



## More than just A Levels... EPQ– Outstanding Results

The Extended Project at Springwood Sixth Form is an entirely independent project which can be completed in Year 12 or Year 13. The project requires students to plan, undertake and evaluate a project of their choice. This may be a mini dissertation, an artefact, a performance or a report. The students work independently alongside a mentor who will support and guide them in completing their project. This year we have seen projects that have covered topics such as quadcopters and catapults being constructed, investigations into eating disorders, Australian architecture, Nano robots in medicine and ADHD to name a few.

The Extended Project aims to inspire, enthuse and motivate students by giving them the freedom to do a project on a subject they're studying or in an area of personal interest. It's a stand-alone qualification that is worth up to 28 UCAS points – equivalent to an AS Level. It can also be taken as a component of an academic or vocational programme. As students have the freedom to select their subject, it can support their practical, work-related approach to learning or be an extension of their A Level studies.

The Extended Project offers a range of exciting opportunities for your students:

- It provides them with the skills that higher education is looking for, by encouraging independent study, critical thinking and teamwork.
- It may also be useful when they're applying for university to help them 'stand out from the crowd'.
- It gives students flexibility and choice in the selection of their project topic, how they tailor it to fit their individual needs and how they present the final outcome.
- It's ideal for improving transferable skills such as planning, research, analysis and evaluation.



2017	A* - A = 76% (19 A*'s, 16A's)	A*-B = 86%
2016	A* - A = 88% (13 A*'s, 2 A's)	A*-B = 100% (2 B's)
2015	A* - A = 90% (7A*'s)	A*-B= 90% (3 A's)
2014	A* - A = 63%	A*-B= 88%

This year the Sixth Form has seen the best EPQ results ever-

## Springwood Sixth Form Latest Ofsted

Springwood Sixth Form has recently (March, 2017) received a "good" rating from Ofsted. The Sixth Form has been on a continuing journey and the report recognises the massive improvements made to what was already a good Sixth Form. Here are some snippets from the report:

"Students make good or better progress in the majority of their subjects and typically gain the grades that they need to reach their chosen destinations."

Springwood Sixth Form have recently (March, 2017) received a "good" rating from Ofsted. The Sixth Form has been on a continuing journey and the report has made massive improvements to what was already a good Sixth Form. "Leaders have made significant and substantial improvements to the quality of education provided in the school's large Sixth Form" and they have "secure systems to monitor the impact of teaching and assessment in the Sixth Form." Students are "typically challenged" and pupils so better by receiving "specific guidance about what they need to improve." "Leaders provide expert advice and guidance that helps students to choose courses that are a good match for their interests, ambitions and abilities." The Sixth Form have an embedded Super Curricula programme where students are encouraged to do more than just A Levels. The success of this initiative was recognised in the report as "Sixth Form students make a significant contribution to the life of the school through their involvement in a wide range of activities, including mentoring and volunteering." The Sixth Form are proud of all the achievements that both staff and students are well deserving of. (Ofsted, March 2017)



## More than just A Levels...

### **GOLD FOR SPRINGWOOD**

Springwood High School was pleased to announce that they have had the best A level result in the school's history, with 82% of grades at \*A - C.

*Andy Johnson, Executive Headteacher said "These are a phenomenal set of results for our Sixth Form. They are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students and staff."*



The results for all grades are as follows:

23% of A level grades were \*A/A

53% of A level grades were \*A-B

82% of A level grades were \*A-C

100% \*A-E grades

39 Norfolk Scholars (students achieving ABB or higher in their A levels)

25 Duke of Edinburgh GOLD awards

*George Pettitt, Director of Sixth Form said "These results show the hard work of the students at Springwood and are very well deserved. We have worked on the whole sixth form experience. The EPQ and Duke of Edinburgh results, combined with excellent academic achievement, will really help our young people leave us with the*



## More than just A Levels...



On December 14th 2016 Springwood Sixth Form held a Christmas Party for older citizens. The Sixth Form social area was decked out with Christmas decorations and members of the sixth form transformed the area into tables laden with Christmas Fayre.

Seniors from Lisbon Court and Amberley Hall came along as well as members of West Norfolk Befriending Group attended. In addition to these many elderly grandmas/grandads related to school members joined us. In all we had around 70 people. The afternoon began with the school choir and Christmas carols while tea and coffee were handed out to go with the sweets, mince pies, crisps, crackers etc, etc.



