

Mini Manners

Newsletter of Stratford-upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls



*Former Wimbledon Champion Ann Jones with the Shottery team
at the Midland Girls' Schools Lawn Tennis League
100th Tournament*

School Year 2010/2011: Issue 5

May 2011

Head's Headlines

It's been a short and very intense half term – and not long since the last newsletter! It's not often that we come back to school for just two days before the next holiday, but that's what happened this year when Easter was so late and then Prince William chose to marry Kate Middleton on the third day of the summer term. It meant that the lead-in to exams was rather short for Years 11 and 12, but we are now well into the rhythm of GCSE and AS examinations, and the Year 13 girls take their exam study leave from the Friday before half-term, too. When we return after half-term, it will be to the internal exam week for the rest of the school, too – so we wish **all** girls in the school the very best of luck for their exams.

Exams have therefore inevitably loomed rather large this half-term, but it's not been all exam-focused work and no play or creativity, however! The approach of the exams is heralded in both Year 13 and Year 11 with celebration and fun: Year 13 girls organised their traditional Leavers' Concert and Assembly with their very entertaining satirical reflections on life at Shottery – this year drawn together very professionally! – and enjoyed a Leavers' Lunch on the final Thursday before half-term – all dressed as pirates this year! And Year 11 had their end of compulsory schooling party on their last Thursday, before setting off for Alton Towers on the Friday. Both year groups will be able to celebrate in style later in the term, too, with the Year 13 Ball on Tuesday 31st May at Wroxall Abbey, the Year 13 Graduation Garden Party in the Manor gardens on Tuesday 28th June, and the Year 11 Prom on Friday 1st July at the Stratford Manor Hotel.



Stratford's spring festivals provide us with excellent opportunities to get involved with a number of literary and community events, including those focused on celebrating the town's most famous son! This year's **Stratford upon Avon Literary Festival**

brought a number of writers to Shottery this year, including the world famous poet Michael Rosen, who delighted Year 7 on a Wednesday afternoon in May. Sixth form English students

also enthusiastically took up the opportunity to attend the Shakespeare Birthday Lecture in the Town Hall.

The **Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations** fell during the Royal Wedding and Bank Holiday weekend this year, which meant that fewer girls were able to take part than usual – and, indeed, there seemed to be fewer international guests this year, too. The school was very well represented, nevertheless, with a number of girls

taking part in the street entertainments before the parade, reciting Shakespeare sonnets in the High Street, and plenty of volunteers to accompany the various dignitaries and visitors in the procession itself, and act

as guides and standard-bearers. We were honoured to be asked to unfurl the Australian flag this year – and our own school banner was proudly in evidence too, as we took our places in the procession and carried our posies of flowers to lay on Shakespeare's grave.





We were also delighted to be invited to take part in a special ceremony marking the 150th anniversary of the birth of the Indian poet **Rabindranath Tagore** during the Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations, too. A number of girls signed up for training in Indian dance, and then took part in a tree-planting ceremony in the gardens of Anne Hathaway's Cottage to commemorate the life of the great poet who was, amongst other things, the first non-European to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913.

The **sixth form Theatre Studies** groups entertained their parents and others with their practical pieces – scripted in Year 12 and devised in Year 13 – the latter providing the group that brought us “Red Riding Hood” during our Day of Celebration with an opportunity to produce another superb piece of physical theatre based on the story of Snow White. And **sporting activities** have continued at a tremendous pace, including some excellent results in various competitions – not least rowing, tennis and athletics. Many of these have been reported regularly through the weekly parents’ newsletter, and you will find details again later in this newsletter – including of the 100th Tournament of the Midland Girls’ Schools Lawn Tennis League. Expeditions in Warwickshire and the Cotswolds have been organised for the many **bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh Award** groups; the **Engineering Education** team has been in action; and the **Junior Maths Challenge** and **Salters’ Festival of Chemistry** have taken place. And one of our **Young Enterprise** teams has won through to the Regional round of the competition with their Shakespearean-themed cookbook, *Much Ado about Cooking*. We wish them the best of luck with the next round in June. As for holiday expeditions, the Chamber Choir had a fabulous trip to Paris at Easter, singing at, amongst other places, Disneyland Paris and Chartres Cathedral. And the Geologists are off this half-term to Iceland – volcanic ash permitting! You can read about many of these in more detail later in this newsletter. I would like here to thank publicly all the staff who, with their dedication and enthusiasm, make all these activities possible.

Senior Student Leadership Team

We were very pleased to announce the new **Head Girl Team** shortly before Easter. The outgoing team of Beth Ferguson, Olivia Bonner-Evans and Helen Ormrod said their farewells in the traditional handover assembly, and welcomed the new team of Libby Atkinson, Ellie Drabble and Ellie Richardson to the stage – and to the helm of the school. Beth, Olivia and Helen have been a great team, strengthening further the student voice in school and providing excellent role models for student leadership. I know that Libby and the two Ellies enjoyed their first few days of office after Easter and before exam leave started, and we look forward to them taking up their roles more fully after the exams. The **Student Leadership Executive Team** have now been appointed too, and will be formally welcomed to their roles when Year 12 return after their exams. And this year we have also appointed twenty five **Prefects**, who will work in daily “duty teams”, each led by one of the Student Leadership Executive Team. The names of those girls will be announced in June. Well done to all of them! We wish them all a very happy and successful time leading the student body through the coming year. Congratulations, then, to the Student Leadership Executive:

