

# The Fountain

Sawston Village College's Termly Magazine

  
Sawston  
Village College

Summer 2023

Issue 72



Above: Bugs in oil pastel by Year 8 pupils (Left to right by Hazel, Lucas and Maya)

## In this issue:

Introducing the new Senate

Page 5

Sawson Village College Chess Club

Page 11

Staff in the Spotlight: Mr Reed

Page 15

Sawston Youth Drama: Matilda Jr

Pages 22-23

Year 9 Trip to Thorpe Park

Page 25

Lower School Concert

Page 33



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Unlocking Potential | Creating Opportunities | Achieving Excellence

# The Year 11 Prom

It was wonderful to welcome our Year 11 pupils back to the College for their Prom evening, and we are delighted to share some of the photographs of the occasion with you below.



# Welcome



Each June we collapse our curriculum for Activities Week. Year 10s are on work experience and Year 11s are deep into their exams. We are proud to be able to offer two weeks of work experience for all pupils, enriching their understanding of the world of work and how to interact respectfully with adults. In this edition, we introduce the outstanding new young leaders, drawn from Year 10, who will be able to use this experience to help develop the College and ensure pupils' voices are heard. Congratulations to them on this their first edition of the school magazine.

Our Year 10s being out of school allows us to do things a little differently, enabling staff to accompany residentials, day trips and run the various events that are so colourfully brought to life in The Fountain. Throughout the year the College is abuzz with activity, fulfilling our aim to unlock potential and create opportunities for pupils to find their passion, forge their identity and develop their skills. We are so fortunate to have staff who will volunteer their time to make this happen and we will continue to do all that we can to protect this space in which creativity, character and curiosity can be nurtured.

*'The pursuit of truth and beauty is a sphere of activity in which we are permitted to remain children all our lives.'* Albert Einstein

**Mr Russell, Principal**

## Introducing our new Senate Ambassador and Pupil Fountain Editor

Hi everyone! My name is Phoebe and I am the new Senate Ambassador for 2023-24. After seeing the previous magazines put together by Anna, Will and Lucy, I realise I have some pretty big shoes to fill. This is the first of three Fountain magazines that I will be helping put together over the coming year. For my first edition I have tried to gather everything that has been going on at Sawston Village College in this last term.

This term we range from Year 7 Food Tech milestone creations to Year 10s climbing Jacob's Ladder in Hastings. Pupils across the school have produced lots of work and entertainment over the last few weeks. The Music department had an Outdoor Gig which involved both pupils and staff. Samba did a carnival opening at the new Marleigh Primary School, and we've had pupils showcase their incredible talents at the Rewards Evenings. We have reports from almost all the different subject areas across the school and we are very happy to be able to share these with you.

We said our farewells to the Year 11s at their prom, and to those members of staff who are leaving, we send our best wishes - they will be missed. We said goodbye to the old Senate and we say hello to the new, so please do read on to meet our new team.



**Phoebe**

## Meet the new Senate Heads and Deputies for 2023-24

Hello, we are Abbie and Aymeric and we have recently been appointed as the Heads of the Pupil Senate, supported by Deputies, Dante and Isobel.

**Abbie says:** 'I look to use this role to make positive change within the school community. My experience in communication with a host of different people - from young children to Mr Russell - means that I am able to influence decision makers in a beneficial way and lead a team cohesively and effectively.

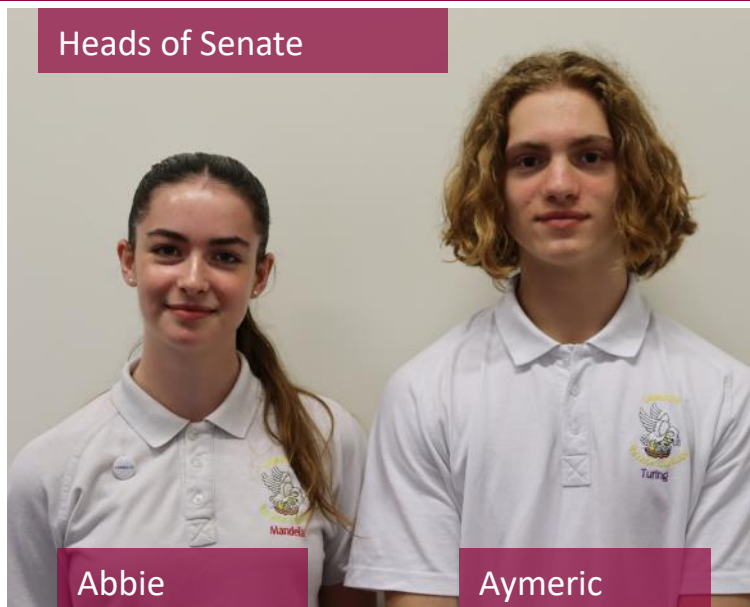
Hence, I'm excited to bring all the ideas that we, as a Senate, have to life. In particular, I am keen that we understand how to spread a message effectively, in a way that reaches the target audience. I would like to elaborate on these skills in relation to bullying, raising awareness of how and why bullying behaviour happens in the first place and what it looks like in this day and age.'

**Aymeric says:** 'We're taking over from Archie and Prachi, who made exceptional progress in engaging pupils in activities of some sort, something we hope to develop further. I look forward to making sure that every single pupil at the College has the opportunity to express their opinions and to have those opinions taken seriously, something the new Senate is determined to achieve. I personally believe that to have a truly great sense of community within an institution such as a school it is vital to have pupil involvement in as many aspects of school life as possible: something Sawston is already successful at and possibly why there is such a strong sense of togetherness across the pupil body.'

We all look forward to the next year and to all of the opportunities, and inevitably challenges, that will arise and we hope to bring truly positive change to this wonderful school.

**Abbie Wightman and Aymeric Tsyarov-Bodounov, Heads of Senate, and Isobel Whitton and Dante Izuogu, Deputy Heads**

### Heads of Senate



### Deputy Heads of Senate



# Update from the Senate Forums

We would like to introduce the new pupil Senate for 2023/24. These pupils were appointed following a rigorous application and interview process.

