



# News @ SVI

*From all of us to all of you!*



# Editor's Page – News @ SVI

Hello!

Welcome to edition 3 of *News @ SVI*

***We have made it! The end of a long term has finally arrived 😊***



The Sixth Form assemblies continue to be a great success; with very diverse and interesting presentations. The latest the VI Form Voice and Save the Children including raising a large amount of money by last Friday's Christmas Jumper Day; details of which you will find later in the newsletter.

Congratulations to all Year 13 students who have successfully completed their UCAS applications. Many of you are now going for interviews and receiving positive notifications from your university choices. Gap years, employment and apprenticeship opportunities for other students are also looking positive. Year 12 are being provided with information including university ambassadors about various courses with more scheduled throughout the year; I encourage you to attend these associated with careers/courses you are interested in to help your decision making with your next steps after Sixth Form.

There was a very successful Humanities trip to Poland at the end of November. A report from Mollie Crook is enclosed about this 4 day venture. Miss Markwell had a successful trip to the Fashion show in Birmingham earlier in the month. On Monday 15 Mr. Merritt organised a very successful Senior Citizens Christmas party a report is included later in this issue. On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> the School Christmas Carole took place of which Regina Lagarte reports on this event. Finally, the Sixth Form presentation took place last night, 18 December 2014; what a busy week!

To help encourage you to attend The Winter Snowball Celebration we have amended the deadline and therefore it can now go ahead **but only on the proviso that all students who have made a deposit or pledged to pay by the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015** at the Duke's Head on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2015. Full price of tickets are £13.50.



Lots of news to catch up on in this issue so enough from me sees you again in January 2015!

**All the Best... Enjoy the rest!**

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2015

Mrs. Saunders





# Sixth Form Voice

Background to the committee:

## What we do

We meet in O11 every other Wednesday lunchtime to discuss how to improve the Sixth Form for everyone in it, from a student perspective.

We help to make the changes you want made to the sixth form a reality.

We help to keep all of the sixth form up to date with the latest news and events via the newsletter.

Our aim is to help create more social events for the sixth form.

## Changes already in place

- ▶ Pizza Tuesdays have returned.
- ▶ Multi-cultural themed days in the canteen are in discussion.
- ▶ The notice boards around the sixth form area are being revamped.
- ▶ Improving communications through newsletter



## Suggestions from the Sixth Form and VI SV for the future: Work in progress

- ▶ Potential sixth form only queue in the canteen, clarifying issue of teachers skipping the queue.
- ▶ Form Time ways forward
- ▶ Newspapers requested for the Sixth Form Study area
- ▶ Noise management in the study area.
- ▶ Inter-form sports.
- ▶ Further clarification on sixth form rules
- ▶ Sixth Form uniform clarification
- ▶ A system to let students/parents know before school if their teachers are absent
- ▶ Asking local businesses to donate newspapers for the social area.
- ▶ Developing Super-Learning Days.
- ▶ Photocopying – students having the ability to copy rather than just printing work out





# Sixth Form Voice

Background to the committee:

- ▶ More chairs/fixed chairs in the study area.
- ▶ Better computers in the study area.
- ▶ Increased safety for computer equipment around the school.

## Newsletter

- ▶ Aims to provide the sixth form with up to date news and information.
- ▶ Published monthly.
- ▶ Covers events that have happened in the previous month (e.g. Guest speakers).
- ▶ Anyone in the sixth form is able to submit an article. Simply speak to a member of the sixth form voice or Mrs Saunders.

## What we need from you

- ▶ Articles for the newsletter. Speak to a member of the voice or Mrs Saunders. Articles can be on a range of topics, such as activities you participate in our of the sixth form, events in school opinion pieces.
- ▶ More ideas for changes you would like to see around the sixth form, and social that would like to see happen.
- ▶ More members willing to join and contribute to the voice. Especially Year 13.

