



MAKING WAVES

News from The Swanage School

AUTUMN / WINTER 2022



In this issue:

Autumn in **PARIS**

SPORT in the spotlight

MASTERCLASSES delivered by industry professionals



HEADLINES

We are going to print just as we break for the Christmas holidays, and although I appreciate this edition will be 'on the news stands' until well into the Spring, I first and foremost wish you all a very restful festive season and a wonderful start to 2023.

Since the start of the academic year, we have been pursuing our development plan, in particular the implementation of our new Creative Media Suite and curriculum, development of sport across all ages and disciplines, and establishment of a pastoral curriculum based on 'phases' - the 'Foundation Phase' (Year 7 & 8), the 'Gateway Phase' (Y9) and the 'Next Steps Phase' (Y10 & 11). We outlined these in the last edition of Making Waves and you can read about them on our website.

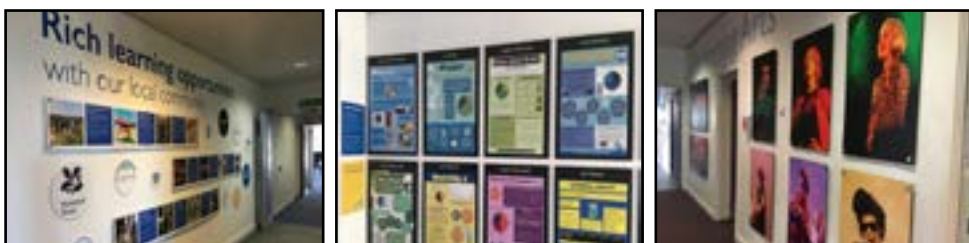
The Autumn Term started with an amazing 2-night residential trip for our new Year 7 students (p.3) and has also seen residential trips going to London (p.15) and Paris (p.13). We have seen exciting projects starting, growing and coming to fruition. For example, we've introduced the Duke

of Edinburgh Award Scheme (p.5), we're seeing students lead the Race Team (p.4) and Astronomy Club (p.19) to create opportunities and results, and our GCSE Art students have seen their stone carvings installed on the Pier (p.12). Scientists and Geographers have been out and about on field trips aplenty (p.12). Performing Arts students have enjoyed workshops with rapper Isaiah Dreads and hip-hop dancer Isaac Farmer (p.7), we have been delighted to welcome a chef from The Pig on the Beach to teach masterclasses in food preparation (p.11), and we now have a professional photographer on the staff who is working with students (p.6).

Rehearsals are underway for our next annual production 'The Addams Family' which shows at The Mowlem at the end of February. Please support our fantastic performers by grabbing a ticket! As we go to print, Saturday night is almost sold out!

My very best wishes,

Jenny Maraspin, Headteacher



New displays have gone up in the last few months to keep the school looking modern and inspiring and to celebrate students' work.

INDUCTION: OUR WAY



At the start of this academic year, Crew Leaders took their new Year 7 students on a free 2-night residential trip to get to know each other and to learn the importance to us of 'The Swanage School Way'. The trip itself embodied this ethos; having fun whilst tackling challenges together, learning the importance of strong and supportive relationships and kind, positive behaviours, all of which exemplify the culture we promote at The Swanage School. During the trip, students had a chance to try tag archery, paddle boarding, climbing, kayaking and hiking.

CHROMEBOOKS FOR ALL!

Our Chromebook roll-out continues, with each incoming student receiving a free Chromebook to use at school and at home for the duration of their time at The Swanage School. This 'levels the playing field' in terms of technology available to students at home, supports them in completing their curriculum support activities and allows for blended learning in the classroom where students can easily switch between practical, written and digital work to best support their learning.



Year 7 students used their Chromebooks in a Computing class to program BBC micro:bits! A micro:bit is a pocket-sized computer that introduces how software and hardware work together.

SCHOOL SNIPPETS

INSPIRING INK

Our Newsletter Club are proud to present the first edition of their newsletter 'Inspiring Ink' which we aim to publish in early 2023. They've worked tremendously hard to create a first edition full of articles and creative writing, and we hope you will pick up a copy and enjoy a read.



LIVE ON AIR

Four members of our Race Team join the Breakfast Show at Purbeck Coast Radio to talk about progress on building our race car, plans to get it racing this season and their ambitions for the team!

