



ISSUE 96

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

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A Word from our Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Unbelievably, this half term takes us to the half-way point of the academic year! From here on, the days get longer, and we will hopefully see a bit more sunshine.

As ever, our staff and students have been working hard and enjoying all sorts of activities inside and outside of the classroom. This half term has seen us continue to focus on careers, with students engaging in lots of opportunities to experience the world of work through their school activities and hear about the breadth of opportunities that await them when they leave Skipton Girls' High School. Students have learned about National Cyber Security, music in films, Higher Apprenticeship schemes, University courses and much more.

A particular highlight of this half term is the Art and Photography exhibition currently on display at Skipton Town Hall. It is testament to the quality of our students' work that it is completely at home in a professional setting. I urge you all to pay a visit to Skipton to see this incredible work and see what else Skipton Town Hall has to offer. The power of working for a 'real' audience is clearly inspiring our students and we are delighted to see this reflected in increased numbers of students opting for A Level Art and Design, as well as the incredible outcomes students gain at GCSE and A Level.

Alongside all of this, staff and students continue to work very hard in lessons and this half term has seen Year 11 receiving their trial exam grades and Year 13 undertaking their final set of trial exams before the real thing. We are now focusing on further equipping our students for the summer exam period by sharing practical, active revision strategies, alongside ways to enhance well-being and ensure students give themselves enough time to rest, relax and allow their learning to sink in. Of course, this work is important for all year groups, to ensure that younger children are in healthy and effective habits as they work towards these important milestones.

Finally, perfectly timed for a holiday, the shortlist of the Yoto Carnegie Medal for writing will be announced on February 15th. I am delighted that SGHS is participating in this prestigious scheme and am very much looking forward to getting involved myself. The benefits of losing yourself in a good book are endless and I hope that you all get the opportunity to do just that over the half-term break. If you read anything brilliant that you think our students would benefit from reading, why not suggest it for next year's tutor read by filling in the form provided. I have a pile of to-be-read books waiting for me and will be doing just that.

Ms M Featherstone
Headteacher

Art and Photography Exhibition at Skipton Town Hall

The Art Department are very proud to invite you to see our exhibition of last year's Year 11 and Year 13 Art and Photography work. There is some amazing work on show and we do hope you can get along and see it. The exhibition is open to the public Monday to Saturday 9.30am to 4.30pm.

Mrs Scott
Learning Director: CREATE

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It's a real privilege for my work to be showcased in the Town Hall, and also surrounded by all my peers' work. I think I can speak for all of the students when I say it is a massive achievement for us, and one we will remember for years to come. Something that wouldn't have been possible without the hard work that occurred behind the scenes from our teachers at SGHS and the curator of the Town Hall. It was an amazing experience walking around the gallery, and one I am very grateful I was a part of.

- Bailey Yaxley

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Why not pay a visit over half term?!

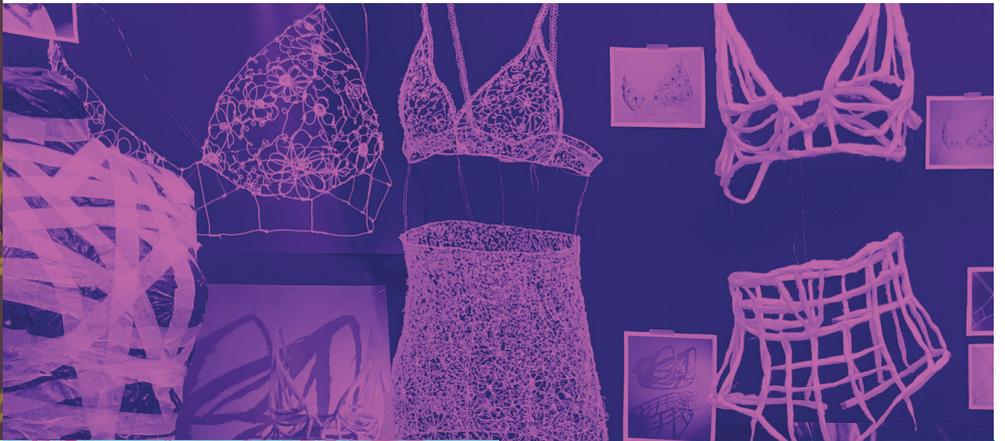
The exhibition continues until 11th March - opening times: 9.30am - 4pm. See their website: skiptontownhall.co.uk/whats-on/skipton-girls-high-school-art-photography-exhibition →





SKIPTON GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL Art & Photography Exhibition

14 January - 11 March - Skipton Town Hall



SKIPTON
TOWN HALL

Culture, Heritage & Community

skiptontownhall.co.uk

Skipton Young Rotary Chef Competition



Jessica Fox, who is currently in Year 10 and studying GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition, was selected to enter the 'Skipton Young Rotary Chef Competition.' Jessica did brilliantly and came second.