## Snowball Update

- ▶ Tickets on sale from the school shop for £13.50.
- ▶ Talk to a member of the Voice, you can reserve a ticket with a £5 deposit, and pay the rest after Christmas
- ▶ Need to sell more tickets, or the event will be cancelled due to a lack of funding.
- ▶ Dress code is not solely smart only, smart casual is a rough guide but please use common sense ... so no track suits!!
- ▶ Plus-ones are welcome but must purchase their own ticket –no age limit to plus ones but final entry is at the digression of members of staff at the event.





# Sixth Form Voice

## Key Dates

### January

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January - Spring Term Begins

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January - Year 13 Parents Evening

### February

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February - Super Learning Day (Keynote from Ben Heason)  
Psychology Student Revision Day at SHS with the leading author Cara Flanagan

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Year 12 Mock Week (FULL)

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - VI Form Snowball, Start of Half Term

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February - Return to school

### March

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - Year 12 Progress Evening

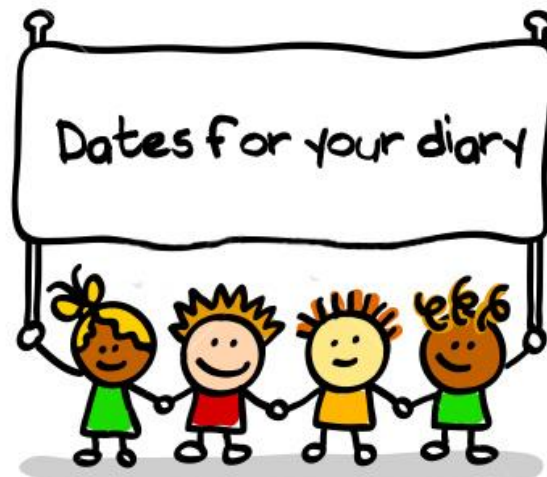
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Super Learning Day (Sixth Form FINAL Coursework Deadline), DofE First Aid Course - End of Spring Term (Easter Holiday)

### April

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Year 13 Mock Week (FULL), Start of Summer Term

### May

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - End of Year 13 (To Be Confirmed), Summer Half Term





# Sixth Form Voice

## Interview with ...Mr. Merritt Lead Teacher Sixth Form Leadership Team



### Quick Fire Questions!

**Favourite food:** Indian Food

**Favourite band:** Beatles & Coldplay

**Best holiday experience:** Visit to Belgium on Eurostar

**Favourite film:** Lord of the Rings Trilogy

**Favourite drink:** Theakstone's Old Peculiar (beer)

**Did you know that.....** I had an appearance in the tv series Kingdom with Stephen Fry (as a scorer at a cricket match).

**How long have you been teaching at Springwood High School?**

Since 1980: 34+ years

**Favourite part of the job:**

Dealing with my lovely tutor group

**What does your typical day consist of?**

Teaching, helping students, socialising with colleagues, marking and planning at home, socialising with my wife (if time allows)

**What one thing would you change about the sixth form students?**

Students' reluctance to put litter in the bins!

**What would your advice be to all students?**

Get the message. What you do in these two years will affect the rest of your life !!

**Hobbies or interests:**

Sport (Football: Middlesbrough / Cricket: Yorkshire & Durham), DIY and gardening.

Next issue we find out more about *Miss Russell!*

# SHS Sixth Form Voice

## Jokes Corner by Christian

Which cheese is made backwards? EDAM

Knock-knock  
Who's there?  
Doris  
Doris who?  
Doris locked that's why I'm knocking!

I'm not usually too good at jokes but um... TISS

Why can't you hear a pterodactyl using the bathroom? Because the 'p' is silent

Did you hear about the man who got hit in the head with a soda? He's lucky it was only a soft drink!

I'm reading a great book on anti-gravity. I can't put it down.

I have a new theory on inertia but it doesn't seem to be gaining momentum.

Schrodinger's cat walks into a bar. And doesn't.

Why can't atheists solve exponential equations? Because they don't believe in higher powers.

An optimist sees a glass half full. A pessimist sees it half empty. An engineer sees it twice as large as it needs to be.

### RIDDLES:

If it's information you seek, come and see me.  
If its pairs of letters you need, I have consecutively three.

A: A bookkeeper.

What kind of coat can only be put on when wet?

