



Welcome to
our academic year round up...



We hope you have a great Summer!

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BOUNCEATHON

On Tuesday 20 July 2021, we hosted a whole school 55 minute bounceathon fundraiser in order to raise money for lots of local community charities through the work undertaken by the Grantham Rotary Swimathon.



The fundraiser was in support of the Rotary Clubs #SWIM55 event where they have asked lots of schools and businesses to support them by running their own alternative fundraiser.



The total raised from this event was £4272.29. This includes cash the pupils brought in which they have raised as well as money that came through the online fundraiser.



The bounceathon was something the pupils could get involved with that was different and active as well as bringing everyone back together after a difficult year.

It was a fun-packed day consisting of a variety of activities:

- 10 Gun Laser Tag inflatable dome
- 3 Part Assault Course
- Under Pressure
- Sumo Suits
- 2 x Adult Bouncy Castles
- 2 x Combi Slide Castles
- 3 x Children's Bouncy Castles (just for the younger pupils)
- 4 x Giant Games to include lawn darts, giant connect 4, giant jenga and a football target game



BRAND NEW DANCE GCSE

Sir William Robertson Academy are very excited to announce that Dance is the newest addition to the list of subjects available to study at GCSE.

The AQA Course is 60% practical and 40% written. This practical approach allows for the students to physically engage with the course content and also allows the opportunity for their creativity to really shine.



Sir William Robertson Academy are hoping to run trips to London to see professional works by The Royal Ballet and also to visit dance venue Sadler's Wells in the near future.

Carla Fletcher, Year 9 student added, "Our Dance lessons are great because they are mostly practical and it is like we're a big family already! The lessons are fun and very interactive. I can't wait to go on the London trips!!"

Miss Scorrer (Teacher of Dance and Drama) has been teaching the group some core skills through her choreography. The atmosphere has been upbeat and it's safe to say that the students look like they've worked hard in the lessons when they leave the Dance Studio.

Isabelle Thorpe, Year 9, said, "I like being able to take part in Dance, we've all become good friends with each other after only a couple of weeks. The lessons are really exciting and positive."

The school is very excited to see this cohort journey through their GCSE and to welcome more students to the course in the next few years.



BLETCHLEY PARK

At the beginning of the year, Year 11 pupils who have been taking part in our 'Higher Attainment Project' were rewarded with a trip to Bletchley Park.



They had all undertaken 5 hour-long sessions studying cryptography and making their own Enigma machines with Pringles tubes. Bletchley was going to allow them to experience the real thing.

'I really enjoyed this trip, it was very interesting and has helped me understand what I have been learning about'.

They were given a tour around the park and learned a lot from Graham, our informative guide. They also participated in a workshop incorporating a close-up experience with an Enigma machine, worked out the total number of possible settings the Enigma machine offers (103,325,660,891,587,134,000,000) and had some self-guided time to explore the different exhibits and displays.



CHICAGO

Students at SWRA had a busy end to 2021 when rehearsing for the production 'Chicago'. More than 40 pupils from years 7 to 13 were cast in their version of the West End and Broadway hit musical, directed by Head of Drama Miss Bryony Burrough.



"... a story of greed, corruption, violence, exploitation, adultery, and treachery ... all those things we hold near and dear to our hearts." So begins Chicago, the 1975 American musical. Set in the Jazz Age, it is based on a play by reporter Maurine Dallas Watkins about two 1924 murder cases and explores themes of manipulation, flawed criminal justice and the concept of the celebrity criminal.



Featuring a fabulous score, the show included well-known show-stoppers such as 'All That Jazz' and 'Razzle Dazzle', as well as iconic choreography. Y13 students Saffron Simpson and Evie Andrews played Velma and Roxie respectively, with Daryl Smith taking the role of Billy Flynn. Charlie Moreland played Amos, Molly Raspin played Mama Morton and James Statham took the roles of Fred Casely and Martin Harrison (Master of Ceremonies). Other lead roles were Sergeant Fogarty, played by Abigail Rowlands and Mary Sunshine, played by Chloe Francis.