The Race Team will be competing in the Greenpower F24 Championship. The Greenpower Trust is a UK based charity on a mission to spark enthusiasm for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) through motorsport.

Student Team Manager, Pierre Martel, writes about visiting Goodwood to see last year's final in student newsletter Inspiring Ink.



HEAD STUDENTS' APPOINTMENT

Headteacher Miss Maraspin and Chair of Governors Tim Marcus have interviewed and appointed three Head Students. Congratulations to Maddie Abley, Pollen Demir and Mikey Johnson, who impressed with their commitment and vision for the school!

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

We were delighted to once again participate in the Purbeck Christmas Tree Festival at The Emmanuel Church, with a design based on 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'. With the help of Miss Kerwood, Mrs Saganic, Miss Stallwood and Miss D'Ercole, students crafted twelve drummers, eleven pipers, ten lords....all the way down to the single partridge in a pear tree.



ON LOCATION

A group of Creative Media students visited Wareham St Mary Primary School to film their nativity play. Five cameras were set up to record from multiple angles, with editing taking place back at school. Mr Kirkham was extremely impressed with the way students conducted themselves.

HELPING PUDSEY

Over £430 was raised by a Cake Sale and non-uniform day for BBC Children in Need!

FOOD BANK COLLECTION

We were very proud of Year 7 and 8 Crews who ran a campaign to collect food items to donate to the local food bank in time for Christmas.

Head of Year 7 & 8 Miss Morris said: "I'm overwhelmed by how much everybody has helped out, and by the community spirit of our students. We will be giving a lot of families a bit more joy this Christmas."



YEAR 5 VISITORS

We have been pleased to welcome Year 5 pupils from local primary schools to The Swanage School.

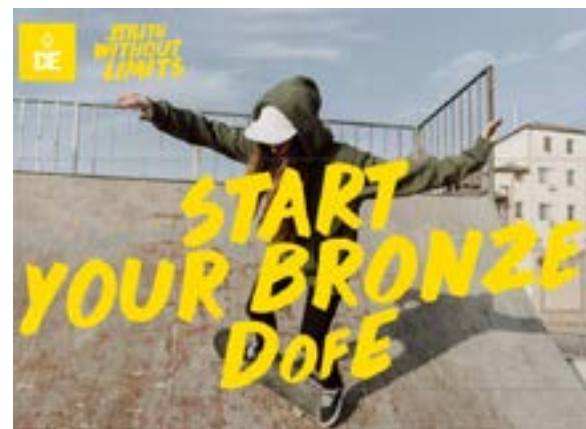
In a series of sessions, pupils have enjoyed crafting sessions, exploring creatures of the deep and making jellyfish for a collaborative art display, as well as sports sessions with our coach, practising their badminton skills.



Our **FOREST SCHOOL AND GARDEN** is coming along leaps and bounds in its redevelopment following receipt of a generous £1k donation from Planet Purbeck, coupled with a £5k grant from The Talbot Trust, under the creative eye of Scott Johnson. Working with Mr Johnson are a number of families who join in for a spot of gardening on Saturday mornings. Longer term, the aspiration is not only to have a great garden space, but also to plant and grow vegetables for cooking in Food & Nutrition lessons.

GOING FOR GOLD...

...starts with Bronze!



We are now a Duke of Edinburgh Award school!

All Year 9 students are being supported to complete their Bronze level award this year, led by Dr Tratt and Miss Dennis. Expedition equipment is starting to arrive (the tents are here!) and students are working on the non-expedition elements of the award which involve helping the community, becoming fitter and learning new skills.

STAFF NEWS



Reception: A warm Swanage School welcome to **Michaela Mitchener**, who has joined our office team front of house on reception. She's settled in so well, it feels like she's been with us forever. We said a fond farewell to **Kirstie Robinson**, who moved on to another busy role in town.

Operational support: **Jason Selman** and **Sam Bowler** have joined our mini-bus driver team, doing the school run in the morning and afternoon. You might also see them from time to time working evenings and weekends with groups who hire the school's facilities. Mr Selman has also been appointed as a Teaching Assistant working alongside the Creative Media Department, given his school experience and skills as a professional photographer! **Nicky Hussey** joined our cleaning and lunchtime teams.