A: A coat of paint.

What has 4 fingers and a thumb, but is not living?

A: A glove

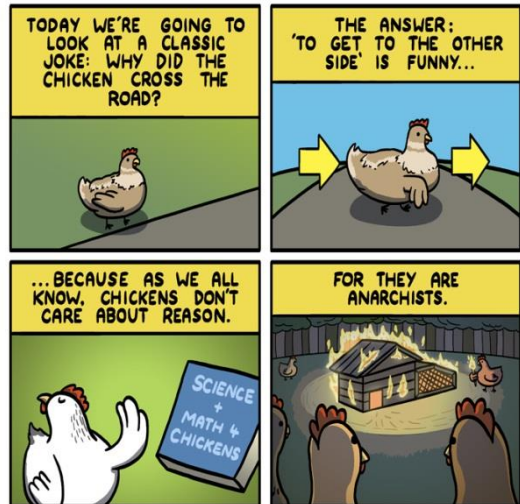
### Puns:

The person who invented the door knock won the No-bell prize.

Never trust atoms, they make up everything.

I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory.  
All I did was take a day off.

### JOKE EXPLANATION CORNER





# Sixth Form Voice



## Christmas Carol Concert

**Carol Concert – Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

On Tuesday evening, many of Springwood High School's ensembles all gathered and performed at the Carol Concert – from singers to brass players to woodwind to dancers alike. Many of the classic and traditional Christmas songs were performed, even by the audience, who sang very well when participating in the carol singing at the end of the concert.

Many of Springwood's music department (students and teachers alike) were involved. At a few times during the concert, practically the entirety of the people involved in the concert was on stage to sing!

Between the performances were also poignant readings by different people. The sheer amount of Christmas spirit in the hall that night was tangible. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the coming of Christmas, and to end the calendar year as part of the amazing Music Department at Springwood.

The night was also tinged with melancholy and nostalgia, as the Springwood High School Music Department announced their farewell to a long-time member, Mrs K Wright. She has been such a significant part of life in the Music Department (especially recently with the Kickstart Theatre Production of Bussy Malone), as well as a fantastic teacher, and she will be missed.

As with every concert, a substantial amount of rehearsal and work was put into making sure everything ran smoothly, not just by the performers, but also the directors and the helpers backstage. It is thanks to them especially that each and every concert, such as this Carol Concert, is a success.







# Sixth Form Voice

## Senior Citizen Christmas Party report by Edward and Abdel

On Monday 15 December 2014 Springwood High School welcomed some of the local OAPs for some festive fun. They were greeted by Sixth Form students who volunteered to help run the event.

The OAPs also enjoyed a variety of snacks and refreshments. Proceedings started with the music from the school band which performed a selection of classic Christmas songs. They were supported by choirs comprising of Year 7's which all willingly belted out Christmas songs such as Silent Night. The guests did not need another invitation to join in with the singing!

Shortly afterwards the much anticipated Bingo got underway. After a tense session of Bingo one lucky lady secured a full house and was able to walk away with one of the mystery prizes.

A personal highlight was one lady upset her numbers were not being called out, which Alex Kendal (the Bingo Master) replied 'I will have to re-jiffle my balls for the next round'.

To finish off, Father Christmas came in and introduced his elves, and unfortunately only one of his reindeers got to hand out present to all the senior citizens. This caused a lot of smiles on everyone's faces, receiving and opening their presents.

Overall the students, teachers and the senior citizens enjoyed the party and left with big smiles on their faces. And it made it more enjoyable seeing their faces filled with happiness. This was a great and fantastic experience and we hope to host more of these events every year.





# Sixth Form Voice

*Trip to Poland Report by Mollie Crook*

## Day 1:

An early start on day 1 left us all feeling skeptical, but with a few hours' sleep on the journey meant we were all ready to go by the time we reached the hotel. A short walk around the town of Krakow allowed us to gain our bearings, and to view the incredible medieval architecture. After our walk, we went to a restaurant for what was to be a traditional Polish meal. A starter of noodle soup, main course of breaded pork chop, and a dessert of apple cake left us all with a beginner's idea as to what Polish food was.