<b>Heads of Senate</b>	Abbie Wightman	Aymeric Tsyganov-Bodounov	
<b>Deputy Heads of Senate</b>	Isobel Whitton	Dante Izuogu	
<b>Senate Ambassador</b>	Phoebe Silk		
<b>International Co-Chairs</b>	Shihua Zhao	Charlotte Robinson	Sophie Nuin-Jones
<b>Equality and diversity Co-Chairs</b>	Monica Matharu	Harmony Vuyelele-Titchmarsh	Rachel Biers
<b>Eco/Animal Co-Chairs</b>	Enna Kobayashi-Booth	Faye Greendale	Anna Gardner
<b>Wellbeing Co-Chairs</b>	Saffi Russ-Czerwik	Phoebe Herbert	Autumn Kendon
<b>Ethos Co-Chairs</b>	Matilda Trigg	Joe Thomas	Atticus Whitehouse
<b>Arts Co-Chairs</b>	Oscar Horton	Yoav Pilowsky Bankirer	Sunny Brown
<b>Sports Captains</b>	Lily-May Short	Emma Quinnell	Jack Vaughan

Introducing the new  
Senate

inter forum

As the International Forum we have many plans for the upcoming year. Firstly, we have already helped with the planning for a new mural in the Languages block, which will be painted in September. As well as this, we have helped with minor aspects of the recent Taiwanese exchange, such as organising the final leaving party and adding slides to the bulletin about Taiwanese culture. However, this exchange

was mainly organised by the former Co-chairs of the International Forum. We hope to implement many projects next year, for example, having video calls with students in different countries, such as the Spanish pupils who visited last year and the Taiwanese pupils who visited recently. This is to help us maintain our international links. Furthermore we also hope to be able to organise an exchange with German pupils with the help of one of our Co-chairs who used to live in Germany. We are aware this is a fairly ambitious project, however, since ambition is one of our CARE values we are confident we will be able to manage this task. We look forward to the coming term.

Sophie, Shihua and Charlotte,  
Co-Chairs of the International Forum



## equality & diversity forum

We are Rachel, Monica and Harmony, the Co-chairs for the Equality and Diversity Forum.

As a Forum we would like to work to enhance and embrace pupils' knowledge and understanding of diversity and culture in Sawston. This year, a way we are hoping to do this is by introducing a culture day, or week, where we can share foods and showcase traditional clothing to introduce Sawston to different cultures in person, as a more interactive way, rather than via the bulletin. If there are any suggestions as to what else we could do as a Forum, we would love to hear from you. We are open to everyone!

Rachel, Monica and Harmony,  
Co-Chairs of the Equality & Diversity Forum



## animal forum eco forum



Hi! We are Enna, Faye and Anna and we are super excited to be the Eco Forum Co-chairs for 2023-2024! Hopefully we'll be able to live up to the high standards set for us by previous Eco Forum leaders - we'd love to continue their work and do them proud!

One of our more long-term aims/ideas for this coming year is to try to connect with various schools internationally from different continents around the world, potentially from places which are more heavily affected by the climate crisis than we are, to discuss what we could collaborate on across the world to try to make a larger positive impact on our planet. (Of course, this is quite ambitious, but we think it would be a good goal to try and work towards creating more change outside of Sawston!) Additionally, we would also like to work on installing more bug hotels around the school to encourage some more wildlife, making for a more positive environment. We are also keen to continue with the previous projects that have been put in place, such as growing and developing the new school garden.

Enna, Faye and Anna,  
Co-Chairs of the Eco and Animal Forum

As a Forum that focuses on pupils' mental health in and outside of school, we are aiming to continue the safe and secure environment already embedded into the school through events which will boost the morale of pupils and encourage the confidence to speak up. In the upcoming year, a few things we would like to start up are an anonymous mental health box or email/form that all pupils can easily access. In addition to this, we would like to have more tips and advice easily viewable and available around the school to help with stress, anxiety and more. For example, we would like to have posters on display and have little weekly tips in the bulletin. Finally, we also want to collaborate with the Anti-bullying Ambassadors to try to find out more about how bullying can affect people mentally, and then work with the Ambassadors to try to create more awareness of this and, through different events, try to stop bullying.

Autumn, Saffi and Phoebe,  
Co-Chairs of the Wellbeing Forum

wellbeing forum



ethos forum

Hi, we are Joe, Atticus and Matilda and we are the new Co-chairs of the Ethos Forum. This year we plan on continuing with projects from last year, such as the shoebox donations at Christmas and supporting charities like Jimmy's Night Shelter. We also want to collaborate with many of the other forums this year in order to host events for fundraising and to carry on with collaborations from last year, such as the events with the Sports Forum for Comic Relief. We definitely want to get the teachers involved again as the Staff vs Students Netball game last year was a big success.

Joe, Atticus and Matilda,  
Co-Chairs of the Ethos Forum





Hello, our names are Yoav, Sunny and Oscar. This year in the Arts Forum we would like to encourage younger pupils to take up a wide variety of musical instruments and also push involvement in the College's many bands and musical groups, whilst also getting music out and about inside the College. We would also like to encourage pupils to express themselves through visual art. We would like to create opportunities for pupils to display their art work in 'open exhibitions' as a way for pupils to showcase their art from outside of school and be proud of what they have created. On top of this the Arts Forum really wants to focus on encouraging pupils' creativity. We would also like to try to create more engaging opportunities in Drama, such as pupil-chosen, or even pupil-directed, shows.

Yoav, Sunny and Oscar,  
Co-Chairs of the Arts Forum

Hello and welcome to the Sports Forum. This year the Sports Forum Co-chairs are Jack, Lily and Emma. As leaders of the Sports Forum we would like to provide a range of different sporting opportunities for all abilities within each year group, as we believe that the positive impact that sport has on everyone, physically and mentally, is very important and should be available to all. To do this, we will be introducing more clubs with a wider range of sports and we will encourage everyone to come along and enjoy learning a new sport or having fun with their friends. Alongside this, we would like to provide more competitive events for pupils, such as races, fixtures and friendly tournaments. Additionally, we plan to work together with the Ethos Forum to help raise money for charities by organising fun sports activities, such as Beat the Goalie, Staff vs Students Netball game and plenty more.

Jack, Lily and Emma,  
Co-Chairs of the Sports Forum



# Devised Performances

## Stranger than Fiction

On 12 May, we performed our GCSE devised performance called '*Stranger Than Fiction*'. A writer, desperate for an original ending to her debut novel, lends fate a hand. Having a live audience made the night exhilarating and an eye-opener as to what performing is really like. Although it was nerve-wracking, it was a good experience to help build our confidence and theatrical skills in front of an audience. Overall, we were very proud of our piece and felt that it really made an impact on viewers. A particular

moment that we felt we excelled at was the first split scene (two scenes that are intercut to establish continuity) as this was very well rehearsed and therefore ran smoothly and soundly on the night. This showed us that hard work and practice really pays off. After the performance, the whole group felt relieved and proud of what we had done. This night showed us that we were capable of delivering a live performance successfully. When watching other groups, it showed us the versatility of different kinds of actors and actresses.

**Ava Henry and Emma Quinnell, Year 10 GCSE actors**

The split scene in *Stranger than Fiction*



# Descriptive writing pieces in response to '*Julia and the Shark*' by Kiran Milwood Hargrave



I launched myself off my cosy bed, unable to sleep, even while voraciously hugging Aubergine. Peering out of my circular steel blue windows, which Mum had painted only last Fall, I saw a midnight-blue sky cuddling a silver moon and many bright stars. The stars' light beamed off the waves, reflecting diamond-white shards off the peaceful waters and into its murky depths; the surrounding rocks stood guard, sworn to protect the cylindrical red-and-white lighthouse from the ecstatic waves.

The waves. They made a desperate pounce at the air, gargantuan and miniscule, tripping each other up in a frenzied race to the shore; eventually smashing hard into cracked, deep brown rocks, drenched by sea foam, before slinking back to depths of the sea, shoving others out of the way to become part of the race again. Salty scents meandered through the ice-cold air, making me glad I was in my warm house, even if the lighthouse was ancient. I got back into bed, but suddenly. Sleep.