## BAKE OFF



As part of their fundraising the Sixth Form Social committee organised a Christmas themed Bake Off on 15<sup>th</sup> December. Entrants were providing with a Christmassy brief and over 30 students and teachers entered the competition. Over lunch the cakes were judged by Poppy Lee – waitress at the Rathskeller Wine Bar and Bistro, Kings Lynn and ex-Springwood student - and Miss Bradley – who recently had baked a cake for HRH The Duchess of Cambridge! The judges considered taste and flavourings, presentation and how fitting their cakes were to the designated brief. The proud winner of a voucher to dine at the Rathskeller was Sophie Williamson with her creatively designed snowman shaped cake. Overall the Social Committee raised around £80 by their Bake Off Sale, Sweet Stand and Hot chocolate sale, these funds will be going to the Year 13 Prom fund.





## More than just A Levels...

### EU MOCK COUNCIL

On Friday 18th November we were fortunate enough to take part in the EU Mock Council Debate project at Church House, Westminster. Although we represented Springwood, there were 30 other schools there participating, including one school from Northern Ireland. Each school was given an EU country to represent and ours was Slovenia.

It was a project that we had been preparing for, for a couple of months and one that required us to learn about EU policies and the decision making process that real country representatives have to go through when there is political change to be discussed. We had to act as national leaders of Slovenia, in two different rooms, each debating a separate topic. In the afternoon, we came together in one of the rooms to reach decisions.



### Pancake Day

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> of February saw Springwood High Schools annual Pancake Day races cause a buzz within the school. We had six teams all competing for the Golden pan and the chance to be crowned race day champions. Organizer Olivia Finlay said "it was excellent to see everyone involved and cheering on their favourite team". We were raising money for Norfolk Mind to help people who are suffering from mental health issues in our local area. This is a charity the school is passionate about and has worked with many times before. They have been working on multiple projects recently including a garden in Kings Lynn which is a peaceful retreat for the patients of the charity which helps them get involved in new hobbies or uptake existing ones. Our money raised will help fund projects such as this.

The golden pan went to Sian Spear, Nathaniel Amoaku, Timothy Pennington and Cameron Sinclair who formed the team 3B1G. The year 13s were ecstatic to win and look forward to see who knocks them off the top spot next year. The fancy dress costume winners were the infamous Maths team who never fail to amuse us with their elaborate ideas. Mr Pettit a member of the sixth form team said "it was excellent to get the Sixth form involved with the lower years and makes the jump to sixth form more exciting!" KLFM also made an appearance when Simon Rowe turned up to watch the races and also hand out some cakes to the spectators! He





## More than just A Levels...

### YEAR 13 CELEBRATE

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017, Year 13 students danced the night away to celebrate the end of the exam season at the Sixth Form Prom at the Duke's Head Hotel. The Prom was funded by numerous fundraising efforts by the Social Committees throughout the year, such as the Masquerade Ball, the Christmas Bake Off and a variety of bake sales. Following a buffet style dinner, the students enjoyed an awards ceremony presented by the Prom Committee as voted for by the year group, and speeches from Mr Pettitt and Mrs Cuss with anecdotes and achievements from throughout Year 13's time at Sixth Form. A DJ and Casino tables proved popular entertainment throughout the evening, with a photographer capturing pictures of arrivals and the many friendship groups within the Sixth Form. The Great Gatsby themed evening was enjoyed by students and teachers alike, making it a wonderful end of an era.



## FORTNIGHTLY STUDENT COUNCIL MEETINGS



The Council was principally established to provide students with a form of representation. Its main purpose is to act as a bridge between the students and senior management. It also gives students the opportunity to improve their Sixth Form according to their own preferences. The Council itself consists of both Year 12 and 13 with a representative from each form. There are elections held at the start of every year to decide a form representative. The Council then holds internal elections to decide Chair and Vice Chair along with other Sub Committees.

There are many achievements the council are proud of including securing facilities & funding for the Sixth Form, contributing to the school magazine, hosting a plethora of events around Sixth Form, being student ambassadors and adding to display boards. There are also working progresses such as establishing a recycling programme, founding a Dining Society and create a Mentoring System where Year 13 provide support and advice for Year 12.



## More than just A Levels...

### LUNCHTIME LECTURES BY AMBASSADORS

#### FROM UEA

Psychology Medicine American Studies Law Natural Sciences Nursing Teaching

**Computing Maths English Literature**

### ALTERNATIVE AMBITIONS GUEST SPEAKERS

3aaa Apprenticeships BMW (Sales Apprentice/ Executive) Hospital Project Administration Apprenticeship

## MASQUERADE BALL

These are the photos from the masquerade ball which happened on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at Lynnsport. Year 12's and 13's attended in masks and partied the night away to music from the DJ. It was a great chance for the Year 12's and 13's to mix together and also a welcome for the Year 12's to Springwood Sixth Form. Additionally to congratulate them on finishing their initial assessment week. The money raised from the masquerade ball will go to the Year 13's prom at the end of the school year; they raised approximately £350.