Teaching: Welcome to **Kate Forbes**, who has joined us as a Teacher for the National Tutoring Programme.

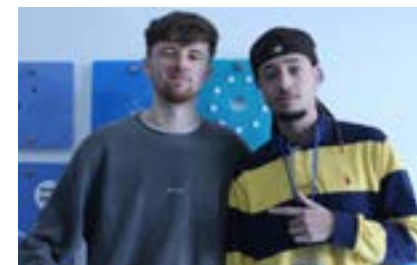
PHOTOGRAPHY: WORKING WITH A PRO

Students are benefitting from the appointment of police officer turned professional photographer Jason Selman to our staff team. Mr Selman, who also has experience working in schools as a Teaching Assistant and Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA), will be running photography workshops to support wellbeing as well as mentoring students with a keen eye and an interest in photography. As a photographer, he specialises in rock and band photography at gigs and festivals across the country, as well as events such as weddings and parties. The likes of McFly, The Kaiser Chiefs, Paul Weller, Status Quo and The Rolling Stones have all been captured by his lens in stunning images - see his instagram feed for the full picture! https://www.instagram.com/jasonselman_photo



'PERFORMING DUNESCAPES'

Rapper and MC **Isaiah Dreads** and hip-hop dance artist **Isaac Farmer** ran a series of workshops in school for some of our GCSE Performing Arts students.



'Performing DunesCAPes', a project led by Activate Performing Arts for the National Trust's Dynamic DunesCAPes programme, sees Isaiah and Isaac lead movement and music workshops for young people, using the sand dunes at Studland as inspiration.

The students involved met both artists to hear about their work and to discuss creative ideas, before visiting the dunes together. In a series of workshops that followed, Isaiah and Isaac worked with students to develop song-writing and dance skills, in a creative response to their visit to the dunes. At the culmination of the project, the group performed to other students, before Isaiah and Isaac took to the floor to demonstrate their own talents!



About Isaiah: Dorset-based rap artist Isaiah Dreads has been making music from the age of nine and has performed at festivals across the UK including Glastonbury, Wireless, Bestival, Lovebox and the Isle of Wight Festival. Through performing and consistent release of videos online he has become an acclaimed rapper, with over 7 million streams on Spotify this year.

About Isaac: Dancer and choreographer Isaac Farmer is a qualified Street Dance teacher and has achieved titles at International, UK and Regional level. He has danced for over 15 years with Shake Dance and has performed on Britain's Got Talent, MOVE IT Main Stage and the Breakin' Convention UK Tour, to name a few.

The wider Dynamic DunesCAPes programme focuses on surveying, protecting and rejuvenating dunes across the country as healthy biodiversity hotspots.

The Swanage School is also involved with the Dynamic DunesCAPes project through its Science Department, with students conducting insect and fungi surveys over a five year period to contribute to collection of data on how dunes are changing over time.



SPORTS NEWS



RIDING INTO A TEAM GB FUTURE?

Congratulations to Year 10 student **Rufus**, who has been invited to train with the British Cycling Team Regional School of Racing Group, with the potential to progress to the Development Academy in the future for Team GB. Rufus rides for Poole Wheelers and has been placing well in time-trials,

road, and cyclocross events. Rufus regularly trains at the Calshot Velodrome, which has a 142m track, as well as sessions at the full 250m tracks in Derby and Newport, where he is developing his talent and passion as a track sprinter.

SWANAGE SCHOOL STUDENTS CLEAN UP AT CRICKET AWARDS!

Congratulations to **Dylan** (Year 10) who won fielder of the year at the Swanage Cricket Club awards presentation for the 2022 season. Dylan made 9 catches through the season and a run out, with team captain

Tim Ives proclaiming he had the safest pair of hands in the team! Dylan also scored 233 runs during the season and took 24 wickets.

Former student **Freddie** (2022) picked up bowler of the year, after a fantastic season including one game where he took an incredible 7 wickets in just 7 overs.

Seb (Year 10) picked up the dubious award of duck race joint champion. This is awarded to the player who scores the most 0s (ducks) in the season. Although not an award many players want to win, Seb was extremely proud of his achievement!