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|------------------|---------------------|
| Libby Atkinson | Head Girl |
| Ellie Drabble | Deputy Head Girl |
| Ellie Richardson | Deputy Head Girl |
| Victoria Botting | House Captain |
| Bethan Charnley | House Captain |
| Lydia Heynes | House Captain |
| Tara Cherry | Prefect Team Leader |
| Sophie Clarke | Prefect Team Leader |
| Anna Massey | Prefect Team Leader |
| Jo Parsons | Prefect Team Leader |
| Holly Smith | Prefect Team Leader |



Libby Atkinson, Ellie Drabble and Ellie Richardson with KJB

Academy Status

Having reported in the April edition of *Mini Manners* that governors had confirmed their decision to seek academy status for the school, I can now report that the formal process of conversion is well under way. We have received the Academy Order from the Secretary of State and are forming the Academy Trust, a company limited by guarantee. The name of the school will remain "Stratford-upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls". Fifteen of the current governors of the school have signed up to be Members or Governors (or both) of the Academy Trust, and the necessary arrangements are being made to ensure that the staff of the school can transfer seamlessly to be staff of the academy. The details of the Funding Agreement are being drawn up, and, if all continues to go as planned, the governors will sign the Funding Agreement at their July meeting. For most of our services and business functions, we will continue to work with Warwickshire County Council, but we are looking to make some changes in some aspects, and are in the process of making those decisions at present. It's a very busy and very interesting time. The core teaching and learning activities at the heart of the school should, however, remain unaffected by all of these changes: part of the rationale for converting to academy status was precisely to be able to protect, maintain and develop the current ethos and character of the school and provide stability during a time of significant change in the way that schools are managed locally and nationally. I therefore hope that the transition to academy status for the pupils and the teaching staff of the school will continue to be smooth and largely uneventful!

Parent Governor

Would you like to get involved in the governance of the school as we move forward into a new landscape as an academy? We need to recruit a new **parent governor** to join the Governing Body for September. Karen Poust wishes to stand down this year (daughter Olivia in Year 9, with two older daughters who have now left the school) and we are looking to recruit a parent to be one of the first team of governors of the Academy Trust. Governors of the academy are also trustees and, in effect, directors of the limited company, with limited liability. Parents with a background and experience in legal, financial or business matters would be particularly welcome – ideally with skills in company law or accountancy that they would be willing to bring to the governing body. Further details are included at the end of this newsletter, and I look forward to receiving nominations in due course.

Parking near school

Finally, I would like to ask all parents who drive their daughters to school to **park with consideration** for both other road users and our neighbours – ideally by parking a little distance from the school. The immediately vicinity is becoming increasingly congested and dangerous as parents try to get as close to the school as possible. We continue to receive complaints from our neighbours, especially when their driveways are either used to manoeuvre or blocked off by cars. Please remember not to drive into the school grounds at these busy times. If your daughter is in the sixth form and drives to school, please remind her that she must park legally and with consideration for local residents – and be mindful of driveways, giving residents enough space to exit their drives safely, as well as fire hydrants and the like. Thank you in anticipation of your cooperation in this matter.

Kate Barnett

Design Technology Department

Over the past seven months, we have been participating in the Engineering Education Scheme during sixth form curriculum enrichment on a Wednesday afternoon. Through the scheme, teams of four students from different schools across the country are paired with companies, and assigned an engineer to assist with a project, working to solve real problems that the company faces. In our case, we were paired with National Grid, with their Engineer, David Clutterbuck, and we were solving a problem which they were facing with regard to wind causing their overhead power lines to deteriorate faster, potentially altering their maintenance schedule. We had to prove or disprove whether the wind turbulence caused by wind turbines caused power lines to resonate more than they would do usually, which could cause them to age faster.

In December, we all attended a residential and spent three days at the Engineering Department at Birmingham University, using their expertise and equipment to help us gain insight into our project. While we were at Birmingham University, we decided that the best way to prove or disprove the hypothesis would be to use a laser distance meter, which would measure the movement of the cable, and compare the movement in normal, ambient conditions to the movement in wind turbulence. We then returned to school to collate our findings, and wrote up our findings in a report, which was then submitted to National Grid. We presented our project, and the technology behind it, to the school during a whole school assembly in March. On 3rd May, we went to a conference centre in Solihull, in order to present our project to a group of Engineers from National Grid, the teams from the other schools and members of the public.



Overall, we found the experience insightful and helped us decide what we're going to study at university after Year 13. It provided a valuable experience, which allowed us to learn more about the world of engineering and how engineers work to solve problems.

Rosie Read (Year 12)

Pupils Set to Play Star Role in Engineering the Future



From 11th to 14th April, Isobel Coupe and Caprice Roberts, students at Stratford-upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls, enjoyed a unique hands-on learning experience at Harper Adams University College in Shropshire. Sponsored by BAE Systems and organised by the educational charity, The Smallpeice Trust, the four-day residential course provided forty-one pupils with the opportunity to learn about engineering through a series of presentations and practical hands-on workshops.