Took.

Its.

Grasp.

On.

Me...

My body lifted off the bed, feeling indestructible. I floated down onto the soft silky sand, and flew through the sea, feeling nothing as I waddled into the frosty waters. Swimming forward, I discovered that my feet were no longer touching the same sharp sand as before, and the cold hit me all at once. Slowly drowning, the moon reared back and laughed a hideously maniacal laugh; sharp, swift panic filled my head, which was becoming heavy, drifting into the black, deep depths, deeper than the Mariana Trench.

Oscar Corney, Year 7

## Sea at Dark

I brushed away the fog with my hand and craned my neck to peer out the window and stared into the midnight sky: darkness devoured and engulfed most objects, and the sea was tucked in a blanket of dark black. The moon shone brightly, its majestic snow white light evenly splattered onto the gentle moving waves. As I was getting ready for bed, I admired this moon, so bright, so magical, as if it was something straight from a fantasy movie; illuminating and dripping its luminescent light onto the rippling, dark blue liquid sky. And the moon was neighboured by grey misty clouds. I then listened to the silent and subtle soft wash of the sea, as it gently brushed against the candy-cane-striped walls of the lighthouse.

I tucked myself in and gazed at the sea for one last time, my head was heavy, my eyelids too. I started to close my eyes...

...my ears were suddenly shot with the abrupt metallic bang of the waves, crashing, cascading, clattering onto the steel walls of my bedroom. The once gentle and friendly waves swirled rapidly in unimaginable patterns, like a pit bull trying to set wild from its leash. It was uncontrollable. The moon started to fade, with every second its beam of light further disappeared. I frantically wriggled around, moving every part of my body as if the madness and cacophony of terror would stop, my breathing was unnatural, panic and worry started to flood my head - everything was gone, emptied, just a pitch black void of nothingness. The only sound now was my heart, thudding and pumping harder than ever.

Declan Lee, Year 7

## Sawston Village College Chess Club

On Sunday, 18 June 2023, 7 pupils from Sawston Village College took part in The Delancey Chess Challenge Megafinal, held at The Perse School, Hills Rd, Cambridge. The opportunity to test their skills against other students from around the area was good and gave them a chance to learn new strategies.

Their Comments:

‘There were 6 rounds, each a maximum of 40 mins, though some games were won in 2 mins. I learned that practising against players I don’t usually play would be useful for preparing for competitions.’ *Harriet*

‘Scholar’s mate only worked for me a third of the time. I need to practise other strategies.’ *Ruben*

‘There were lots of pupils from other schools, with a wide range of abilities. One had a rating of 1600.’  
*Walt*

‘Going into the last game I needed to win to be through to the Gigafinal. I was winning, but unfortunately made a mistake and my opponent got checkmate.’ *Arthur*

‘It was hard! I played some talented chess players but it was a great experience.’

*Thomas*

‘It was the first time I’d played in a competition. It was a great experience to help improve my chess skills.’ *Ray*

We held a Games Night on 21 June 2023, playing different games in the company of pupils and their families. Thank you to all who came and made the evening such an enjoyable time.

*Mrs Lloyd & Mrs Sheridan*



## Sawston Village College: a new beginning

*Year 6 pupils recently visited Sawston Village College as part of their induction process. After exploring how other characters dealt with starting out in a new school or new environment in their English lesson, here is a selection of their first person accounts of their day.*

As I set off from home, my stomach churned. Butterflies flitted about inside me, and my mouth turned dry. The wind was whistling through the trees as I cycled by. Finally, a sign that I wasn't alone. My classmates were waiting for me. Crystal drops of sweat dripped down my face.

As we started our cycle ride, one of my best friend's smiles made my day brighter and my worries disappear. I was not alone in this brand new experience. My friends were with me and I was not alone.

We arrived at the school gates. An SVC student showed us the bike racks. Thank goodness for her. All of the adults were towering above me, as tall as giraffes.

**By Samantha Brown**

I arrive at school: mouth crunching, teeth grinding. Like a squashed piece of paper, my fingers twine together like wire causing my knuckles to click. Crystal droplets of sweat cascade down my pale face, leaving patches of skin soaked in my body's rainwater.

I grasp at my t-shirt, twisting the fabric into a unique mosaic of patterns. My fingers flick through the endless files I have to give 'I hope I'm with my friends'.

"It's going to be alright", I repeat to myself, calming my body like I had a switch to do that.

I curl my fingers in my hair leaving loose curls of soft waves.

The car engine comes to a stop, and my door swings open as I put all my efforts into my positivity tank.

**By Poppy Melbourne**

I entered Sawston school grounds with Romily and Annabel. We soon saw some familiar faces and some Year 7s showed us

to where we had to sign in. It felt like hundreds of kids were standing before me. Nervousness grew in the pit of my stomach - what would happen? But excitement buzzed in my fingers. The crowd, which was loud and growing, were finding their places. The noise rippled through everyone like a shock wave. Ruby and I hugged as Mr Sutton's voice roared over us. We were told to go into the hall (all of the children); we entered silently. Our Head of Year gave a speech as excitement was rushing through our bodies. What would the day be like?

**By Sophie Christmas**



Sawston Village College looks forward to welcoming the new Year 7s in September.

I opened my front door and got into the car. I took a deep breath, breathing out the nerves. My dad started the engine, the car slowly moving out of my driveway. I stared out of the window, looking at the buildings around me.

"Don't be nervous," my dad exclaimed. "It'll be fine."

I looked back at him. He smiled. The engine roared like a tiger, heading towards a new beginning; fears hit me as we drove further into the distance.

"The school is big," I thought.

"A2. Follow my colleague for that group over there" said the check-in lady.

"Bye," my dad said as he walked off.

I looked ahead. "Don't be afraid," I thought. "Don't be nervous."

I remembered I was starting a new school.

"OK," I whispered to myself. "Here we go..."

**By Lukas Campbell**

After waiting for what felt like hours, we finally got to enter the lunch hall. As we stood around, Mike told me all about the food. However, he was drowned out by the noise of clanking plates and chatting pupils.

Eventually, we got our food so we sat down. I was ravenous; I started eating my bolognese straight away. My taste buds exploded with the taste of spice. It was so delicious.

Paintings were all over the hall but I was oblivious to everything except my lunch.

By Pepe Broecker

After ten minutes, me and my friends arrived at Sawston Village College. My palms were clammy, and my heart was racing. The primary school that I went to looked miniscule and puny in comparison to the world's first village college. My mood shifted and swung like a seesaw. Approaching the College, I felt like I was underwater: my head swam as I tried to put my frets aside. Many conversations swarmed my ears - making me feel tiny and insignificant.