The competition was held at Craven College on Tuesday 7th February 2023, from 4-7pm. A number of students participated from neighbouring schools, including Craven College, Ermysted's Grammar, Settle and Upper Wharfedale.

The competition aims to encourage young people to:

- Learn how to cook
- Develop food presentation skills
- Consider food hygiene issues
- Develop organisational and planning skills
- Develop an ability to cope in a demanding situation

Competitors were asked to prepare in two hours, a three-course healthy meal comprising starter, main course and dessert for two people and costing less than £22.00. They also had to complete a time plan and design a menu for the judges to review.

The competition was judged by three judges and points were awarded for the following categories:

- Costing
- Planning
- Healthy choice of dishes
- Correct use of knives & equipment
- Meal served on time & at correct temperature
- Neatness of working area and hygiene
- Range of skills used
- Taste and presentation of starter
- Taste and presentation of main course
- Taste and presentation of dessert

Jessica's starter was Tomato Soup and she made 'Fish tray bake' for the main course; a complex dish that included shelling and deveining prawns. Dessert was chocolate mousse with shortbread. All three dishes were executed to a very high standard and beautifully presented. Jessica is a credit to school. Well done on achieving this success!

Mrs Yasin
Food Preparation and Nutrition

CyberFirst Regional Finals

On Saturday 4th February a team of Year 8 students ventured to Sheffield Hallam University to compete in the national finals of the Cyber First Girls Competition. The team consisted of Emilia Davies, Lena Parys, Betty Oxley and Margot Cranham.

To get to this stage of the competition the team had successfully seen off competition from thousands of challengers in the 2023 CyberFirst Competition, which is run by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of GCHQ.

The competition aims to inspire girls aged 12 and 13 to pursue their interests in technology and pursue a career in cyber security, where women make up just 22% of the workforce.

This year's contest was entered by over 8,700 girls from across the four nations of the UK, and saw pupils tackle challenges covering topics from cryptography and logic to artificial intelligence and networking.

Overall, the team ended up in fifth place. They worked incredibly hard in preparation for the finals and all throughout the original rounds of the competition. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and achievement.

Mrs Lofthouse
Associate Assistant Headteacher



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I was delighted to be involved in the CyberFirst Girls Competition regional final. It was a privilege to be part of a team representing SGHS and compete against students from other schools through completing tasks relating to cyber security.

The competition was held at Sheffield Hallam University and involved problem solving using various programming and coding techniques in Cyber Chef and Python. It was interesting to learn about cyber security and how this may be applied in certain careers. Later in the day we were introduced to Melanie Oldham OBE, the CEO of a cyber security company - Bob's Business - based in Barnsley, who told us some cyber security jobs pay over £1500 per day!

In summary, it was an informative day and we enjoyed competing. Moreover, I now understand how important it is that companies are cyber secure, not least so people can get on with their jobs without important information falling into the wrong hands.

- Emily Davies, Year 8

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Tutor Read...2023?!

It seems we're only just into 2023, but we're already half-way – no, really – through the academic year!

Over the last three years, the tutor read has become a more integrated part of our personal development programme.

In Year 1, we read 'The Other Side of Truth' by Beverley Naidoo, about two trafficked refugees and their experiences as they navigated their arrival in London.

In Year 2 it was the turn of 'Things a Bright Girl Can Do', Sally Nicholls' exploration of the UK suffrage movement, with Evelyn, May and Nell finding their way through the intensity of Edwardian era politics as well as discovering their own personal way through life, relationships, and who they wanted to become.

The current read is 'October, October', and as well as being read by every student once a week in our tutor time sessions, we're using the novel to connect threads through our personal development programme as we get to know October, her way of thinking, her difficulties working her way into new situations and a life that sometimes seems it's changing way too fast.

This year's book, 'October, October' was the result of staff and student nominations, and we're opening up the floor again for votes and ideas! Everyone is invited to submit their nominations to the form below for consideration. We're looking for a book that's inspiring, interesting, with someone we might not normally meet, which can spark some ideas. If you know something, why not recommend it?