## VOLUNTEER FAIR

The Springwood Year 12 Volunteering Fair took place in the Sixth Form Social area Monday 5 September with 25 stands representing local and national voluntary and charitable organisations along with faculties within the school.





## More than just A Levels...

### **SIXTH FORM TRIP TO SEE MARGARET ATWOOD**

After school on 12 October, a select group of Year 12 and 13 students made their way to Ely Cathedral by train and minibus to listen to a presentation from the acclaimed author, Margaret Atwood.

Mrs Atwood addressed an appreciative audience, who had gathered in the very heart of Ely Cathedral to hear what she had to say. The author spoke about her new book 'Hag-Seed', reciting passages and even 'rapping' out one of her character's words.

A thought-provoking opportunity to place contrasting texts into a unique and fresh perspective – all achieved under the towering wall and spectacular ceiling of the splendid cathedral.



### **EARLY APPLICANTS BRUNCH**

On Monday 17th October Mr Johnson hosted a brunch for the early applicants to university from year 13. This group of students included applicants to Law and Medicine degrees amongst others, as well as students who have applied to study at Oxford and Cambridge.

This year the early applicants enjoyed bacon rolls, pastries and hot chocolate with Mr Johnson in the social area. The group chatted about their ambitions for the future and Mr Johnson reminded them that they are welcome to come back to Springwood in the future as teachers or guest speakers.

There are very promising signs for this cohort as many received offers the day after sending their application. Indeed, as I write, six of the students already have multiple offers.





## More than just A Levels...

### POETRY BY HEART

On 22-23<sup>rd</sup> April 41 county Poetry by Heart recitation competition finalists gathered at the British Library conference centre for the national final. Our school was enjoying a double success: Springwood High School, King's Lynn, provided Poetry By Heart with its 2017 Norfolk winner/East region finalist in the main two poem competition (Abigail Peters) and also a new Shakespeare sonnet competition winner (national winner Sam Mount). Sam Mount, as the national champion for the sonnet competition, will be invited to recite at the Poetry By Heart 2018 national finals. What a huge achievement for this school, its teachers and students!

POETRY BY  
HEART

Mike Dixon, Regional Development Coordinator of Poetry By Heart, visited Springwood High School to present Sam with prizes and the school Library with a magnificent facsimile



Pictured left to right above: Mrs Morris, Abigail Peters, Sam Mount, Mr Johnson and Mr Dixon.



## More than just A Levels...

### **FUTURES DAY**

Thursday 15th June marked the return of Futures Day, an event aimed at highlighting the range of opportunities available to our Sixth Students upon completion of their A Levels. The day started with a talk from a number of ex-Springwood students who outlined their current career and the different routes they took to enter them. The students heard Ethan who completed a Business & Marketing apprenticeship and is currently running his own business; Socially Unplugged. Amy is completing a degree at the University of the Arts, James has just completed a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering and commencing employment to work with nuclear weapons. Madeline spoke about her experiences as a Real Estate undergraduate and Jack who has taken a year out to complete volunteering in the Medical industry and is going to UEA in September to complete a Medicine degree.

Then it was on to the Employers Fair where students had the opportunity to speak to a range of employers from accountants to estate agents, the armed services to radiologists, primary schools to the insurance brokers, surveyors to the emergency services and many more besides. A number of past students including those who had presented earlier were also available for in depth discussions. During this hour long session students were able to ask questions about the qualifications required for different roles, speak to professionals about their experience of their role allowing them to gain a better understanding of the different roles available and the routes that can be taken to enter them. A number of local universities including Cambridge University, Bishop Grosseteste University, University of East Anglia, Lincoln University and University Campus Suffolk were also represented allowing students to make comparisons between degree and work based routes into different careers.

Having been able to speak to employers about the possibilities of apprenticeships, students then received a talk from Norfolk Apprenticeships and Coca Cola who discussed the benefits of undertaking Higher Level Apprenticeships and how to access them.

After lunch students went on to hear about gap year opportunities from Rebecca who represented Project Trust, a gap year organisation which provides placements in teaching, social care and outward bounds in South America, Africa and Asia. The students were captivated by Rebecca's accounts of her experiences and many signed up to receive more information.