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DELIVERY

One of the high-points in our school year is when we welcome OAP residents from our local community in to school to share Christmas celebrations with our pupils and staff. This is a tradition we have tried to maintain since our opening in 1961, and having been forced to cancel the 2020 event as a consequence of COVID 19 we were hoping we might be in a position to hold our celebrations once again in 2021. Unfortunately, as the pandemic was still with us, this wasn't possible.



Not wanting our local community to miss out, Mrs Brewin (Head of Y11) decided to organise a collection of Christmas presents to be delivered to residents of Welbourn and Leadenham. Our students responded with amazing generosity, donating lots of lovely festive gifts, which were all sorted and wrapped by Mrs Jex in the Head of Year Office.

On Friday 3rd December our Student Council Representatives, accompanied by Mrs Brewin and Mrs Mower (aka Santa and Elf), headed out in the school minibus to deliver the gifts. They had a lovely morning visiting the residents of Welbourn Hall and Welbourn Manor care homes, as well as over 70 other local pensioners, and really enjoyed chatting with everyone and sharing memories and photographs of previous Christmas parties held at school.

SPORTS SUCCESSES

Year 9 Boys Rugby—Wednesday 6th October 2021

A brilliant performance from the year 9 boys rugby team. They played against 4 other schools from Newark and Grantham at Newark Rugby Club. The boys won 1, drew 2 and lost 1.

Their behaviour was fantastic and their skills are improving very quickly. Once again coaches from the club and teachers from other schools commented on their excellent attitude and team work.



Netball Tournament— Tuesday 2nd November 2021

Year 7, 8 and 9 girls travelled to St Georges for their netball tournament against several local schools.

For all of the year groups this was their first ever tournament for SWRA due to Covid.

The teams faced stiff competition from surrounding schools, and nerves were high to start with, but these soon settled and all those involved worked incredibly hard in every game. They came together in their teams with excellent communication, encourage-

ment and resilience to make our school proud.

Table Tennis Tournament - Thursday 31st March 2022

We hosted a Mixed Year (7-9) Table Tennis Tournament against Walton Academy! A great evening was had by all, especially in a sport where we haven't had many fixtures previously.

Students from SWRA topped each of the 3 groupings and were overall winners on the night with standout performances from Connor Robinson (Y7) and Sam Rushton (Y9).





U13 Girls Football Tournament— Tuesday 11th January 2022

SWRA kicked this year off by representing Lincoln City in the EFL Area Finals.

They participated in 10 league games, of which they won 8, and reached the semi-finals against Shrewsbury Town.

This was an amazing achievement for the girls.

Lincolnshire Cross Country Championships—Saturday 15th January 2022

A group of nine students qualified to race in the Lincolnshire County Cross Country at Burghley House in Stamford.

It was a fantastic day of racing across a challenging course, made even more difficult by thick fog! Our students showed incredible resilience and made us very proud.

A special mention to Elizabeth Wynn-Jones, who finished 11th in the Inter Girls category, which saw her qualify for the Anglian Schools' Championships on 1st February.



England Boxing National Junior Championships - Saturday 26th March 2022

Alfie Briggs-Price represented Newark Amateur Boxing Club in the semi-finals of the England Boxing National Junior Championships!

His hard work, dedication and commitment has paid off and his performance has earned him a chance to represent England in the Tri Nations!





Year 7 Girls Futsal - Wednesday 26th January

The Year 7 girls took part in the Grantham and District Futsal Championship. The school took two teams who competed in separate leagues.

The A team won 3 out of 4 games, only losing narrowly 1 v 0 to Priory Ruskin, and came 2nd place overall! The B team drew 2 and lost 2 and gained 5th place overall in the league.

Year 10 Boys Football—Tuesday 1st February 2022

A fantastic battling performance saw year 10 make their way through to the semi-final against a very strong Gainsborough team.