Working in teams, they spent two days of the course tackling real life challenges on projects designed and facilitated by young role model engineers from various divisions of BAE Systems. The projects included designing and building armoured vehicles, army transport helicopters, military aircraft carriers, mine sweeper robots and model submarines.

As well as working on the design, build and test elements of these projects, they developed life skills such as teamwork, communication, problem solving, time management, finance and presentation. The social programme included a film night, sports activities and a formal dinner.

Claire Fisher, Marketing Officer for The Smallpeice Trust commented, "We are delighted that after the pilot last year, BAE Systems has made the commitment to sponsor this course for a further three years. It is through practical engineering activities like this that young people will be encouraged to enter the profession and be equipped to meet the social, environmental and economic challenges of the future."

Richard Hamer, Education Director & Head of Early Career Programmes added, "Ensuring the Company has the right supply and quality of skilled people it will need in the future is vitally important. That is why it is so important that BAE Systems should work now with schools and young people. Our partnership with The Smallpeice Trust enables us to reach out successfully to young people and inspire them about careers in engineering. It is fantastic that through our partnership, and the creative energy and technical skills of our

graduates and apprentices involved, we can provide young people with the practical hands on experience of engineering that will help inspire them to choose engineering as a career.”

The BAE Systems Engineering Experience course is run by The Smallpeice Trust as part of an ongoing programme of subsidised residential courses to help young people aged 13 to 18 learn and develop skills in engineering, design, technology and manufacturing. Through running residential courses and STEM enrichment days, The Trust has reached out to 17,677 students across the UK in the past year.

For further information about The Smallpeice Trust, visit www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk, or call 01926 333200.

A Palmer

Drama Department

Moderation:

This term, Year 12 and 13 have had their practical exams. Congratulations to all students involved with these. Their work was of an excellent standard, of which they can be very proud.



Year 13 Devised Performance: *Snow White*





Year 12 Scripted Performance: *Be My Baby* by Amanda Whittington

Indian Dance Ceremony:

We were given the opportunity to take part in an exciting cultural event organised by Shakespeare's Birthplace Trust to honour the 150th anniversary of the birth of the Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore. This involved students participating in a workshop run by a Bengali dance expert, Kaberi, in preparation for their involvement in a tree planting ceremony on Saturday 7th May at Anne Hathaway's cottage where they performed some of the dance learnt as part of the ceremony.



"On Friday 6th May, I went to a workshop in PAS after school. The workshop was based on traditional Indian Dance, which, when learnt, would be performed for a tree planting ceremony. Learning the routine was a great experience as I have never done it before. On Saturday was the ceremony and our performance. We arrived at Anne Hathaway's Cottage at 12 noon, where we were given beautiful saris to wear. We also made flower garlands to decorate ourselves and the tree. Overall it was a great experience to learn more about Indian Dance and culture."

Thara Harrison and Alice Carter (Year 9)



Shakespeare Birthday Parade:

Once again, we were invited to take part in the Annual Shakespeare Birthday Parade held on Saturday 30th April. Many volunteers took part from all different year groups. Girls had the honour of accompanying dignitaries and VIP guests led by the Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers to the Holy Trinity Church where we laid flowers on Shakespeare's grave. Particular mention must go to Lily Lesser (8CD), Niamh Mackey (7JHC) and Maya Rogers, Tess Eastgate, Imogen Horton, Debbi Tomkinson, Ciara Willson and



Rachel Cameron (all 7SLB) who, despite it being a rather blustery morning, performed Shakespeare's Sonnets in the High Street continuously for an hour!

"It is not every day that one finds oneself standing in the middle of the road in the crowded centre of Stratford of Stratford-upon-Avon, reciting poetry. Nevertheless, that is precisely where a group of eight students, and two banner-wielding teachers were on Saturday 30th April.

It certainly was an interesting and quite challenging experience; the combination of trying to be heard over the general clamour in the busy town, attempting to stop the school's banner blowing away, and endeavouring to grab people's attention, who were clearly just trying to scuttle off to Starbucks. However, these only added to the fun, and there was a lovely sense of unity throughout as were all there to celebrate the birthday of our local literary genius.

How wonderful it was to speak out Shakespeare's beautiful language in the very centre of his town. I think we all had a great time on Saturday, and if you have never been to the parade, we would whole-heartedly recommend it."

Lily Lesser (Year 8)



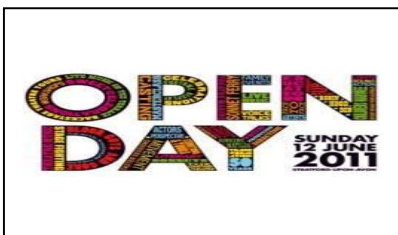
Sonnets challenge for The Guinness Book of Records

Key Stage Three have been involved in a challenge set by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust which involves the most people participating in a shared reading over a set period of time. If we have been successful in breaking the record, we will be listed in the Guinness Book of Records 2012. Our shared reading was the 'double double' sonnet taken from *Macbeth* (Act Four, Scene One) and I am assured that soon, our attempts will be able to be viewed here:

www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/for-schools/showcase-shakespeare/playing-shakespeare/hubble-bubble.html or here:

www.youtube.com/user/ShakespearesBirthday

RSC Open Day



For anyone considering a career in the theatre; acting; designing; directing; managing – this day is for you! Find out more at:

www.rsc.org.uk/whats-on/events/open-day

See behind the scenes of the Royal Shakespeare Company

Open Day is a unique opportunity for everyone to see behind the scenes of the Royal Shakespeare Company. The day offers a packed programme for all ages including fun workshops, theatre skills demos, one off performances and onstage talks and debates. Come along, take part and delve into the world of theatre making or simply relax by the river and enjoy the music.