By Joel Mapulanga

## Year 10 Art Trip

On 10 July I visited the Tate Modern Art Gallery along with many of the other pupils taking the GCSE Art course. Our aim was to collect first hand sources of inspiration for our coursework. The gallery had many displays of mixed media pieces, including works of: sculpture, oil paint, lino prints, textiles and much more, which was amazing to have the opportunity to see. One of my favourite artists was Yto Barrada, who focuses on using many types of media to create pieces which explore themes of power and resistance through natural and urban landscapes in her hometown in Morocco. The collage 'A Modest Proposal' was my favourite, with different histories and personal photographs from Morocco mixed together to produce an outcome which explores her own cultural identity, as well as Morocco's cultural landscape. Along with photographing and seeing the artwork, we also had the chance to sketch and produce small investigations of pieces we thought were interesting, which will also help strengthen our portfolios. Overall, I really enjoyed this visit, since the sources really helped strengthen my own ideas for my theme, and will help develop ideas for my final piece.

Faye Greendale, Year 10



## Year 10 residential trip to Hastings

Recently, Year 10 History pupils had the opportunity to go on a four-day residential visit, which involved travelling to famous landmarks. These were mainly associated with the succession crisis of 1066, which occurred when Edward the Confessor died, leaving no heir to the throne, which led to a political power struggle over who should be the next monarch.

We first visited the Tower of London: a status symbol created by William I in 1097 out of white brick in order to defend and proclaim his royal power. We were also fortunate enough to see the Crown Jewels and learn the rich history behind the Koh-i-Noor diamond: one of the largest cut diamonds in the world, which has become the subject of dispute over its ownership.



The next day, we visited both Pevensey beach and Pevensey Castle, which was where 8,000 Normans landed on 28 September 1066 on an empty beach and built a castle to create a strong defence and offer protection, and the ability to see both sea and land.

On the penultimate day, we travelled to Canterbury, where we had access to audio guides around the cathedral. We explored the architecture, such as the curvature of the arches suggesting the period of time when it was built. We also had the opportunity to go shopping in Canterbury, which was very enjoyable as we were able to travel to a shopping district nearby.

Afterwards, we went by coach to Hastings, where we enjoyed our last night playing laser tag, where we split into two teams and fought against each other. It

was so entertaining and exhilarating: even the teachers got involved! We then travelled to the arcade, where we all learned our lesson that the 2p coin pushers were deceitful.

On the final day, we travelled to Ely Cathedral where we observed the fascinating Gothic architecture and listened to tour guides speak about the aftermath of the Norman Invasion on Ely. We debated collectively whether Hereward's actions in the Harrying of the North were justifiable, and, once the tour finished, the rain ended and we were able to explore the city of Ely.

Overall, we very much enjoyed the experience, and are grateful to the History department who arranged this incredible residential for us.

Anna Sargeant, Year 10



## Staff in the Spotlight

### Mr Reed, History Teacher



**When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?**

My ambition when I was younger was to join the Royal Marines, Britain's commando forces. There were several factors that influenced this, including an enjoyment of outdoor pursuits and a desire to see the world, but I also recall watching a documentary about the Royal Marines and I was fascinated by the challenge. After studying at university, I joined the Royal Marines and ended up serving for twenty years in over forty countries. I suppose the question that comes from that is why I then decided to leave and train to be a teacher, which is covered below.

**What are your main hobbies or interests?**

I've always enjoyed outdoor activities such as: skiing, climbing, cycling and running. In addition, when I was at school I developed a love of reading and I now regard it as one of life's greatest pleasures.

**If you didn't have your current job, what would you like to be doing?**

This is the exact question I asked myself as I approached the end of my time in the Royal Marines. Serving in the military was a great life, but my family disliked me being away from home for months at a time so I decided to consider alternative career options. I selected teaching and have never regretted that choice. I consider myself exceptionally fortunate to have spent the whole of my working life in the careers I chose and there's nothing I can think of that I would rather be doing.

**What's the favourite part of your job?**

I like nearly all aspects of my job, but I particularly enjoy guiding around historical sites such as Berlin and Hastings. Teaching history in the classroom is great, but nothing beats the opportunity to visit the locations where historical events occurred.

**What's your most embarrassing moment?**

There have been a few embarrassing moments over the years, but one I recall is when my wife asked what I was planning for her birthday and I had to admit that I wasn't going to be around that weekend as I'd arranged an expedition for the Bronze DofE. I suspect you're not allowed to print what she said in reply...

Mr Reed as a Royal Marine



## Barcelona Report

The adventure began in the school playground at midnight as 70 excited Year 8s (and 7 even more excited teachers) boarded the coach for Gatwick Airport. Twelve hours later we were enjoying lunch in our hostel in Barcelona.

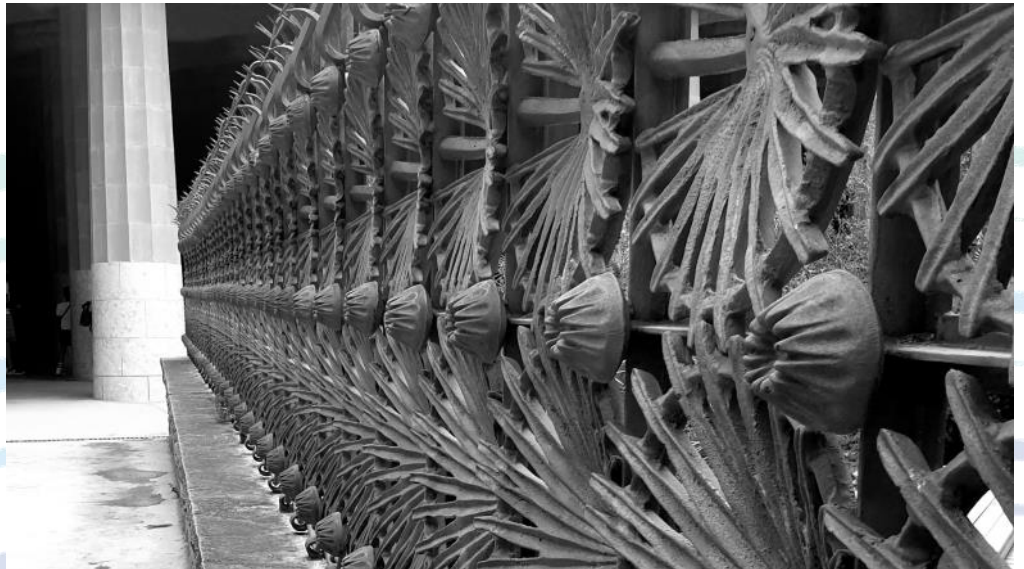
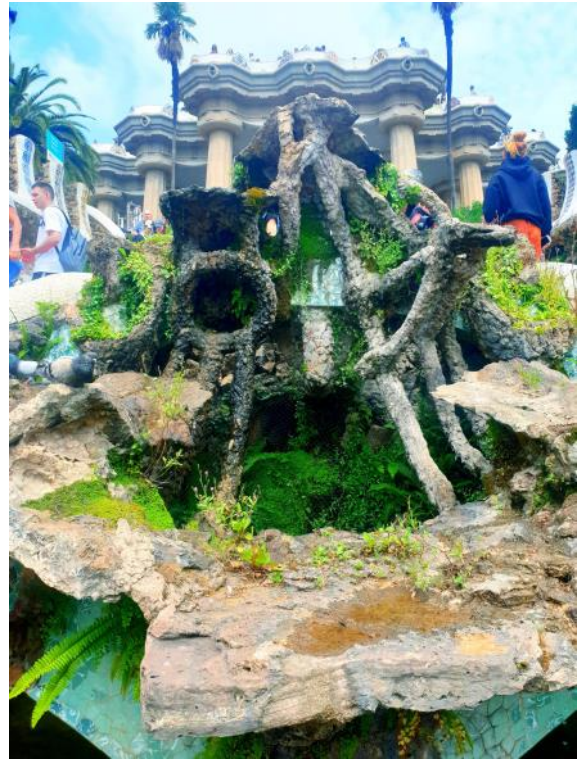
Over the next five days, we had a busy time exploring the city. We travelled by metro and walked for hours. Barcelona is famous for Gaudi's unique and colourful masterpieces. On Tuesday morning we explored Park Güell which was designed by Gaudi and has mosaics and sculptures. We could see the spires of his unfinished masterpiece, Sagrada Família, but we had to wait until Friday to go inside. Despite cranes and scaffolding outside, the inside was jaw-droppingly bold and beautiful, especially with sunlight streaming through the stained glass windows. The architecture includes plenty of symbolism (including a huge lizard), which our guide explained to us.

