

# news@springwood

## VISITING AUTHOR



Visit of James Nicol, Author Creator of *The Apprentice Witch*

On Monday 17 July, kicking off a week's cross-curricular Fantasy-themed activities, local author and ex-Springwood High School pupil, James Nicol spent a day with Year 7. As part of this half term's English Department Fantasy scheme of learning, pupils had earlier prepared for the visit by studying the first chapter of James's novel *The Apprentice Witch*. The pupils were therefore more than ready for their day of lectures and activities inspired by the novel, and further encouraged by the visit. The author also had the opportunity to visit many of the pupils in their classes, experiencing a little of their lessons and answering more of their questions. Sharing insights into the world of publishing, and providing some intriguing 'hooks' on the as yet unpublished second and third books in his trilogy of Arianwyn novels, James signed copies of his book during the day.



# parentinfo@springwood

**Moving house? Need to update your contact details?**

**Please contact the Data Team to advise.**

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## TERM DATES 2017-18

### Autumn Term 2017

Wednesday 6 September (Year 7 & 12) only

Thursday 7 September (Years 8,9,10,11,13)

-

Tuesday 19 December

### Autumn Half Term Holiday 2017

Friday 20 October

-

Friday 27 October

### Spring Term 2018

Thursday 4 January

-

Thursday 28 March

### Spring Half Term Holiday 2018

Monday 12 February

-

Friday 16 February

### Summer Term 2018

Monday 16 April

-

Tuesday 24 July

### Summer Half Term Holiday 2018

Monday 28 May

-

Friday 1 June

### TRAINING DAYS

4-5 September 2017

Wednesday 3 January 2018



# year11@springwood

## CLASS OF 2017

Congratulations to you all; the class of 2017!

Wow, what a wonderful year group you have been. I've really enjoyed working with you all this year and celebrating all your achievements. To me you will always be a Springwood student, so as you leave to explore the big wide world and follow your dreams, please stay in touch and let us know of your fantastic achievements. Best of luck! Mr Scoles.





# sixthform@springwood

## SIXTH FORM INDUCTION DAY



The 6 July marked the first full day experience of becoming a Springwood sixth form student for the Year 11s starting in September.

The day started with a warm welcome from the Headteacher, Mr Johnson, who then passed over to the sixth form team to explain how Springwood sixth form makes their students the best they can be and the opportunities the students can grab for the future.

After a little introduction to sixth form life, the students designed their own subject timetable and dispersed across the school, for a day in the life of a Springwood sixth form student.

The day was full of fun lessons, giving the students insight into their chosen subjects, to see if it was right for them. The arts offered a range of interesting activities such as; painting a New York scene, photograms in photography and some powerful acting in the drama studio. There was also information about the opportunities the Arts offered, for example an Art and Photography trip to Venice in March. Maths saw students starting to work together to solve problems. In science, students got to experience a practical activity and things started to get heated in Government and Politics, with passionate debates.

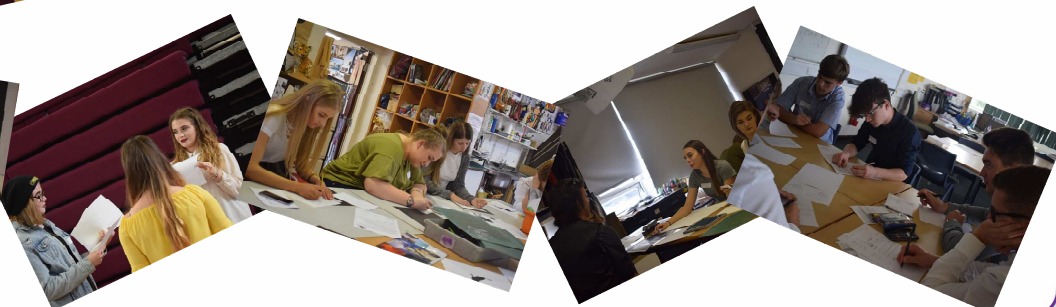
During form time there was a Question and Answer session with the student council, to enable students to hear at first hand why students from the council chose to study at Springwood and what opportunities it has given them.

To show off how Springwood sixth form offers fun and exciting opportunities for their students, the council set up yet another successful and delicious BBQ, selling the best burgers in town, raising £100!

At the end of the day students stayed behind, with opportunities to listen to further details about their course, but to also change their subject if they did not feel it was right for them.