Theatrelink Project – *The Tempest*

Year 10 Drama students are busy rehearsing for their performance at The Swan Theatre, Stratford. They are working as an ensemble to produce a response to *The Tempest*. Parents are invited to watch, but tickets are limited to one per student performing. To get your ticket, please ring the RSC Box Office and quote 'Theatrelink'. Our performance is on Monday 20th June, starting at 3.00pm and finishing no later than 4:30pm

S Barrett



PE Department

The summer weather has, mostly, been very kind to us and allowed the normal summer fixtures to take place; that means it's bound to rain on Sports Day! All our girls thoroughly enjoy summer sports – understandably – and this was clearly represented in our spring questionnaire which was sent out to all girls in Years 7-12 and all of their parents. Whilst only 15% of parents responded to the questionnaire, their answers were very gratefully received. Briefly the key results were that the vast majority of responses felt that sport was an important part of the school's extra curricular programme and being seen to be competitive in sport was also important. Hockey, netball, tennis and rounders came out as the most popular sports with a keen interest in swimming and gymnastics. Swimming is a sport and a life skill which I personally believe that we should be teaching in KS3 as a statutory government requirement; however this is not the case and despite speaking directly with Stratford Leisure Centre they will not let us use the pool during public swimming time (even though there are rarely more than two people in the pool!) or during school pool time (primary schools have priority). However I will look into the use of a pool again. Gymnastics is a very popular lunchtime club, but unfortunately there are just no competitions in Warwickshire or Coventry for schools, but, when there are, we will be ready! Other sports that girls and parents have asked for are outdoor educational sports (eg climbing) – which are covered in Activities Week and on ELDs as we just can't provide such sports on a regular basis either in or out of curriculum time – and Martial Arts, which is a new area that we shall look into next year.

The two most pressing points for action were: a) facilities, with the main thoughts lying with a fitness suite for older girls (Year 10-13), and b) better communication about matches and fixtures for all girls but especially with older girls. The facilities issue is always top of the school's agenda and we will look into what can be done to improve our facilities but also into better access to facilities around Stratford for the older girls, especially during sixth form enrichment afternoons. As for communications, teams lists are always up on the boards a minimum of seven days before a match; however getting the girls, especially the older ones to come and look and take details down is the problem! However, as the school moves into a more technological phase with electronic registration and better use by girls and form teachers of the Moodle system, the PE department hopes to link all our fixtures and team lists through this joint communication system; as well as still placing notices the old fashioned way on the PE notice board! Hopefully this will mean there are no excuses for not knowing what is on when. We are also for next year going to publish a provisional fixture list through the Moodle to help with forward planning for our busiest girls and parents, however I do need to stress that fixtures are very dynamic in their nature and thus change regularly, due to

other schools changing commitments as well as our own commitments changing – and of course the British favourite, the weather!

Sporting success beyond the school gates

Huge congratulations must go to the following girls who have been selected for county, regional or national training squads. Many girls do sports that are outside what we can offer in school or at a higher standard, and we are always very pleased to hear how they have got on, so please email me your daughter's exceptional sporting performances and some pictures of her in action for our school records.

- Amanda Murray in Year 11 is an outstanding clay-pigeon shooter and this month has competed in The British National Open School Challenge for under 21s where she finished 2nd overall; and the Breedon Schools Challenge, again where she finished 2nd. Amanda through her shooting has also given interviews on TV and for the shooting magazine.
- Caitlin McCarthy in Year 10 performed very well in recent competitions and trials and has now been selected to join the GB Archery development Squad.
- Holly Thompson in Year 10 is competing with the U18 Warwickshire Table Tennis team and has been selected to play for U16 Warwickshire Hockey team.
- Clemmie Holden in Year 10 has performed exceptionally well in hockey all season both for school, Warwickshire and her club, Stratford HC. All of her hard work has now seen her accepted into the regional Midland Hockey Squad. This is an outstanding achievement, as most of the girls in these squads play for Repton or Oundle Schools! Clemmie was also awarded most improved player for Stratford HC: very well done, next stop England team!
- The following girls all played for Warwickshire hockey teams in their end of season tournaments which were held this month: Georgia Holden and Grace Jeynes in Year 9, Lucy Walker and Imogen North in Year 8.
- Tilly James in Year 9, who has been in the GBR sailing quad for over a year, has now been selected to compete for GB in July in an international regatta. This selection has come about after an excellent start to the sailing season where she won the U15 Inland National Championships and was placed the first female (including adults) in another National Competition. We wish Tilly well and look forward to hearing how she gets on.
- Finally congratulations must go to Rosie Williamson in Year 7. Rosie has been a regular sailor since primary school and in May took part in the Optimist Inland National Championships, where she finished 10th; this result could now qualify her for the National Squads later in the year.