The final session of the day, presented by 2 student ambassadors from UEA, focussed on applying for university through UCAS. This talk opened students' eyes to the sheer number of degree choices available to them (37,000!) and provided a brilliant starting point for our UCAS Super Learning Day on 8th July.





## More than just A Levels... APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESSES

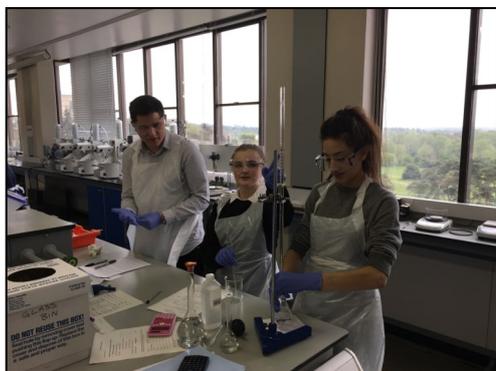
Within the Sixth Form we are dedicated to ensuring that all students achieve their first choice future and this doesn't mean university for everyone. Therefore, a small group of Alternative Ambitions students have been working with Mrs Moore to obtain Apprenticeships or employment.

So far this year, we have had some fantastic successes with Chloe Savory obtaining an Accountancy Apprenticeship with local accountants Mapus, Smith and Lemmon, Rositta Caesar gaining an Engineering Apprenticeship with food production company Bakkavor and Alesha Jones earning a Sales Apprenticeship with Coca Cola prior to undertaking her Business degree in September 2018.

With many other students undergoing assessment and interview processes we look forward to more success in the near future.



## YOUNG ANALYST COMPETITION AT UEA



The Chemistry Department recently had the opportunity to take three promising Year 12 students to The Royal Society of Chemistry's Young Analyst Competition at The University of East Anglia.

The students who attended were Kaveeta Malhi, Shannon Lee and Vlad Venger and they all enjoyed the day immensely. They were pitted against teams from schools all over the East Anglian region and were given a variety of real-life scenarios to work through. These included calculating the caffeine content of coffee and dilutions.

Students were able to have hands-on experience using university standard equipment such as High Performance Liquid Chromatography and Colourimetry.

It was also great for students to have time to explore the UEA campus and to get a feel for what life at university will be like. The scientific facilities as well as the Student Union were particularly impressive!

Well done to these three students for getting involved in such a rewarding day.



## More than just A Levels...

### SIXTH FORM ATL 1S

During our regular reporting cycles we have predicted grades and attitude to learning scores (ATLS). The ATL is important in year 12 as it indicates that the student has made the step up in standards from GCSE and is displaying the correct attitude to get their A Level grades. ATLS are measured on a scale of 1-4 (with 1 being the best score). Each data drop between 15-20% of the ATLS are 1s, with each student getting 3 ATLS per report - 1 per subject.

The latest Year 12 cohort have been making excellent progress and I am pleased to report that there are 18 students with an ATL1 score in every subject. This is, quite simply, a magnificent achievement. These 18 students are:

Jordan Hayes

Kaveeta Malhi

Alex Read

Harriet Stanley

Joseph Vayalil Lawrence

Holly Chen

James Wadey

Charlotte Foxcroft

Abigail Peters

Sam Reynolds

Chloe Walsingham

Alex Brown

Scott Brown

Beth Slack

Keeley Irons

Deimante Juskaite

Florence Chung

Rebecca Sedgewick

These students are doing all the right things in every subject as we move towards the end of year exams. A big well done to them! Mr G Pettitt



## INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS



Adventure Athlete—Laura Kennington



History Speaker—Andy Robertshaw



## More than just A Levels...

Toby Hoare met the Queen on Sunday 8th January at Sandringham House to collect his prize for being Springwood High School's best performing A Level student in the summer of 2016. Toby achieved 2 A\*s and an A grade in his A Levels. Toby is currently on a gap year working with the younger students at Springwood as a Learning Mentor, and is hoping to study at Cambridge University in September.

The school's Assistant Director of Sixth Form, Mrs Jessica Cuss, commented - 'Toby's results are due to his hard work and the dedication that he showed throughout his A Level studies.'

'We are extremely proud to have Toby as alumni for our Sixth Form and hope that his achievements will inspire our current students to aspire to score the highest grades.' Mr George Pettitt - Director of Sixth Form.

Toby attended Sandringham House with the school's Executive Headteacher Mr Andrew Johnson and his parents.

Toby's achievements were celebrated as part of the school's Sixth Form presentation evening on 5th January, where the Queen's prize and many other school awards were presented to returning students by guest speaker and Springwood alumni Marcus Hawes.