The strong wind made playing conditions tough and all were pleased to only be one down at half time, knowing that we would have the advantage of the wind in the second half.

A goal 10 minutes in saw us draw level and for the rest of the game there was only one team that looked likely to win.

Unfortunately as the final whistle blew we had been unable to score the winning goal. Penalties ensued!!

Both teams composed themselves and we found the score to be 4-4 going into the last round of penalties.....at this point up stepped Jayden Ridyard to make a fantastic save and give us the advantage....all that was need was for Kaden Scott to convert his penalty and we were through....in all honesty it wasn't the best penalty ever taken but the horrendous scuff bamboozled the goal keeper who promptly dived over it! The ball nestled in the back of the net and victory was gained.



Girls Rugby Festival - Wednesday 13th October 2021

40 students from Y7-10 attended a girls rugby festival at Kesteven Rugby Club to get a taste of rugby and develop their skills from the Kesteven coaches. It was a great day of high quality coaching and offered an opportunity to play some competitive matches. Thank you for organising and inviting us!



House Netball Matches—Monday 11th October 2021

This morning we had our Year 9 and Year 10 Girls Netball House matches.

Simla were victorious in Year 9!



Dragoon won the Year 10 competition!

The results of the Year 11 House Netball were:

- 1st Lancer
- 2nd Simla
- 3rd Chitral
- 4th Dragoon

The U16 Girls Football team came out 2 v 1 winners against Spalding Academy the 1/4 finals of the Lincolnshire County

Goals from Lisa Bladen and Beth -Jones helped give Will Rob the victory!

Abbie Hart and Ruby Donohoe were superb in the heart of defence, and there was a player of the match performance from Abbie Cousin in the middle of the park.

Year 10 DRET Invitational Netball Tournament - Friday 18th February 2022

The Year 10 netball team took part in the DRET Invitational Netball Tournament at the University of Nottingham!

At the final whistle it was 4th place for the team, which is incredibly well deserved against some very strong opposition!

Congratulations to the whole team, with particular mentions to captains Maddie Stevens and Ava Caswell, who used their knowledge, leadership and encouragement to support the rest of the team, and player of the tournament Ruby Smith, for outstanding effort in every match!



U16 Girls Football - Thursday 10th February 2022



ACHIEVEMENTS

Miss Wilson hosted a special assembly in order to celebrate the success of students in their GCSE examinations, with special awards handed out by Mr Guest.

Exceptional Performance at GCSE

Thomas achieved the top grade 9 in Mathematics Additional Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Computer Science, as well as grade 8 in Geography and German, grade 6 in English Language and English Literature and Distinction* in the NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Business and Enterprise.



Outstanding Performance at GCSE



Freya achieved grade 9 in Mathematics, History and Performing Arts; grade 8 in Additional Mathematics and Chemistry; grade 7 in English Language, English Literature, Biology and Physics; grade 6 in German and A* in the CACHE Level 2 Technical Award in Child Development and Care.

Carly achieved grade 8 in English Language, English Literature, History, Art & Design and PE, and grade 7 in Combined Science, Geography and Mathematics.

Danny achieved grade 8 in Biology, Chemistry and Physics; grade 7 in Geography, History, English Literature and Mathematics.

The Bonfield Trophy

Alex was awarded the Bonfield Trophy for achieving the cohort's highest score for GCSE Geography. The trophy was donated to the school by Aberystwyth University and named after former student Amy Bonfield, who studied geography there after becoming the first person in her family to go on to higher education.



Child of Courage Award

The Child of Courage Award is organised by the Rotary Club of Newark and Newark Castle!

We were asked to nominate a student who, in our opinion, most exemplified the courage required in the face of personal adversity and difficulty!

We nominated Micah Wilding for this award!

Micah was invited to the Cedric Ford Pavilion at Newark Showground for a special lunch and ceremony to celebrate receiving his award!



SUPER READERS



Hannah Watt 7B

This academic year, Hannah Watt and Eva Sumpter both received the title 'Super Readers' after reading 3 million words!