Rounders

All teams have had the opportunity to train since March, and this pre-season training has helped with some wins in early matches in most age groups. The U14 team and U15 teams have also had their South Warwickshire tournament. The U14 team face some strong opposition and finished 7th overall. The U15 team breezed through the group stages beating all the opposition with ease, 8 rounders to 2 or 3. In the final they met Kineton, where nerves overtook ability and in a nail-biting final they lost 3-4 rounders. Well played, girls: there is still next year to seek your revenge!

The highlight of the rounders season so far has to be the U13 team who in their first match of the season beat Stratford High School 33 rounders to 1½ with Issy Taylor and Akira Madams both scoring over 10 rounders each. Well done girls: there are more matches on the way.



Cricket

The U13 team in their first ever match under glorious sunny skies won the coin toss and chose to field first. Lucy Strange, the captain, bowled the first over and took the first wicket of the season; and she ended with two wickets over all. Phoebe Winter and Sophie Owen also took two wickets each, with Lucy Walker taking the final wicket. Harris School after 16 overs were 65 for 7: an excellent fielding by the whole team. Issy Taylor and Akira Madams opened the batting, and after a few nervous dropped catches soon got in the swing with fours and sixes all over the park. Issy eventually was out for 28. In came Immy North who scored only fours or sixes and she finished 22 not out and Akira 8 not out. We reached their score with ease and finished 72 for 1 off 7½ overs. Fantastic batting girls, maybe we should be calling up the IPL or English Cricket Manager! The girls are now through to the quarter finals of the Warwickshire schools cup after half term.



Lucy Strange bowling

Athletics

This term saw the first round of the English School team cup. The Year 9 & 10 team were slightly depleted with many girls studying for public examinations, however there were notable performances from Tai Shuttleworth and Sarah Murphy both in the High Jump and Hurdles, Tas Pope in the 1500m and relay and Emily Stone in the long jump and 100m; overall the team finished 4th on the day and 7th in the whole of Warwickshire. The Year 7 & 8 team performed very well as a team with everyone picking up good points. Wins were seen in 200m by Zoe Evans, Javelin by Lucy Strange, and 1500m by Sophie Wouters. The team finished 1st on the day and 4th out of the whole of Warwickshire, and we now wait to see if this team have qualified for the Midland Finals. A special mention must go to Sophie Owen, who whilst high jumping had an incident with the high jump upright, after a quick patch up from Miss G and Mrs Casement bravely continued, to come 2nd in the competition: excellent spirit Sophie!



Lucy Strange with the winning throw



Emily Stone competing in the Long Jump



Sophie Owen High Jumping

The following girls have been selected to represent South Warwickshire at the forthcoming Warwickshire Championships: Imogen North, Clemmie Holden, Tas Pope, Eleanor Johnston, Jenny Carus, Georgie Evans and Jess Saunders.

Rowing

The National Indoor Rowing League Results from last term are as follows:

Year 7 Four A 8th out of 279 teams
Year 7 Four B 19th out of 279 teams
Year 7 Eight 3rd out of 21 teams
Year 8 Four 5th out of 344 teams
Year 9 Four A 11th out of 333 teams
Year 9 Four B 19th out of 333 teams
Year 9 Eight 4th out of 30 teams
Year 10 Four 2nd out of 216 teams
Year 11 Four 3rd out of 113 teams
Year 11 Eight 1st out of 12 teams

Very well done to all the teams, but especially the Year 7 teams who have just taken up the sport and are showing a lot of promise.

The main outdoor regatta took place this term, that is the Ball Cup held at Dorney Lake, soon to be the Olympic Venue for rowing. As usual Andy Roe and his team have prepared the girls very well for this event and over all our girls performed very well and did Shottery proud on what was a very windy day. Megan Cove, Georgia Holden, Alice Carter, Julia Grogan, Anna Gorick, Ellie Wells, Yasmin Choudry and Issy Coupe all from Year 9 all rowed very well and narrowly missed out on finals. Imogen North and Pheobe Winter in their first ever Ball Cup rowed very well in very strong winds to finish fourth in their heat. The following girls gained medals:



Megan and Issy

- Gabi Jones was awarded a Bronze Medal in the single sculls
- Maddy Jones and Lizzy Collins a silver medal in the double sculls.
- Clemmie Holden and Tas Pope in the girls 2nd boat coxed fours (with two girls for SHS) were awarded a silver medal.
- The girls 1st boat crew of Frances Mills-Baker, Gabi Jones, Maddy Jones and Jenny Carus contested the final race of the day and successfully retained the Ball Cup Trophy again ahead of Cheltenham Ladies College. Very well done all girls and a huge thank you to Andy Roe and all the parents who came and supported.



Maddy and Lizzy



Gabi Jones at the start

Tennis

This year we have seen many very keen tennis players across all year groups training on Monday and Thursday evening. League matches and friendlies have started but with most matches being after half term, the key tournament so far has been the 100th Midland Girls' Schools Tournament held in Birmingham. This is officially an U18 event, but with most of our older girls on exam leave, we fielded a Year 8 pair in the 1st couple tournament and a Year 10 couple in the 2^{nds} tournament. Both teams performed extremely well on a very wet Saturday morning. Akira Madams and Issy Taylor from Year 8 finished 2nd in their group and Holly Thompson and Becky Casement won their group with both pairs going into the semi finals, where after some close points both teams lost to the eventually winners. However it was an excellent day of tennis which was watched by former Wimbledon ladies champion Ann Jones. Well done girls!