TRAINING WITH AFC BOURNEMOUTH

Great news for **Olly** (Year 11), who has been invited to training and to a trial session for AFC Bournemouth <17s. Olly is a talented footballer playing for Poole Town at present.



FORMER TSS STUDENT SCORES IN FA CUP QUALIFYING!

Recently graduated student **Holly** (2022) has scored twice in the 2nd Round of FA Cup qualifying for Poole Town Ladies FC, including in a convincing 7-2 win against Widbrook United. Poole

Town play in the South West Regional Women's Football League. Holly was a keen football player while at The Swanage school, attending and helping to run the girls football club.

TEAMS IN ACTION!

There have been fixtures aplenty since we returned to school in September 2022. PE Teacher Mr Butler and Coach Mr Gregory have been busy training students for matches and supporting them at home and away games. Football teams across all years have played friendly games and league fixtures, as have our netball team. The basketball team played their first friendly match against The Purbeck School, coming away with a win. During the last week of the Autumn Term, a mini-tournament against Corfe Hills School involved 5 matches over 4 days, with football, netball and basketball teams in action.



From top to bottom: <16 netball team, <13 boys' football team, <16 boys' football team

From top to bottom: Year 7 girls' football team, Year 8 girls' football team, <16 girls' football team

SPORTS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



A group of aspiring sports leaders were chosen to attend the Dorset Sports Leadership Academy, held at Bryanston School. Organised by Dorset School Games, the Academy welcomed 560 young people from over 40 schools and is designed to inspire young people to lead or volunteer within their school or community. It is part of a wider leadership, coaching and volunteering programme running in Dorset which provides suitable pathways for young people to learn, enrich and extend their leadership skills and to support them through a range of opportunities. Workshops were held throughout the day and athlete mentors were in attendance to inspire and motivate. The 2022 mentors were Beth Radford, former World Rowing Champion and experienced member of the Team GB Rowing Team; Jamie Barrow, the world's fastest snowboarder; and Jenna Downing, the world's number one female inline skater and ten times British Champion.

Numbers were limited and the group comprised some of our existing Sports Ambassadors, and others who have shown a keen interest in sport since starting at The Swanage School. All students behaved impeccably and came back inspired to become a Sports Ambassador if not one already. A special mention to Lydia and Isobel who participated in the dance specialism during the day and showcased their talents in the Academy's closing performance!

ON THE WATER

Watersports lessons took place throughout the Autumn Term for Years 7 & 8, led by Cumulus Outdoors. Students have been on the water in kayaks, canoes and rafts!



FOOD MASTERCLASSES



Year 10 and 11 students studying the GCSE in Food Preparation & Nutrition have benefitted from the generosity of The Pig on the Beach in working with The Swanage School.

Through a series of masterclasses delivered by Pig on the Beach chef David Hoare, students have developing their understanding of the provenance of good food and the skills involved in preparing and presenting it.

During the Autumn Term, Chef Hoare visited to showcase fish preparation skills, to be followed by masterclasses in meat preparation and pasta making.

Students learnt how to de-bone and fillet various fish and how to create a delicious fish dish using locally grown and seasonal produce.

In one of the dishes, fillets were pan-fried and served with a crab meat sauce and a fennel salad. The end result, tasted by students (and staff!) was truly delicious!



Students have previously had opportunities to visit The Pig on the Beach in Studland to tour the kitchens and gardens and to learn about sourcing and foraging for food locally. They have even been lucky enough to sample the menu by dining in the restaurant.

Our sincere thanks to the team at The Pig. As well as inspiring the next generation, such hands-on experiences with industry professionals are invaluable for learning.



If you have a business or expertise that might be of benefit to supporting students' learning and can offer your time, please get in touch: suefletcher@theswanageschool.co.uk

OUT AND ABOUT

ON THE DUNES: Year 11 Geographers have been out in the field undertaking an **enquiry into the impacts of physical processes and human activity at Studland**. They investigated the beach profiles by using specialist equipment to measure the angles along the beach. They also carried out sand dune transects, collecting primary data to be interpreted and analysed back at school.

Our young Scientists have also visited Studland to conduct surveys and collect data for the **National Trust's Dynamic Dunescapes project**.