We, at Springwood sixth form, hope that this day has made the new students feel welcomed and confident when coming in September. There was much talent seen in lessons and the sixth form team look forward to working with everyone in the new September term.

*Report by Eve Norman, Sixth Form Media Liaison Student*



# sixthform@springwood

## YEAR 10 PATHWAY DAY

The year 10 Pathway Day successfully started with a warm welcome, with chocolate croissant, hot chocolate and a speech from the Sixth Form team. They then dispersed to a lesson choice of their own to get a taster of what it would be like to be a Sixth Form student at Springwood.

During form, there was a question and answer session with the Sixth Form council, answering questions such as 'What is it like to study at Springwood?' and 'How to know what subjects to choose'. During lunch the Sixth Form council set up a successful BBQ for the Year 10's and current Year 12's, to show off the fun and extra things Springwood has to offer; the money raised also went to the Cystic Fibrosis charity.

During the evening we invited the Year 10's back to a talk on Springwood Sixth Form life and how it offers that little bit extra to make their students stand out from the rest.

Meanwhile, a careers fair was being set up in the study area, to show off different pathways into the future. Major organisations such as M&S, NHS, Police and many others were there to guide and talk to the students about the skills they would need to work within that sector. There was also a wide range of universities there including; the UEA and the University of Lincoln, to give the Year 10's insight into what courses and further education they could attend, once leaving Sixth Form.

Past students were also on hand to share their experience at Springwood and what they are doing now after gaining their A levels. We hope that the Year 10's found the pathway day useful in deciding where to go in the future and we hope to see many returning faces to Springwood Sixth Form.

Report and images by Eve Norman, Year 12.





# year7@springwood

## 7H1 WATER SURPRISE

This year 7H1 decided to give something back to other people. As a form, we decided to collect our spare change in a jam jar. When we filled the jam jar (and another jam jar), we counted the money and had raised over £20. 7H1 decided the best thing to do with this money was to help a family in AFRICA! We managed to purchase a goat (called Timmy) and clean water for 3 families for 1 year, through the OXFAM website.

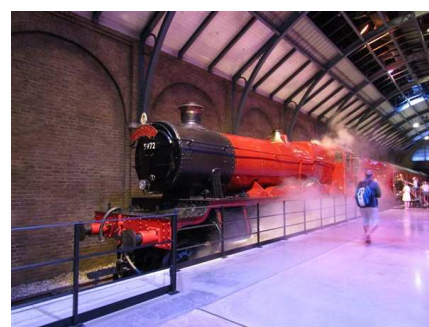
A Massive congratulations to 7H1 for their lovely charitable donations.



## YEAR 7 VISIT HARRY POTTER



Thursday 6 July Year 7 visited the Harry Potter exhibition in London a fun day of wizardry and sourcery was had by all.



## people@springwood

### TASTY CAKES FOR 'APPY SCIENTISTS



The recent plea of the Science department on a KLFM website resulted in no-one else, but Simon Rowe personally delivering scrumptious cakes to our department. Although we did break a no eating in the lab rule, it was all worth it as the cakes were delicious! We were also aired on the radio the following morning shouting the famous 'Appy Days' from Springwood High School. Hope you tuned in to hear us.



All year 10 students took part in some end of year Science exams. This is the first time the students had sat exams of the new specification, so was a good insight into what to expect at the end of year 11. The students achieved some great success and to celebrate this the top performers for foundation and higher received some chocolate as a well earned reward.

Congratulations year 10. Keep up the hard work in year 11. Miss Davies

### BRONZE AWARD FOR STEMM STUDENTS



23 year 10 students took part in the Bronze Youth STEMM award this year. Each student had to complete over a total of 45 hours in four strands to achieve the award. The strands are engaging the public, inspiring the next generation, developing knowledge and skills and shaping your future. The students took part in a variety of activities, these included trips, presentations from guest speakers, producing videos, entering competitions, mentoring younger students and producing reports on the work they had completed. Throughout the year the students have been a shining example of how to extend their learning beyond the classroom. They have developed key skills that will enable them to be successful in their future paths. I wish them continued success with the Silver award that they will complete in year 11. Many congratulations on your hard work. Miss Davies



# year7@springwood

## YEAR 7 EXHIBITION EVENING



On Thursday June 29<sup>th</sup>, Year 7 hosted their own Exhibition for family and friends. The students took charge of all aspects of the Exhibition and designed invitation letters to parents, created a slideshow of pictures from various events through the year, designed awards, baked cakes and sweet treats as well as preparing sandwiches and other food. Keeley Todd performed a dance routine, Kala Marriott and Ella Simpkins performed a duet, and Tom Doughty played a solo instrumental on his guitar.