Mme Deleplanque organised a visit to a secondary school to meet up with students who had come to Sawston earlier in the year. We received a really warm welcome and we were given a tour of the school which gave us a chance to practise our Spanish. The school has a huge church in the grounds and the students and teachers seemed friendly and informal towards each other. Unlike at Sawston Village College they don't wear uniform.

One of the things I enjoyed the most on the trip was the Science Museum, CosmoCaixa, which has a Pixar exhibition and an inside forest. I spent some time at a table covered in ferrofluid. We could use dials to alter the magnetic field to make different shapes and patterns.

We all arrived home exhausted with lots of great memories. Thank you to all the staff who came with us. If you have a chance to go on the Barcelona trip, I think you'll have a fantastic time.

**Zara Williamson, Year 8**



## Book Club: Summer term update

On 21 June Book Club attended (virtually!) the YOTO Carnegie Awards which we have been shadowing since February. Ms Allen, our wonderful school librarian, hosted us in the Library space (we even had a special dispensation for snacks!). The awards were live-streamed and hosted by Lauren Child, author of so many award-winning titles herself, including the Ruby Redfort series and the now world-famous Charlie and Lola books. The library space filled with an air of suspense as each award was announced - we were all anxious to know if the shortlisted books that each of us had most enjoyed and voted for would be chosen for either the Shadowers' or Judges' Choice.



We were happy with the Shadowers' award for Writing which went to Ruta Sepetys' inventive and brilliantly paced book 'I Must Betray You'; however there were a few gasps of shock and/or disappointment when the Judges selected 'The Blue Book of Nebo' by Manon Steffan Ros as their overall winner - we had enjoyed this read, but it was not one of our own front-runners!

All of the longlisted titles have now been released into the Library's collection, available to everyone. Our must-read for KS4 would be 'The Eternal Return of Clara Hart' by Louise Finch, which is currently featured as the Library's Book Club Choice!

We agreed that we all enjoyed shadowing the awards so much that next year we will also shadow the Illustration longlist, in addition to those books longlisted for the Writing Prize.



**Good Book Tip!**

Book Club's recommended read for KS4 is 'The Eternal Return of Clara Hart' by Louise Finch.

## My Work Experience

From the 12 June I worked at MKA Ecology for my work experience, and it was an eye-opening experience into the day to day working lives of employees in this area of ecology. In addition, it was also an exciting opportunity to participate in surveys across East Anglia focusing on a wide variety of species, from great crested newts to bats and birds. Some of the surveys I particularly enjoyed included the bat activity survey, which involved walking around a site and seeing what bats we could see and hear. I learned a lot about what different species' echolocations look like as a sonogram, and how the echolocation used by the bats changes, depending on their environment.

As well as all the fieldwork, I also participated in lots of desk-based work, including analysing breeding bird survey data, and

reviewing bat emergence footage. Although this style of work is very different from the fieldwork, it was very useful to find out how the office environment works as this was completely new to me, and very informative.

This placement was also a good experience as I got to work with people who shared similar interests to me. One of the main features of this work that I had to get used to was the hours, as I wasn't used to regularly arriving at home in the early hours of the morning, or leaving before sunrise!

In conclusion, it was a very exciting and interesting placement that made me realise that this could be an area that I might be interested in working in in the future!

**Reuben Belcher Soame, Year 10**



# Taiwanese visitors come to Sawston

From 3 to 14 July Sawston Village College had a visit from 13 Taiwanese pupils. So many Sawston pupils wanted to participate in this visit that the pupils from Taiwan had three different buddies in their time with us. This visit was a huge success as many friends were made, and both sides learned lots about life in England and Taiwan. The buddying system meant that a Sawston pupil would have a pupil assigned to them who would accompany them during lessons and at break and lunch. This allowed the pupils from Taiwan to improve their English and Sawston pupils to learn about Taiwanese culture, as well as have time for both to get to know one another. On the last day of the visit, there was a small celebration in the Henry Morris Hall which gave us an opportunity to take photos with our buddies. There was singing and dancing from the Taiwanese and Sawston pupils. Certificates were handed out to both the Taiwanese pupils and the Sawston pupils, and one of our Heads of Senate gave a speech.

**Sophie Nuin Jones, Year 10**



Left: a group picture of the Taiwanese and Sawston pupils at the celebration event on the last day of the visit.



Sawston pupils with their Taiwanese visitors



## Interview with Avril, a visiting pupil from Taiwan

**Q: What are some surprising differences between English and Taiwanese schools?**

A: The buildings here are much bigger than in our school. You also have specific buildings and classrooms for different subjects, whereas we just stay in one classroom the entire day. English students are also very loud compared to Taiwanese ones, I think. We are not allowed to talk in lessons, and our punishments are more severe than yours, in all areas. Make up, using phones, chatting, even swearing can lead to a meeting with the principal.

**Q: What does your typical school day look like?**

A: Lessons start at 7:30 am. Each lesson normally begins with a graded test on the topic covered in the previous lesson. I find the lessons quite boring, as they're filled with theoretical work. Lunch is from 12.00-12.30 pm and eaten in our classroom, and after that we take a 30-minute nap to refuel ourselves a bit. I actually am tired right now, I literally could fall asleep on this desk. Anyway, school ends at 4.00 pm - but only if you're a good student. If not, you've got to stay 1 or 2 hours longer. We also have the option of studying by ourselves in school, in which case we can stay until 9.00 pm.

**Q: How does your grading system work?**

A: In every subject and test, full marks is a 100. A pass is a 60 though, which I think is so unfair - yours is a grade 4 out of 9! I'd be passing all my subjects with ease here!