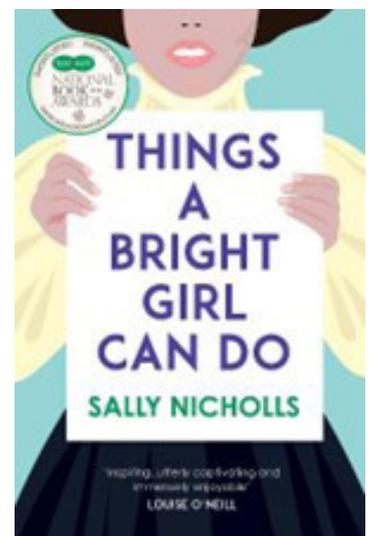
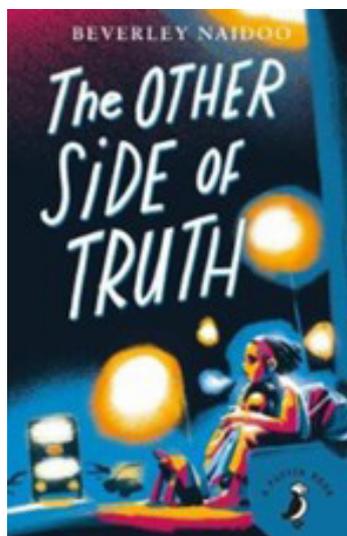
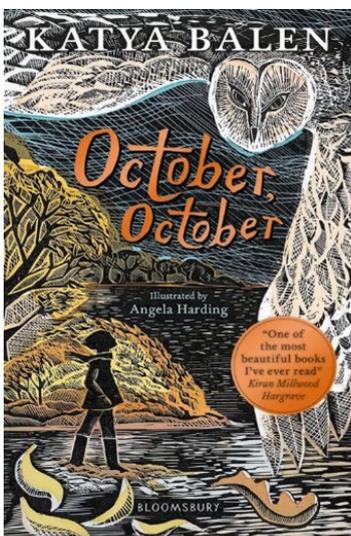
Deadline: 6th March

<https://forms.office.com/e/k01Xth0FN2> ➔

A pocket of people in a pocket of a world that's as small as a marble. We are tiny and we are everything.

A little girl with the salt spray of sea in her hair finding treasures and making them into something new...she hammered and twisted until these old scraps were beautiful.

There's a gold glimmer. A flash. Just a moment but I see it before she disappears into the night and from me.



Liverpool Art and Photography Trip

Our Year 11 and Year 12 Art/Photography trip to Liverpool was a resounding success. We visited the Tate Gallery, The Open Eye Gallery and The Riba Gallery, the exhibitions on show were exciting and varied. As usual our students were impeccably behaved, and they all gathered valuable resources for their respective courses. Thank you to Mrs Winter and Mrs Uren who also joined the Art staff on the trip.

Mrs Scott
Learning Director: CREATE



Labeeba Naeem, Year 11:

The Liverpool trip helped me take plenty of photos which I am planning on using in my component 2 of GCSE Photography. I was also able to see many other Artists who create work which could relate to my chosen theme; this trip has been very inspiring and I hope that I can use the information I gained from this trip to further improve my work.



Jay Davison, Year 12:

This is the first art exhibition I've been to, and it won't be my last, it really helped me with my personal investigation.



Clemmie Swiffen and Maisy Brown, Year 12:

We thoroughly enjoyed the trip as it provided inspiration for our personal investigations, as the exhibitions on show used a diverse range of media. They also brought to light the current issues which our world faces such as climate change and institutional racism. We hope to go back again in our spare time.



The Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing 2023

The Library and the English Department are excited to announce that SGHS will this year be taking part in the Yoto Carnegie Shadowing Scheme.

The Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing – the UK’s longest running children’s book award – recognises outstanding reading experiences created through writing in books for children and young people. The prize, which is judged by librarians, has previously been awarded to writers including Elizabeth Acevedo, Sally Gardner, C.S. Lewis, Arthur Ransome, Terry Pratchett, Philip Pullman and Noel Streatfeild.

Running in libraries and schools alongside the professional judging process, the shadowing initiative engages thousands of children and young people nationally (and internationally) in reading the books on the shortlist via reading groups and posting their reviews online. Each year, young people who take part in the scheme are invited to vote for their favourite books to win the Shadows’ Choice Award, which is announced alongside the Medal winner at the annual winners’ ceremony.

The Skipton Shadows (our group name!) will read, debate and discuss the eight shortlisted books in a weekly lunchtime group with our librarian, English teachers and dedicated sixth-form literacy leaders (Jess Ebel, Sara Hussain and Phoebe Pickles). We also plan to run activities and competitions that tie in with the book selection.