Students in attendance were asked to source out their best piece of work of Year 7 and to write a review of their time at Springwood. The work and write ups were all on display for parents to see.

The evening was a fantastic occasion with over 200 members of families and friends attending in support of the children. The exhibition was a great way to round off their first year at SHS. The students have not stopped talking about it since!

Mr Thurlow





# sld@springwood

## SLD SPEAKER RUSSELL EDWARDS CATCHES UP WITH YEAR 12 STUDENT EVE NORMAN AFTER HIS INSPIRATIONAL SPEECH TO THE SIXTH FORM...

On Friday 7th July the year 12 started their super learning day with an inspirational speech from Russell Edwards, head designer at Pocket. After the speech I had the chance to meet up with him to ask some further questions about his career and how it came to be.



I started with the basic question of 'what made you want to become an architect?'

Russell answered 'From a young age I had always loved drawing and sense of space. My family have always been involved with the army, but my dad wanted me to go to university, so it was a no brainer of what I wanted to be.'

Russell gave the advice of 'if you don't know what to do at uni, just do something you enjoy and are good at, the quality in which you complete your course is more important than what degree you get at the end of it. Uni gives you opportunities as well as skills on living on your own and starting to become independent.'

During the talk Russell mentioned a lot about studying abroad, that led to my next question of 'Is it worth taking a year work placement abroad at Uni?'

Without any hesitation Russell straight away said 'YES !! Studying abroad made me a much more rounded person. Whilst away you have make new friends and get to experience new types of culture, furthermore it gave me new contacts that I could use in the future when working.'

As Russell interviews people for getting new jobs I asked 'By doing extra curricular activities such as D of E, does it make you stand out from the rest of the crowd?' Again without much hesitation Russell nods his head 'When I interview and hear that the person has taken their own time to do extra curricular things such as D of E or work experience, it shows that the person is a real worker and is prepared for challenges. You can always tell whether an employer has taken extra curricular activities as well, when working they are much more understanding of their colleagues and tend to work better in a team. As an instructor for D of E, I learned how it was important to guide and lead people so that they stayed safe and understood clearly their challenge. Furthermore, when it comes down to picking between two people for a job, who have the same grades and degree, I instantly look to see what activities they have taken up themselves, as I know the person with the most will be the most well rounded.' Moving on to Russell's life now, I was interested as to

what his company 'Pocket' does and how it helps people within London. Russell explained 'Pocket' is an architect/building company that produces flats with a 20% discount for people earning a mid-range salary, mainly wanting to buy their first house, but cannot afford it as the house prices in London are high. It is a challenging job, as you are trying to design these small apartments with as much space as possible, but as I said before I have always had a good awareness of space, and by applying my architecture skills, the company can come up with a modern spacious place for residents to live. It is a tough job, but it's a really rewarding job-making someone's life that little bit better.

Finally, to end the interview I asked the question 'Did you ever feel unsure or nervous when making a career choice?'

'I don't think you would be human, if you did not feel nervous. It is a big decision, when I decided to do architecture at uni, it was completely different from what I expected, I still did not know 6 months into the course whether it was the right decision. However, I was good at it and it was something I was passionate about, whether or not it was something I expected it to be like or not. Even from when I swapped from being an architect, to head of design, which earned more money and gave me a wider career path, I was still unsure. Saying that, I have always been ambitious and have always wanted to go onto the next thing. It's normal to feel nervous when entering an environment you are not aware of, as long as you are passionate and driven, you will not fail, it will work out.'

From interviewing Russell, I have learned three important things. Firstly, that when choosing a course or job, you should do the subject that you love and that grabs your attention, as you will be studying it for three years or more at uni and later in life. Secondly that you should grab every opportunity that is laid in front off you, everything you do will make you more cultured and will enable you to have another outlook on life. Finally, the most important thing, is just to go for it. If you never take risks then you will never get anywhere, life is full off them and if you're never brave enough to take that extra step, you will stay stuck in that same place forever.

Interview by Eve Norman