As a reward, they both received a certificate, a favourite book of theirs and some sweets.

Mrs Costello is very proud!



Eva Sumpter 7B

LONDON MEDIA TRIP

The Year 12 and 13 A-Level Media Studies students enjoyed a trip to the BFI in London to help them with their studies.

They participated in a workshop delivered by one of the senior examiners from the exam board. It focused on the Industry and Audiences part of the A-Level course with some interesting case studies of Fortnite and Black Panther. Our students participated really well in the discussions and offered some interesting perspectives on the issues raised.



There was time at the end of the day for a walking tour of London taking in many sights such as Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament.



DREADLOCK ALIEN

On Friday 8th July our favourite itinerant urban spoken-word performance poet, Dreadlock Alien, came to work with Year 7 for a day. He immediately wowed the crowds with his uncanny ability to spontaneously include pupil's names in a rap. Pupils worked together in groups to plan, write, edit and perform their own original poems based upon themes such as 'ASPIRE', 'A Letter to my Future Self', 'What Makes Me Angry' and 'Thank You', among others. The session ended by pitching the young performers against each other in a POETRY SLAM showdown.



MFL teacher Mr Reed said it was "brilliant" and that Dreadlock Alien "had every single kid in that hall captivated", whereas Design & Technology teacher Mrs Davie said, "Never mind the kids, I had an awesome time!"

The Year 7 pupils produced some fantastic work, performed fearlessly and really enjoyed the day immersed in poetry.

From Mr Fox Goddard



Keep Us Informed

Please make sure we have up to date contact information in the event we need to speak to you during the school day.

If your child is absent from school or has a medical appointment, please call us and leave a message by 9am on the same day. Messages can be left by:

- ◇ Dialling 01400 272422
- ◇ Selecting option 3 to record pupil absence/sickness
- ◇ Selecting option 5 to report anything else or leave a message for a named member of staff.

Alternatively, you can email
attendance@swracademy.org

WANTED

OLD P.E. KIT

Have you outgrown any
of your PE Kit?

DO YOU HAVE ANY FOOTBALL
BOOTS OR TRAINERS THAT NO
LONGER FIT YOU AND ARE NOT
WORN OUT?

**PLEASE DONATE THEM TO
THE PE DEPARTMENT!!!**



MEDICINE

If your child requires any medication throughout the academic year, we can store this in the school office and give it out as and when your child requires it.

For this to happen, it is important that you complete and return a medical form beforehand, which are kept in the school reception.

If you require any more information about this please call us on 01400 272422.

CONTACT US...

If you have any queries you can give us a call on 01400 272422

Or

You can email us at enquiries@swracademy.org

Lost Property

If your child has lost any of their personal belongings (PE kit, school bag, water bottle etc) these will be stored in the bag racks until collected.

If your child leaves an item on their bus:

Blackcat - the property should still be on the bus when they get back on it in the evening.

Stagecoach - the property will go back to the bus station and will need to be collected from there by parent/carer.

TERM DATES

Tuesday 6th September 2022- Start of Term 1 (Year 7)

Wednesday 7th September 2022- Start of Term 1 (All other Years)

Please visit our website to find the full list of Term dates for 2022/23

SWIMARATHON

SWRA took three teams of leaders to help support the Grantham Rotary club in this year's Swimarathon on Friday 4th, Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th February. Staff, parents, pupils and family members also swam on the Friday night from 8:30-9:30pm and our pupils swam on Saturday 12:30-1:30pm. The leaders on each day also filled empty lanes that cropped up and so over the three days we filled an additional 5 lanes!



Our leaders represented the school incredibly well, were amazing role models and got so much out of helping at such a worthy community fundraiser – the biggest in Lincolnshire!!

Our pupils swam their hearts out and everyone did so well!

Lancer Lobsters swam 82 lengths
 Simla Sharks swam 110 lengths
 Simla Surfers and Dragoon Dolphins swam 111 lengths
 Chitral Crocs swam 114 lengths
 Lancer Lifesavers swam 127 lengths
 Dragoon Divers swam 129 lengths

And in first place swimming 159 lengths were Chitral Coastguards (although in this lane were three Simla house members as Simla had lots of pupils representing this year)!