**Q: And what happens if you don't pass?**

You're pretty much doomed. Zero marks and 50 marks is not seen as much of a different result. You failed? Then you failed. And you have to work on getting a better grade next time.

**Q: Are there things that you like here?**

A: I like the school food, it's better than ours. Even though the rice tastes quite weird, if I may say that. The teachers are also really nice, despite the fact that I can't understand what they're saying the majority of the time. And the students have all been fist bumping us - I guess we're just popular?



Left to right: Shihua, Avril and Charmy

**Q: And what are things you dislike?**

A: It's so cold here! It doesn't feel like summer the slightest bit, at the moment. I don't really understand how you are not cold, walking around in your polo-shirts. Taiwanese weather is currently around 35 degrees. Compare this to your 20-something degrees; and all the rain as well! To be fair, the weather is better now than it was a few days ago, so it's actually quite enjoyable at the moment.

**Q: Alright, these were all the questions we wanted to ask. Do you have anything else to say?**

A: I've had a good time so far. The lessons were just a bit boring because I couldn't understand very much, especially in Science. But I enjoyed Food Tech; cooking was such a fun experience. I made Yorkshire pudding for the first time in my life and have also seen other people making dishes that looked really appetising and somewhat aesthetic, if that makes sense. It was very interesting to see how traditional English dishes are made.

**Thank you so much for the interview, Avril. To all of our Taiwanese visitors, we wish you a great remaining time in Cambridge!**

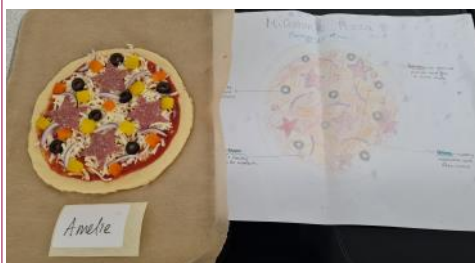
**Interviewee: Avril**

**Interviewers: Shihua Zhao, Charmy Chong, Year 10**

## Year 7 Food Tech Milestone: Eatwell Guide Pizza

For our Food Tech milestone we were tasked with making a scone based pizza. The design brief to make a pizza with the right proportions of the eatwell guide. I enjoyed making and designing the pizza because you have freedom to do whatever you want with the pizza as long as it fits the brief. For instance, I made a paint pallet pizza where different colours are different vegetables and meats. From this experience I have learnt different things, such as making a scone based pizza base which is the same recipe as a scone but with more kneading to make it less crumbly. Also, how long to cook certain things like pizza depending on the thickness of the base. This is a good skill to know if you need to make a pizza without yeast or time for the yeast to rise. I think my pizza looked like it was supposed to look as you could see the different colours and I cut a hole in the pizza so you could really see that it was a paint pallet. I tasted my pizza and it was quite nice as I was not used to scone based pizzas. Overall I enjoyed making this pizza.

**Elizabeth Abell**



I enjoyed making my milestone pizza as it was a fun practical lesson. Inspired by geometry, I created different shapes of toppings for my pizza. I cut some

salami into stars, pepper into squares and my olives looked like circles. I was really happy with the result of my cooking. It was very tasty!

**Amelie Mack**

It's called an Eatwell guide pizza because we had to try to include all sections of the Eatwell guide in the ingredients and base. I enjoyed eating it the most because I think the scone base was really nice, and all the different flavours. This made me want to make more food and create more things.

**Isla**

A few lessons ago, we began planning our pizza shapes and what the toppings would be. My pizza was flower shape with toppings including pepperoni, cheese, tomato passata and pineapple. The lesson after that one, we made our pizzas. The edge of the crust was neat.

**Evie Green**

I thoroughly enjoyed making my Eatwell guide pizza the most because I greatly loved the scone base and my design. It is an Eatwell pizza because it has all the qualities of the Eatwell guide. My parents found it eye-catching and so did I. My favourite part was putting on the toppings because you could perfect your design.

**Year 7 pupil**



I really enjoyed the pizza making, and it was really tasty. I think the colour was perfect golden-brown as well.

**Declan**





## PGL Dalguise Year 9 Watersports Trip 2023

During Activities Week 100+ Year 9 pupils undertook a 6-day 'Adrenaline Adventure' at Dalguise PGL centre; a fantastic forested site overlooking the River Tay, in the heart of Perthshire's 'Big Tree Country'. Pupils had the opportunity to experience a range of activities, including Paddleboarding, Axe Throwing, Canyoning, White Water Rafting and many High Rope activities. Pupils also got to experience some local culture, visiting the beautiful city of Edinburgh. The Year 9 pupils took all of the activities in their stride, showing great character and resilience throughout.





## Matilda Jr

Well done to all the Sawston pupils who are in Sawston Youth Drama Juniors and were part of the wonderful production of Matilda Jr, which took place in the Marven Centre recently.

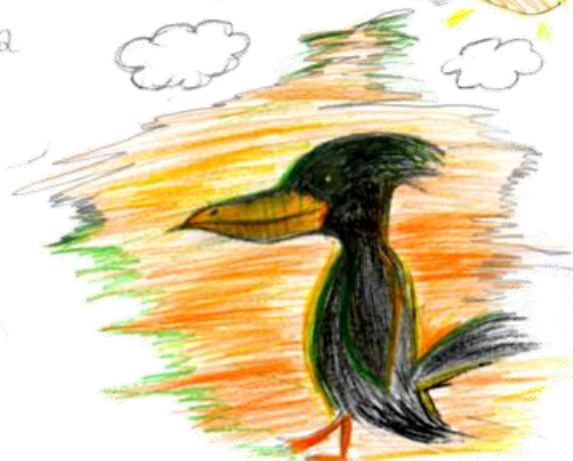
The production received rave reviews from delighted audiences over the three shows, and everyone who was involved in the show should be rightly proud of their contribution. Bravo!



Photographs on pages 22 and 23 by Nic Marchant



Diego Hernandez Velasco  
Mental: EA



## feathers

journey

Feathers floating down, drifting from the sky and the gentle breeze.

Escalating down from the bird it dropped off being blown from side to side but who knows where it'll land.

A tawny blue colour from a blue bird or is it white from a dove. We'll only find out when it lands.

Trickling down from the clouds getting closer and closer to the ground. How long has it been floating, no one knows.

Hanging on to an oak tree but will it drop and reach the ground. Beginning to float again a couple of metres from the ground.

Ever travelling towards the floor. This feather is a lucky one, it'll reach the ground but what luckyperson will get it.

Reaching the ground subtly as it lands. As it waits, the sun shines on it. Wait someone's coming over. Who is it? Hang on a second, it's me?

Work produced by Year 7s  
during Activities Week



Well done to the  
Year 7 pupils who  
produced these  
stunning creative  
responses to nature.

## Year 9 trip to Thorpe Park in Activities Week

Our two full coaches left the playground late but we still arrived on time at the park.

We were allowed to go round in groups of at least four. I had Max, Dylan and Alex with me. We made our plan to start at the far side of the park and work our way forward, so we could go on as many rides as possible. We actually managed to go on everything before it was time to meet and go home.