Our girls with the 'birthday' cake!

Bowling

This term girls in Year 10 have taken a 'mature' approach to their PE curriculum by taking part in free trial sessions of crown green bowling very kindly laid on by Welford Bowling Club. The girls have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and the head coach there said several girls showed real promise.



Sports day: Wednesday 6th July with parents invited to Track events which start at 1.30pm.

Sports Awards evening: Wednesday 20th July in the school hall from 7.00pm.

Provisional After School Clubs for the Autumn Term

This is the provisional outline for clubs next year. It will be confirmed in July; but hopefully this will help those parents who need to arrange child care, piano lessons etc in advance

- Monday 4.15-5.15pm Year 8 A Squad and All Year 9 Hockey players
 5.15-6.00pm Year 10-13 (warm-up starts at 5pm on the track!)
 There can be matches for any hockey team on this night.
 TBC mini tennis for Year 7
- Tuesday 4.15-5.30pm Year 8 A Year 9, Year 10 Netball teams.
 There can be matches for any sport on this night.
- Wednesday TBC Social Badminton Club Year 8 and above
 TBC Year 7 Rowing Club
 Senior Fixtures (often start times can be in the afternoon)
 There can be matches for any sport on this night.
- Thursday 4.15-5.30pm Year 8 Social Netball and all Year 7 Netball.
 There can be matches for any sport on this night.
- Friday 4.15-5.30pm Year 8 Social hockey and all Year 7 Hockey.
 There can be matches for any hockey team on this night but mostly just Year 8 and 7.

Finally, can I say a big thank you again to parents and girls for their constant support and commitment to sport here at Shottery. Please have a rest over half term, good luck to all girls in their examinations and then there will be five weeks of sporting activities left for this year.

M Griffiths

Science College

Biology and Chemistry Olympiads

This year both the Biology and Chemistry departments trialled Olympiads with girls from the sixth form. The Biology department entered three girls from Year 13 and the Chemistry department entered two girls from Year 12. Both Olympiads involved a two hour exam, Biology using the more advanced technology of the internet while Chemistry kept to old technology and paper. They were tested on a wide range of topics that they had not necessarily seen previously during the course of their studies. Congratulations go to Victoria Ewing, who received a Bronze award for the Chemistry, and Caitlin Gibbs and Maite Perez-de-Albeniz who were awarded Highly Commended in Biology.



R Bartlett

Young Enterprise (Economics/Business Studies)

Congratulations to the fourteen members of 'One', our Young Enterprise company! Having won Best Presentation, Best Trade Stand and Overall Best Company at the Stratford Area competition, they went on to the Coventry and Warwickshire round which was held at Coventry University on 12th May, where again they won Best Presentation and Best Company! So now it's off to the West Midlands stage on 24th June at Birmingham University. Fortunately, all AS exams will be completed by then so the students will be able to 'give it their all', and who knows, if by any chance they win that, it will be the National Final at the Savoy Hotel in London during July! We will have to wait and see...

Meanwhile, the print run of their Cookbook *Much Ado About Cooking* is organised and the Launch at the local Stratford branch of Waterstones is being organised. The Cookbook will retail at £6.99 and copies will be available when the students return from study leave. All of the recipes relate to ten of Shakespeare's famous plays and the students have written their own synopses of the plays at the start of each chapter. We just hope that they are right! Pictures of the dishes and drawings from pupils in Years 8 and 9 have been included as well, so it will certainly be a book worth buying!

We wish our entrepreneurs all the very best for the 24th June. Fingers crossed!

H Ellis

Charity News

Cakes andsilence...!!

It is a pleasure to report on our recent charity activities, and to say thank you to parents and friends for their help, as well as to congratulate the girls involved. We do appreciate that baking dozens of cup cakes or gearing up for hours of silence does need some support at home!

	£
• Staff coffee morning for the Eve Appeal	36.50
• British Lung Foundation (Non-uniform day in April and sales of homemade cards and chocolates by Mrs Bradshaw)	757.00
• Motor Neurone Disease Association (Sponsored silence by 7VJS)	670.44
• World Vision Appeal for Japan (Year 12 Talent Show)	152.00
• Original Volunteers project in Peru (Eloise Barker and Sheniz Shefik)	150.00
• Comic Relief (five students from 7SLB Sponsored silence)	55.83
• The Prince's Trust (10AL Cake Sale)	71.00
• The Children's Trust (Donut and Cake Sale 7 JHC)	71.56

Well done everyone!

VJ Smith

Alumnae Society

To all Shottery mothers: are you or your mothers/ sisters/ cousins/ older daughters former students of Shottery? If so, read on

A warm welcome to a Midsummer Social Gathering

The Shottery Alumnae Society is very keen to build up a social network link between former Shottery students of all age groups and year groups, particularly those of you who live in the Stratford area, West Midlands, and on the borders of neighbouring counties of Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Worcestershire etc.