The staff/parent/ pupil and family night saw lane 8 win with 179 lengths swam by Mr Carrington and Mr Foskett (ex-parents) with Joe and Archie Carrington (ex-pupils) and a family friend Andy Cressey. They have participated for three years running and raised about £150 between them.

Collectively with the hard work of pupils, staff and parents, we raised approximately **£3002.05** in total.

This is a huge amount of money which will be so beneficial for the local charities the Grantham Rotary Club work with.

We would like to thank all our leaders, swimmers, parents and staff for taking part in this wonderful event.



From Mrs Mower, Miss Graves and the Grantham Rotary Club



PRIMARY MATHS CHALLENGE



Sir William Robertson Academy was delighted to welcome Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from eleven local schools to their Primary Maths Challenge on Wednesday 30th March. The competition was organised by maths teachers Mrs Thompson-Hayes and Mr Boden, and included a group round, a cross number round, a speed round, a logic round and a relay round.

Each school was represented by a team of four pupils, all of whom did amazingly well in what turned out to be a close-fought contest.

Congratulations go to Chuter Ede Primary School from Newark who were declared overall winners, closely followed by runners-up The Sir Donald Bailey Academy. Third place was awarded to Holy Trinity Catholic Voluntary Academy, also from Newark. Primary schools from Bassingham, Brant Broughton, Caythorpe, Coddington, Winthorpe, Witham St Hughs and Kirkby La Thorpe were also represented.



All participants were presented with certificates and goody bags, and the top three teams each received a trophy and medals.

Mrs Thompson-Hayes commented, "Having been unable to host this event for the past two years we were delighted to be able to welcome local schools to the Primary Maths Challenge once again. All the teams did a great job and were a real credit to their schools."

DUKE OF EDINBURGH



On Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd May we saw 25 Year 9 students travel to Rutland Water to complete their qualifying expedition for their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award!

Students have been attending weekly training sessions and a practice day to prepare for this, and have worked in their teams to plan their routes. The students walked for 6 hours on Saturday, camped at Wing Hall campsite, then walked another 6 hours on Sunday, being totally self-sufficient throughout.



Teams demonstrated incredible teamwork, compassion, determination, independence, problem solving, resilience and enthusiasm, leading to every student passing their Expedition Section and being one step closer to achieving their Bronze Award!



COLOUR RUN

Students and staff at Sir William Robertson Academy took part in their very own Race4Life, organised by Sixth Form BTEC Sport students in the form of a colour run, to raise money for Cancer Research UK. The day-long event allowed every student and member of staff the chance to tackle an obstacle course whilst being showered with water and lots of coloured paint powder. Obstacles included a giant slip and slide, which was kindly donated by MKM Building Suppliers in Grantham, crawl nets, plunge pools and foam filled tunnels.



The Sixth Form BTEC Sport students planned, promoted and delivered the event as part of their coursework unit, Sports Event Organisation, which goes towards their BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma in Sport. Having taken part in a smaller version of a colour run back in 2018, the students were keen to organise a whole-school event that would bring everyone together after the pandemic, spread some joy and support a very deserving cause.

Participants were tasked with wearing pink to support Cancer Research, or fancy dress, with prizes awarded for Best Dressed Base Group! Outfits included pyjamas, shower caps, tutus, morph suits and even an inflatable horse! Students and staff were also encouraged to raise some sponsorship money, which currently stands at an incredible total of £8662.33. Thank you to everyone who donated—your donations will make a real difference.





PE teacher, Miss Graves, said “The Sixth Form students can still remember how much fun they had in their own colour run when they were younger, and were keen to replicate this for others. After having the past two years disrupted with the pandemic, they wanted to organise something that everyone could get involved with, have some fun and remember in years to come. The colour run was a fantastic idea, the event ran so smoothly and it was great to see everyone happy and join together to raise money for such a deserving cause. Cancer affects so many of us, and so a Race4Life seemed the perfect event to run. The Sixth Form students should be really proud of themselves, as should everyone who took part or donated.”







