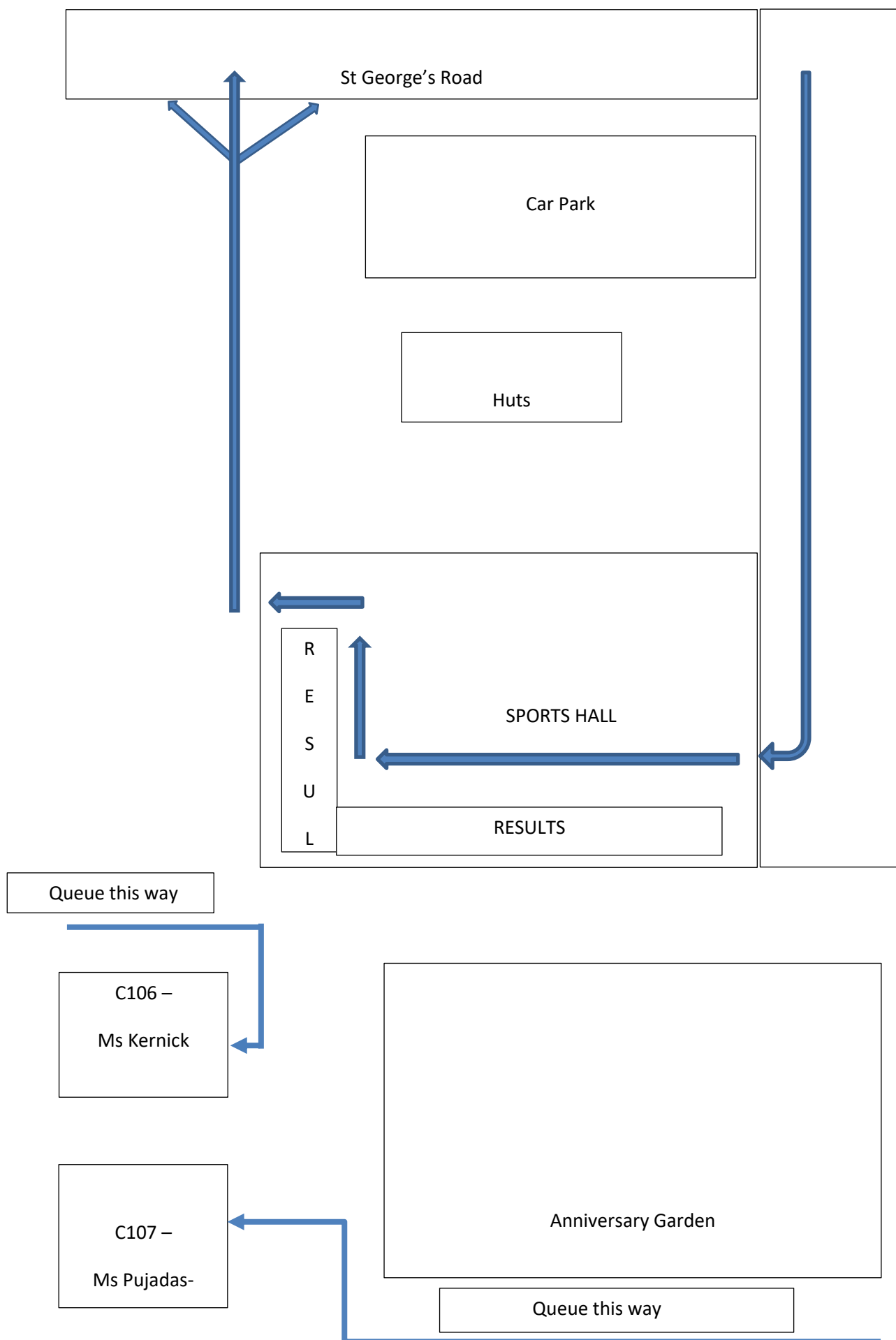
Outside the sports hall there will be a hand sanitiser point, and each student will be required to use that before entering the sports hall. A member of staff will be standing at the entrance door to control the rate of entry so that there are never too many students in the sports hall at any one time. Named envelopes containing the results will be spaced out on tables running along two sides of the sports hall in alphabetical order. They will be spaced out so that they are not overlapping, which means that each student can pick up their envelope without touching anyone else's envelope. Once a student has picked up their envelope, they should then exit the sports hall via a door that leads on to the field, then turn right and exit the field back on to St George's Road by the 'sports' gate that leads to the Farrer Field.

You can find a hand drawn sketch below to explain the one way system attached.

Students are encouraged to wear a face covering.

Some students may find a message in their results envelope asking them to see either Ms Pujadas-Telmon or Ms Kernick to discuss their results. Ms Kernick will be in Room C106 (the old 15) and Ms Pujadas-Telmon will be in Room C107 (the old 16) - the two rooms that face on to the 450th Garden.

Given the circumstances that students have had to endure this academic year, the School will show a degree of flexibility around whether or not the basic entrance criteria have been met for the sixth form itself (six GCSE passes at grade 5 or above, and two of these six must include English Language or English Literature, and Mathematics) and/or particular subjects, but these will be judged on a case by case basis and with reference to the prevailing Ofqual guidance at the time. The overriding consideration will be to guide students on to courses and settings that are right for them, and to ensure they are not set up for failure.



START OF AUTUMN TERM

The arrangements for the first week of term are provisionally as below. If they need to change in the light of any government announcements during the holidays we will update everyone by email.

Tuesday 1 September

Staff training day

Y13 in school for UCAS Exams in the Sports Hall

Students who would like to alter their A Level options will be meeting Ms Pujadas-Telmon in the Sixth Form Study Area according to the following schedule:

Surnames A-F: 12.30pm

Surnames G-M: 1.00pm

Surnames N-Z: 1.30pm

Wednesday 2 September

Staff training day

Y13 in school for UCAS Exams in the Sports Hall

Thursday 3 September

Y13 in school for UCAS Exams in the Sports Hall

The timings below are provisional and may need to change once the government's guidelines for the September return of secondary schools are published.

Year 7: students arrive for the normal start of the school day, 8.40am and make way their way to the Hall, where Y7 form tutors will meet them. (Senior staff will be stationed by Reception to guide students to the Hall). Dismissal is at normal time i.e. 3.20pm

Year 12: p1 = Tutor time, p2 and p3 = lessons, p4 = year assembly. Dismissal at end of the assembly.

Friday 4 September

Y13 in school for UCAS Exams in the Sports Hall

First day of school for all pupils.

At the time of going to press, the plan is for the start and end times of the day to be as normal. The School is working through its plans for the timings and arrangements for what happens inside those timings. An email will be sent to parents and pupils as soon as the School is able to confirm its plans.

Finally, a reminder that the term dates for the next academic year can be found on the school website calendar page and that we will be closing on Friday 9 July as the Open Golf Championship is coming to St George's (postponed from this summer). However, the Summer Term will officially end on Friday 16 July, with work for lessons in that last week being posted on Google Classroom, and followed up in the first lessons the following September.

Best wishes for a restful and peaceful summer holiday and many thanks again for all your support over the past six months. It has been an eventful year to say the least!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lee Hunter".

Lee Hunter
Headteacher