For this purpose, we have booked a dining room in **Le Bistrot Pierre, Swans Nest**, by the bridge, on **Saturday 25th June at 7.30pm**. You can choose your own menu and number of courses in advance and arrange to sit by whom you want, by encouraging your friends to come too, who have a link with Shottery.

Do come along, as it will be a lovely occasion for all and we hope some former Alumnae staff will attend, too.

It will be a good opportunity for those of you who are current mothers of girls at Shottery to meet up, as well as recent leavers returning from universities, with the large numbers of former students who live and work in the area. Our problem is reaching all these Alumnae because of change of surnames, addresses etc. So this is an opportunity to help build up the extended Shottery 'family', just at the time when exciting new developments are about to emerge at the school: Academy status, new buildings to accommodate part of the Humanities department and vertical tutoring systems.

Please contact brownhill.d@we-learn.com if you would like to receive further details, menus, booking forms etc. or go to alumnae4002@we-learn.com. If you would like to come, please return forms plus cheques by Tuesday 14th June.

The **AGM** is also on **Saturday 25th June at Shottery Manor at 1.15pm** preceded by a social gathering and tea or coffee and biscuits from 12 noon. The Headteacher will outline the main new developments for the school, to help it move forward in the needs of the 21st Century and to help us sustain the school's excellent academic reputation. In the afternoon, **the Friends of the School and the Alumnae Committee** warmly recommend to you **Music and Art in the Manor**: a concert in the school grounds, together with various stalls and an Awards ceremony for the Art and Design Technology departments, the whole event concluded by delicious refreshments in the form of a strawberry tea, cakes and Pimms or tea or soft drinks.

D.M. Brownhill
Chair of Shottery Alumnae Society

To the Rescue!



On Friday 6th May as the girls departed to go home on the evening buses a swarm of bees decided to pounce! Undeterred, Don Sidaway, one of our Exam Invigilators, unveiled another one of his talents and promptly produced a box and a bee suit from the rear of this car and calmly knocked the swarm off the branch and sealed the box for collection later in the evening. Well done Mr Sidaway: thanks for keeping us safe, and we will call upon you for honey later in the year!

A Palmer



Music and Arts at the Manor

on
Saturday 25th June 2011 between 2pm and 5pm

To take place on the Centre Lawn
(or if the weather is unkind in the School Hall)



Let's be optimistic - get out those sun hats and garden chairs and bring the whole family for a relaxing afternoon enjoying the artistic and musical talents of Shottery students!

This year our Summer Celebration will include:

- ★ **Our ever popular summer Music Concert**
- ★ **An exhibition of student work in Art and Design**
- ★ **Presentation of Art and Design Awards mid-afternoon**

As usual, FoS will be showering you with the usual summer delights:

Pimms and strawberries
Afternoon teas and cakes,
Ice creams.....and a chocolate fountain.

if you have not been able to attend a FoS event this year, with so many examples of student talent on show, this is the one to support!

Admission is free!



WANT TO HELP? Here's how...

- Bring along a raffle prize or leave one at Student Services before the event (marked 'For FOS raffle')
- Bring a Cake on the day
- Volunteer to help out for a period on one of the FOS stalls.

If you can help, please email frost800@btinternet.com.

School term and holiday dates for 2010-2011

Summer Term 2011	Wednesday 27th April - Friday 22nd July
First day of term	Wednesday 27th April
May Bank Holiday	Monday 2nd May
Half term	30th May-3rd June
Last day of term	Friday 22nd July

School term and holiday dates for 2011-2012

Autumn Term 2011	Monday 5th September - Friday 16th December
Staff Training Day	Monday 5th September
Induction Day for Year 7 and Year 12	Tuesday 6th September
First day of term for all	Wednesday 7th September
Staff Training Day	Thursday 6th October
Half term	24th-28th October
Last day of term	Thursday 15th December
Staff Training Day	Friday 16th December
Spring Term 2012	3rd January - 30th March
Staff Training Day	Tuesday 3rd January (tbc)
First day of term	Wednesday 4th January (tbc)
Staff Training Day	Wednesday 25th January (tbc)
Half term	13th-17th February
Last day of term	Friday 30th March
Summer Term 2012	16th April - 20th July
First day of term	Monday 16th April
May Bank Holiday	Monday 7th May
Half term	4th-8th June
Last day of term	Friday 20th July



Stratford-upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls

A Specialist College for Language and Science

Shottery Manor
Stratford-upon-Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 9HA

Headteacher
Ms K.J. Barnett M.A.

Tel (01789) 293759
Fax (01789) 264572
admin4002@we-learn.com
www.stratfordgrammar.co.uk

May 2011

Dear Parents

Election of Parent Governor

There is currently a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the Governing Body of the school and I am writing to invite nominations for this position. School Governors play a key role in the leadership of the school and work together with staff to make sure that the school provides a supportive and challenging environment for its pupils. The position will attract those people who would like to make a real contribution to the life and work of the school, and who are prepared and able to devote time to playing a part in its future. As we are preparing to convert to academy status, parents with a background and experience in legal, financial or business matters would be particularly welcome – ideally with skills in company law or accountancy that they would be willing to bring to the governing body.