For me the Stealth ride was the most exciting. It reaches 80 m/p/h from a catapult start. It pulls you back and shoots you off. It is so powerful you actually can't put your head up!

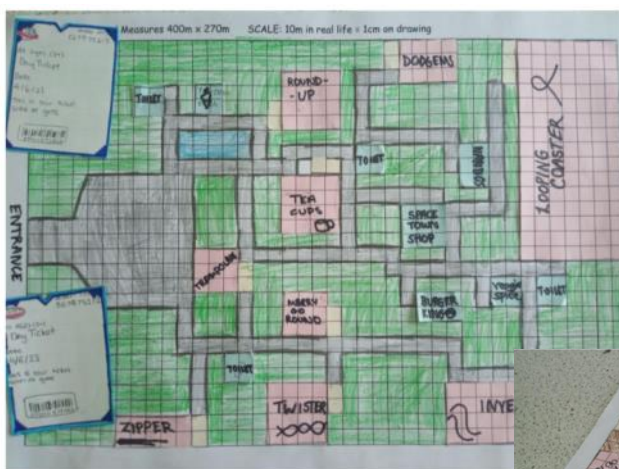
The Colossus was brilliant too, upside down and backwards, looping the loop.

Another favourite was The Walking Dead. It's really dark and very scary. We ran all the time because we thought zombies were chasing us. We all ended up getting scrapes and cuts from falling and banging into walls, but this didn't stop us going in another twice.

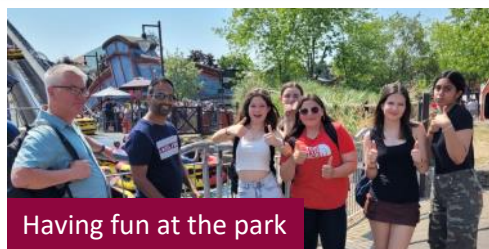
There was so much to do. Alex spent loads in the arcades as he hadn't wanted to go on the rides, and Max won a teddy with a flukey move of a ball getting into a tilted bucket. It was Dylan's first ever time at a theme park so it was even more exciting for him.

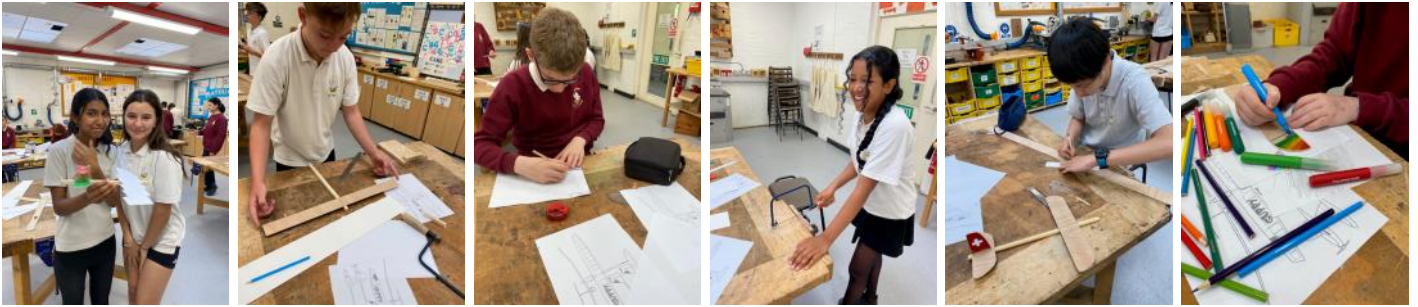
Overall it was a great day, even with it being so hot. The journey back was VERY long because of the traffic. Everyone was really tired but very happy they had gone on the trip.

## Harvey Jones, Year 9



Pupils designed their own theme parks following their visit.





## Building a glider in Activities Week (Year 9)



Best decorated



Lilli King

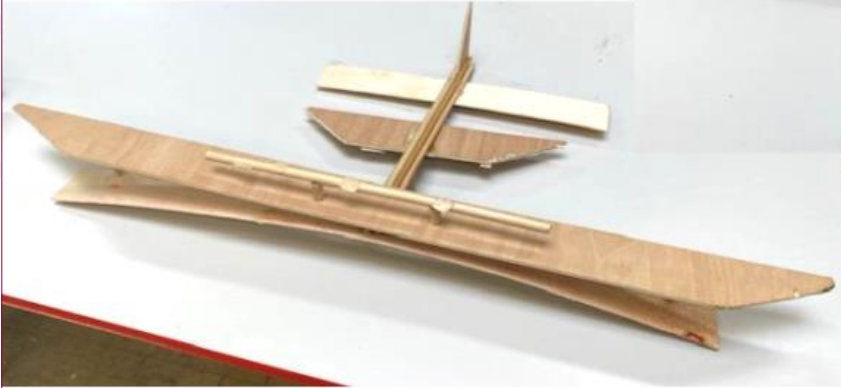


Charlotte Le Doux & Coline Moreau

## Best Construction



Lewis Jones



Harvey Pearson-Jones

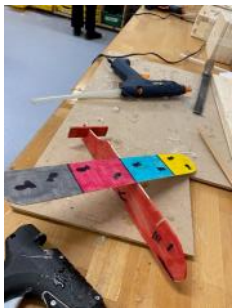
## Furthest Flight



Toma Balanescu & Cai Ewers



Ted Gandon





## Year 8s in London

As part of Activities Week Year 8 pupils had a trip to London, visiting the Globe Theatre and the Tate Modern Art Gallery and having a picnic lunch by the Thames.



## Funky Chickens

The Year 8 Art group made some fantastic funky chickens during Activities Week.





## Activities Week: Year 8s perform A Midsummer Night's Dream

During Activities Week the Art, Drama and Music departments collaborated to create a wonderful adaptation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Having had only four days to prepare, they staged a wonderful production, with the Year 8s performing in front of a packed live audience in the Marven Centre to much acclaim. Well done to everyone involved!





## English Trampoline Championships

A big congratulations goes to Lily Carter, Year 7, who competed at the English Trampoline Championships in the Silver 13-14 girls category recently. Lily successfully completed two routines and came 20th in her age group. Lily was one of the youngest performers in her age group so this is a fantastic experience to have had and one which she can build on next year, with more finesse and difficulty in her routines. Well done Lily!



Year 7 pupils did a great job litter picking during Activities Week.

Thank you for your efforts!



## Year 7s build brilliant bug hotels in Activities Week

Year 7 pupils constructed fantastic bug hotels to provide safe hideaways for wildlife.





## Year 7 trip to Milton Country Park

During Activities Week some Year 7s visited Milton Country Park and enjoyed a day of den building and orienteering in teams, learning and developing their skills.





This year, SVC Samba had a wonderful summer gigging all over Cambridge. Our first gig was at Waterbeach Feast on 10 June, where we marched through the village for 30 minutes before playing a final number in the arena. A massive well done to our Sambistas for this gig, as it was a whopping 28 degrees! Safe to say we were all ready for an ice cream and a sit down afterwards.