The twenty longlisted books will be announced on 15th February and the eight shortlisted books on 15th March, when the shadowing will commence.

Mrs Walkden
Librarian



Music from Films

Dr Matt Lawson came to visit our school for the second time this year with his lecture about Film Music. It was so motivating the first time round we have created a new Film Music scheme of work for Year 9. All of the students were engaged, and many have been inspired to further research film music and develop their own composition skills. Matt took the time to create a specific section of his talk which focussed on the Year 9 assignment (creating an underscore to a film clip) and this has really given them a great starting point and set their imaginations alight. It was wonderful for us in the music department to hear students using some of the technical terms he mentioned later in class.

Thank you again Matt – we very much appreciate the time, energy and inspiration you have given us!



Mrs Chilvers
Curriculum Leader: Music

'Old Girl' Holly Chapman Apprenticeship Presentation

Former student Holly Chapman, who beat fierce competition to join the Higher Apprenticeship scheme in Management Consulting at the prestigious PwC in 2021, returned to give an inspirational presentation to KS4 and KS5 students at SGHS. Holly spoke eloquently about her own decisions that led her to the Higher Apprenticeship scheme, and her experiences so far.

The Hall was packed with over sixty students keen to hear about Holly's experience and her advice for the future.

Ms G Townend
Assistant Headteacher



Holly Chapman

PwC Higher Apprentice in Management Consulting
Leeds, England, United Kingdom



Student Perspectives

"Listening to Holly was really useful in giving an insight into life as a Higher Apprentice - it has opened my eyes to alternative routes besides university."

"I found the talk very informative and showed me there are other opportunities out there and that University isn't the only path." - **Asiya Hussain**

"I really appreciated learning about how to get an apprenticeship. Usually we hear about apprenticeships but never the process on how to apply for one"

"It was very insightful and provided a lot of advice and showed us great websites we could use." - **Arya Shibu**

English at Newcastle

In February, a group of current English A Level students and Year 11s who have opted for the subject were invited to hear a speaker talking about what it was like to read English at university, whether Language or Literature.

It was a great way to find out about reading English, and what university life is like from someone who's just recently graduated – the range of different 'English' courses is staggering! It was really informative about the process of university applications, and what it was actually like to study there. Particularly interesting was the way different modules can be assessed, and how you can combine English with other subjects, years in industry or even years abroad to pick up another language.

Mrs Woolley

Learning Director: English and Communications

Friday 24th February 2023

Skipton Girls' High School

Friends
of SGHS

CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT!

- Includes a delicious curry supper with veggie and vegan options available
- Cash and card drinks bar
- Raising funds for a range of projects

Pit your wits against the Teachers!

7.00pm in the School Hall

Adults and Sixth Formers welcome

TICKETS
£12
per person

Tickets available on ParentPay or via:
www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofsghs

Contact team@friendsofsghs.org.uk for more info and to notify Friends regarding offers of food or drink donations (e.g. curry, starters, side dishes, beer, soft drinks)

TO BE DRAWN
MONDAY 20TH MARCH

Spring RAFFLE

PRIZES TO BE WON

1. A hamper full of goodies, chocolates, wine and more.
2. Sparkling afternoon tea for two, at the Coniston Hall Hotel & Spa
3. Ebru Evim Yoga Studio voucher

Tickets available from ParentPay
and Friends' website:

www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofsghs

£5
per strip
of 5 tickets



150 CLUB

Launching the Friends' 150 Club for 2023.

The 150 Club is a great way to support the school's Hardship Fund whilst having a bit of a flutter!

£20 FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

How does it work?

- After payment of £20 via ParentPay you will be entered into three draws monthly for 12 months. See Friends' page on www.sghs.org.uk for details.
- At time of payment state three number preferences (between 1-150). You will then be informed which is your membership number.

For queries contact:
team@friendsofsghs.org.uk

1ST PRIZE £40

2ND PRIZE £25

3RD PRIZE £10

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE OVER 16

77

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Paid Teaching Internships in North & West Yorkshire

Chemistry, Computing, Languages, Maths and Physics

19th June - 7th July 2023

- Interested in a career in teaching Chemistry, Computing, Languages, Maths or Physics?
- Do you have up to three weeks available in June/July?
- Experience teaching in Leeds, Bradford or North Yorkshire schools
- Gives you the opportunity to decide if teaching is for you

Receive £300 per week to experience being a teacher.

15 places available

Express your interest here:
<https://bit.ly/internships-23>





This Edition, and previous issues of the Newsletter, can also be viewed on the School Website...

www.sghs.org.uk/newsletter



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