The full Governing Body generally meets half-termly, and most governors also serve on one of three standing committees which also meet half-termly or termly:

- o Curriculum and Personnel
- o Resources: Finance, Premises and Health & Safety
- o Marketing and Development Advisory Group

The usual term of office is four years from the date of appointment.

All parents and carers of registered pupils are eligible to become Parent Governors. Every parent, whether or not they live with the pupil, is entitled to be nominated as a Parent Governor and to vote in a Parent Governor election. Someone who has parental responsibility or day-to-day care of a pupil is also eligible to serve and to vote.

Any parent wishing to stand for election must be proposed and seconded by two other parents of a pupil or pupils on the roll of the school. Neither the proposer nor the seconder may be the spouse or partner of the nominee or related to them in any way. If you would like to put your name forward, please contact Mrs Hobbs in the School Office for a nomination form. The closing date and time for the receipt of nominations is Friday 17th June, at 9.00 am.

If there is only one nomination, there will be no need for an election; the person nominated will simply be declared to be a Parent Governor. If more than one nomination is received, a secret ballot will be held. If this is necessary, the candidates will be asked to provide a short statement about themselves for circulation to all parents with the ballot papers; further information about the arrangements for voting will be provided at a later date.

Parents wishing to find out more about the role of Parent Governors can do so by contacting one of the Parent Governors listed overleaf - or by contacting me.

Yours sincerely

Kate Barnett
Headteacher



Parent Governors 2011

Mr Neil Dick	home 01789 269271 mobile 07711 059110 neil_dick@uk.ibm.com	Millie (Year 9)
Mr Nick Drabble	home 01789 298586 mobile 07802 202469 nick_drabble@uk.ibm.com	Ellie (Year 12) Jenny (at university)
Mr Simon Ewing	home 01789 297863 mobile 07910 226554 simonewing@talktalk.net	Vicky (Year 12)
Mr Steven Gee	home 01608 661018 janeelizabethgee@btinternet.com	Chloe (Year 9)
Mrs Anna Harvey	home 01527 852082 mobile 07825 246499 anna@netherstead.com	Alice (Year 8)

Chair of Governors

Mr Jeff Downes	work 08445442895 mobile 07850 782902 jdownes@cw-midlands.com
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**NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ELECTION OF A PARENT GOVERNOR
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

I wish to stand for election as a Parent Governor of the above school.

I confirm that I am a parent/carer of a registered pupil at the above school.

Please print your name: _____

Address: _____

Signed: _____ *Date:* _____

Please give brief details of your professional background and experience: _____

Please note that in order to stand for election your daughter(s) MUST be on the roll of the school. Your nomination requires a **Proposer** and a **Secunder**, who are also parents/carers of registered pupils at this school. They must not, however, be your spouse, partner or members of your immediate family.

Proposer : *Please print your name:* _____

Address: _____

Signed: _____ *Date:* _____

Secunder : *Please print your name:* _____

Address: _____

Signed: _____ *Date:* _____

Please return this form to the school office by: 9.00am on Friday 17th June 2011

2011 Internal Exam Timetable

Y7	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Latin 1hr	History 1hr 15m	RE 1hr	Science 1hr	Normal Lessons (Week B)
2	Maths Paper 1 – 1hr	French Paper 1 – 30m Paper 2 – 30m	Maths Paper 2 – 1hr	DT/FT 1hr	
3	Music – 1hr 15m 7JHC Data Lab 7VJS Biology Lab 7SLB Physics Lab	Geography 1hr	English 1hr 15m	Preparation for French trip with FM/VJS	

Y8	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	French Paper 1 – 30m Paper 2 – 30m	History 1hr	DT 45m	Maths Paper 2 1hr	Normal Lessons (Week B)
2	English 1hr 15m	RE 1hr	Science 1hr	Geography 1hr	
3	Maths Paper 1 1hr	Music – 1hr 15m 8CD – Data Lab 8CP – Biology Lab 8CS – Physics Lab	Latin 1hr	P.E.	

Y9	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	English 1hr	Geography 1hr	Biology 45m Geology 45m	History 1hr	Normal Lessons (Week B)
2	RE 1hr	Maths Paper 1 1hr	Music – 1hr 15m 9MG – Data Lab 9SR – Biology Lab 9TB – Physics Lab	German Data Lab Listening – 30m Spanish Paper 2 – 30m	
3	Chemistry 45m Physics 45m	German Paper 1 – 50m Spanish Paper 1 – 35m	French Paper 1 - 45m Paper 2 – 45m	Maths Paper 2 1hr	

Y10	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Geography Paper 1 1hr 45m	Latin Paper 1 – 1hr Paper 2 – 30m Japanese Paper 1 – 1hr	English Controlled assessment 1hr 30m HALL	Geography Paper 2 1hr 30m	Normal Lessons (Week B)
2	French Paper 1 – 45m Paper 2 – 45m	Physics 45m Biology 45m	Spanish Controlled assessment 1hr HALL Japanese Paper 2 – 1hr	Spanish Physics Lab Listening - 45m German Biology Lab Listening – 50m + Chemistry 45m	
3	History 1hr 45m	Drama 1hr 30m FT 1hr 15m	Spanish Reading - 1hr German Reading - 50m Music Data Lab 1hr	Maths 1hr 15m	