Two weeks after, on 24 June, we played at the Stapleford Village Weekend for half an hour, another hot one but luckily for us it was a stationary set! We played all the classics, including Jungle, London School and Reggae.

We also played at the grand opening of Marleigh Primary School in Cambridge.

Unfortunately we were unable to take the full band, but those who did go had a wonderful time exploring the showcases from other schools in Cambridgeshire, and watching a special appearance and reading from iconic poet Michael Rosen!

We were lucky enough to be invited back to the Shelford Feast the weekend after on Sunday, 2 July, where we played another static set for about 30 minutes and were all wrapped up by 2:30 pm.

The Shelford Feast of 2022 was a blast for our Samba band, and this year was no different. We were blessed with a lovely, bustling crowd and marvellous, sunny weather. To round off the year, we played on Fountain Court to parents, teachers and pupils, alongside the Steel Pans and Jazz band to name a couple. Overall a wonderful samba run this summer, and a massive well done to our expert and talented Sambistas! We hope they all have a fantastic summer break, and we look forward to seeing them back in September ready to beat, shake and slap and dance their way through another school year.



Saffi Russ-Czerwik and Enna Kobayashi-Booth, Year 10

## Sawston Singers' Concert

I do singing lessons at Sawston. On 27 June, I performed in the Sawston Singers' Concert, where (almost) all of the singing lesson pupils performed a song of their choice. It was an incredible evening. Each performance was confident and beautiful, you could really hear the amazing effect the singing lessons had on the performers. There were 11 performances overall, ranging from the funny (Sami Pugh's "Les Poissons") to the classical (Charmy Chong's "How Beautiful are the Feet?") to the musical theatre (Archie Meikle's "Leaning on a Lamppost") to the melancholy (Charlie's "Unbreak My Heart"). I performed "Close Every Door" from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. I really enjoyed the evening and I could tell that everyone else did, too. The level of singing was through the roof, and Ms Caddick and Ms Le Petit-Clare should be really proud of what they helped achieve. Unfortunately, this was Ms Caddick's last ever Singers' Concert, as she will sadly be leaving Sawston next year. She is an incredible teacher and we all wish her well wherever she goes next.

Yoav Pilowsky Bankirer, Year 10

## Outdoor Gig



The weather was lovely for the Outdoor Gig on 7 July, when lots of people turned up to hear the various music groups perform on Fountain Court.

## Lower School Concert

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the Lower School Concert. The audience greatly enjoyed your performances.



## RSL Level 2 Certificate in Technology and Composition for Music Practitioners

Music Technology is an extra level 2 qualification completed by the end of Year 10. In Music Tech you have access to GarageBand on a Mac computer and have access to midi keyboards and pads allowing you to learn some basic: production, mixing and mastering techniques. In the course you start by recording and mixing a group performance, the second part involves your producing a completely original track to meet a set prompt, and finally the last part involves your researching different music genres and presenting your findings. I chose Music Tech to improve my production skills and also to learn how many other tracks were made from start to finish, and also to get an extra GCSE level qualification in the process!

Oscar Horton, Year 10

## Art Workshop for Year 10



Year 10 Art pupils spent a day creating beautiful drawings in their recent workshop with artist Stuart Jarvis, who was Sky Arts Landscape Artist of the year 2021.



## Year 9 pupils have got their eye on you!

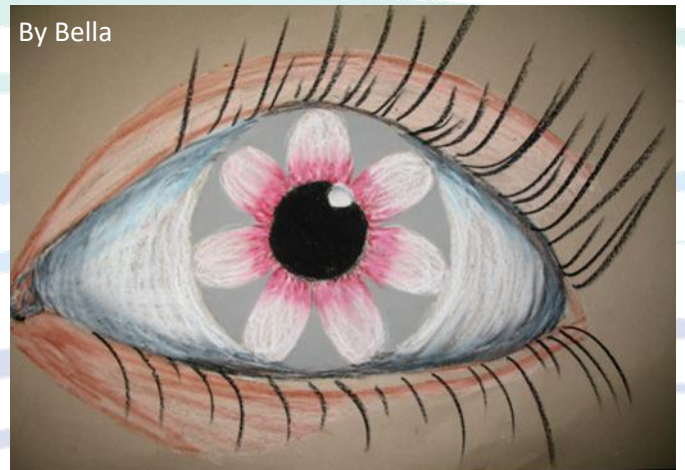
By Scarlett



By Evie



By Bella



## Jubilee Cup Report

On Wednesday 21st May, athletes from Years 7-10 made their way to a sunny Wilberforce for the 2023 Jubilee Cup Athletics meet. Out of 11 schools in attendance Sawston earned a 6th place finish in a closely fought day.

Everyone put in 100% on what was a scorchingly hot day. There were some notable performances on the day from:

### Year 7:

Zahara P 100m (2nd)

Kiera H 200m (2nd) & Javelin (1st)

Finley C 100m (2nd)

Aaron G-K 200m (2nd)

Torin J 800m (2nd)

William S hurdles (3rd) High Jump (2nd)

### Year 8:

Amelia A 300m (3rd)

Caitlin B 800m (1st)

Cam D 100m (3rd)

Oliver S 1500m (1st)

Ted Silk Javelin (1st)

### Year 9:

Tyrhianna J 200m (2nd)

Mia Javelin (3rd)

### Year 10:

Nat B 200m (2nd)

Kiera C Shot (2nd)

Raf B 100m (3rd)

Harry M 200m (3rd)

Tommy G Hurdles (2nd)

Seth Shot (1st)

Everyone represented Sawston to the best of their ability and should be proud of the hard work and effort they put in. Well done!



# Sawston Village College in the Community

Sawston Village College is delighted to run an Adult Learning programme, Anglian Leisure Sawston and Sawston Cinema for the community. Please check the relevant website for current programme and activity updates.



**Sawston  
Adult  
Learning**



**ANGLIAN  
LEISURE  
SAWSTON**



**SAWSTON CINEMA**

## Sawston Adult Learning

Please check [www.sawstonadultlearning.org](http://www.sawstonadultlearning.org) for up to date information.  
You can also email [community@sawstonvc.org](mailto:community@sawstonvc.org).

## Anglian Leisure Sawston

Please check [www.sawstonsports.com](http://www.sawstonsports.com) for up to date information. You can also email [awilson@anglianleisure.co.uk](mailto:awilson@anglianleisure.co.uk) and follow Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AnglianLeisureSawston/> and Twitter: [https://twitter.com/al\\_sawston](https://twitter.com/al_sawston).

## Sawston Cinema

Please check [www.sawstoncinema.org.uk](http://www.sawstoncinema.org.uk) for up to date information.  
You can also email [cinema@sawstonvc.org](mailto:cinema@sawstonvc.org).



## Coat hooks made by Year 7s

Well done Year 7! We think your coat hook designs are fantastic.



**Sawston  
Village College**



**Community**  
Take part



**Ambition**  
Aim high



**Respect**  
Be kind



**Endeavour**  
Work hard



**PART OF  
ANGLIAN LEARNING**

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