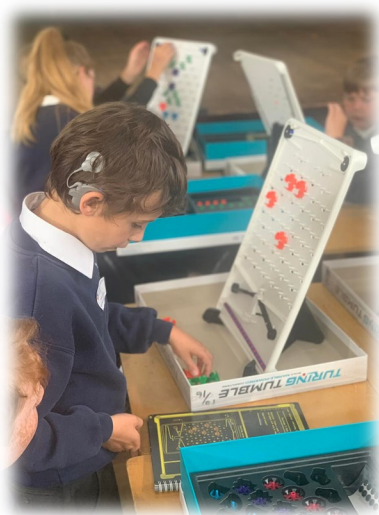
STEM DAY

On Tuesday 5th July we held our very first Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Event.

80 students from 9 different primary and secondary schools took part in a series of practical activities throughout the day, led by the RAF and SWRA staff and students. These included programming a mobile Lego spike prime robot, designing and assembling balloon dragsters, programming Sphero robots, making and flying paper planes and tackling the 'Turing tumble'.

A great day was had by all, and we are looking forward to holding this event again next year!

From Mr James



World book day



On Thursday 3rd March, staff and pupils at Sir William Robertson Academy celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as characters from their favourite books. Prizes were awarded to the best-dressed students and a variety of book-related activities and competitions took place throughout the day. Mrs Bridges, Lead Practitioner of English, organised a Guess Who? quiz, inviting students to name the members of staff hiding behind their favourite books. Other activities taking place in the library included Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?, Literary Clue and Where's Wally?

With so many amazing costumes to choose from it was difficult to choose the winners, but a special 'well done' went to our best-dressed students – Carla Fletcher, Macey -Rae Powell and Joshua Davis – who each received a £5 Amazon voucher for their efforts. Winner of the Literary Clue game was Libby Smith, and Amy Pearson successfully identified the mystery guests from their place settings to win 'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner' (from a whopping 111 entries)! Both girls also received a £5 Amazon gift voucher. A special mention, too, for the wonderful 'Alice in Wonderland' outfits sported by our catering team, who always love an opportunity to dress up!



Students not dressing up were able to participate in a non-uniform day by donating to 'Read for Good', which is a registered charity that aims to improve the outcomes for all children in the UK by encouraging and enabling them to develop a love of reading, and provides a regular supply of books along with storyteller visits to all of the UK's main children's hospitals. Students also raised money for 'Read for Good' by participating in a sponsored 'Readathon' – aiming to read as much as possible between 28th February and 7th March.

YEAR 11 PROM



On Friday 24th June, we celebrated the Year 11 Prom at Newark Show-ground Cedric Ford Pavillion— the first in a long time due to COVID restrictions.

It was a fun-filled evening...the dancefloor was never empty, the magician never stopped and the photobooth was a big hit!

In the words of Mrs Brewin, it was "The Best Prom Ever"!!

YEAR 13 PROM



On Friday 15th July, the Year 13 Prom took place at the White Hart Hotel in Lincoln.

A great night was had by all and it was a lovely way to end their schooling years here at SWRA!

We look forward to the Year 13's return to school for the final time on 18th August to collect their A-Level Results!



SPORTS DAY



On Tuesday 12th July, we celebrated our annual sports day after 3 years of being unable to host this fantastic event.

There were a variety of track and field events for the students to take part in. These included long jump, high jump, shot put, welly wanging and several short and long distance running races.

It was fantastic to see the children come together again for an event like this, and for them to all present their competitive sides.

This years sports day winners were **Lancer**, closely followed by **Dragoon** in second place, **Simla** in third place and **Chitral** in fourth place.

A big thank you to the PE department who worked extremely hard to organise and run the day—we couldn't have done it without them!







Sir William Robertson Academy

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