## Day 2:



Day 2 took us to Auschwitz-Birkenau, a moving and chilling experience. We walked through the streets of the camps, experiencing the sights and smells that the prisoners once experienced. The knowledgeable guide made sure we didn't miss a thing, and this was greatly appreciated by us all - even if we were freezing cold! Personally, the most moving thing I saw was the piles and piles of hair that was taken from the victims. This process of humiliation made me as a female shudder and I think it's almost impossible to imagine how they felt. The people in the camp were subjected to dehumanisation and deindividuation, and its horrifying to think that most of them forgot their real identities by the time they left.

After lunch on the bus, we headed to the Wieliczka salt mines, and I think I speak for the whole group when I say we were very pleasantly surprised. The salt mines told an interesting and unique history of Krakow and combined knowledge with pure beauty. The chambers that were rented out for events were absolutely stunning, and left us all in shock, I would definitely go again!

In the evening we returned to the old town of Krakow and attended the Hard Rock café for our meal. I think we all appreciated the choice, and were very happy to spend some time chilling out and eating burgers! After a big bowl of ice cream, we spent some time wandering the Christmas market before collapsing in our beds after an exhausting but thoroughly enjoyable day!



 Sixth Form Voice

## Day 3:

Another early start, we attending a much less known concentration camp just outside of Krakow, we then had a much needed hot drink in the local McDonalds, something all us teenagers appreciated! A short tram journey to the Galicia Museum where we learnt more about the Jewish history in Poland. This museum took an interesting approach by explaining the Jewish history without exaggerated reference to the Holocaust. It instead looked at what was left of the Synagogues, and memorials of Jewish past.

After this we had the absolutely amazing experience of speaking to a Holocaust survivor, who had been held prisoner at Auschwitz-Birkenau between the ages of 3 and 5. The whole group watched and listened in awe of this brave woman as she showed us her tattooed number, making it impossible for her to ever forget her torturous past.



We then made a swift journey to Schindler's Factory museum, where we were told the story of the hundreds of Jews that Schindler employed, and saved their lives. Unfortunately, there was not enough time to really appreciate the museum.

We ate at a traditional Jewish restaurant, and although skeptical, all thoroughly enjoyed the cuisine - maybe excluding the interestingly sour cheese dessert! We were entertained by an extremely talented Jewish band, with extremely impressive facial expressions, before journeying back to the hotel for a final time, and packing for our return home the next day.



# Sixth Form Voice

Overall, the trip was highly moving, interesting and packed full of important life experiences. I feel honored to have met the survivor especially, and I feel that really honed in on the impact that the Holocaust had on people's lives. Even the food gave a much appreciated and highly valued cross-cultural experience that we were lucky to have. I would definitely recommend this trip to other people, because I think it's important that we remember the events; "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."



# SHS Sixth Form Voice

FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER 2014



**Save the Children**  
**CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

Jumper Day Power Point  
Created By Fran Thornton

*Thank you for taking part and donating.*

**TOTAL RAISED £254.00 fantastic achievement!**

### What is Save the Children?

Save the Children is a charity that works in 120 countries to help save children's lives, fight for their rights and help them fulfil their potential.

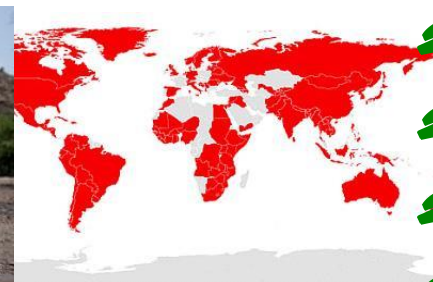
Last year, Save the Children helped 15.4 million children through their work. They run world-class programmes to save children's lives and challenge world leaders to keep to their promises to give children a brighter future.



### Christmas Jumper Day

A donation of just £2 really can save lives. Your £2 could buy potentially life-saving antibiotics to treat three new born babies fighting infections.

**Just think what all our money put together could do.**



# SHS Sixth Form Voice

## Jumper Day