TO THE CATHEDRAL: GCSE Art students visited Salisbury Cathedral to **experience the architecture, artefacts and an exhibition of large scale tapestries by the artist Grayson Perry**. The trip enabled them to see, experience and record art, artefacts and architecture in 'real life'. Many students also visited the Cathedral's Magna Carta, one of only four surviving original documents from 1215.

Oh no they didn't! OH YES THEY DID! GCSE Drama students had a day out at the panto, watching Cinderella at The Lighthouse, Poole.



ON THE PIER: Art GCSE students visited Swanage Pier for the unveiling of their marine-themed stone carvings, which have been installed on plinths along the length of the pier. The carvings, which were created at the Burngate Stone Carving Centre in a project spanning several months, are for visitors to use as art rubbings. Members of the Allsort'd group joined students and Mrs Saganic for the occasion and were the first to take rubbings from the stones. During the project students learnt about the historical and cultural importance of the Pier and of stonequarrying to the local area. You can read more about the project on our website: www.theswanageschool.co.uk/news-article/stone-carvings-unveiled-on-swanage-pier



AUTUMN IN PARIS!



In October, some of our French GCSE students set off with Madame Fawke and Monsieur Forster for a cultural trip to Paris. During a jam-packed few days, they visited key cultural sites, took a river boat cruise on the Seine and absorbed the sights and sounds of this beautiful city.

The group explored the **Montmartre** area, where they discussed the new **'Mur des je t'aime'** (the 'I love you' wall) and visited the impressive **Sacre Coeur Basilica**, enjoying the amazing views of the city from its famous steps. They shopped for local art and fashion accessories in the **'Place du Tertre'** and watched the many artists at work. They discovered **Notre Dame**, the beautiful **Arc de Triomphe** and walked along the

Champs Elysees.

The trip included a visit to the department store **'Les Galeries Lafayette'** with its exquisite glass dome and amazing roof top view.

They visited **The Louvre** to see famous art pieces such as the Mona Lisa and The Venus of Milo, and lunched by the ponds in **The Tuileries Gardens**. From the 56th floor of the **Montparnasse Tower** they gained incredible views of Paris.

On their final day, the group went 20m below ground and meandered through the **catcombs** tunnels, full of history and atmosphere, and challenged themselves to translate the many death related quotes along the way!

No trip to Paris would be complete without a visit to **The Eiffel Tower**, so they did that too of course!

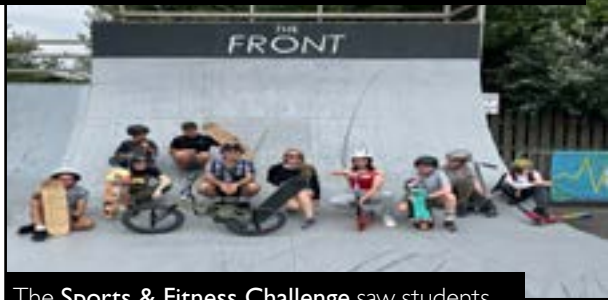


CHALLENGE WEEK

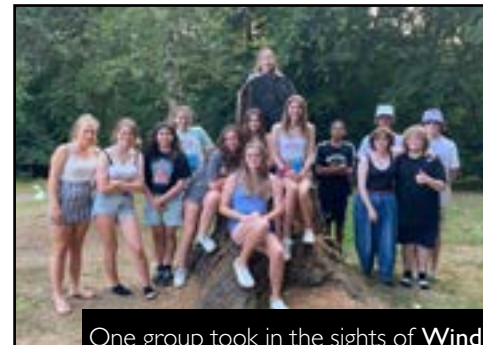
As our last issue of Making Waves went to print, students were setting off on Challenge Week trips. Each student had selected a Challenge, involving a residential trip or themed local activities, for the last week of the Summer Term. The heatwave experienced during that week and the national weather warnings in place meant that some alterations had to be made, including postponing of the London trip until September.



Some students enjoyed a **Climbing Challenge**, testing their stamina at indoor climbing walls and at Dancing Ledge. Another group threw themselves into learning to **skateboard** with visits to three different skateparks.



The **Sports & Fitness Challenge** saw students hone their skills at the Football Lab in Poole, as well as having gym and training sessions.



One group took in the sights of **Windsor** on a 2-night residential, whilst others completed a **Jurassic Challenge** with a dinosaur theme!



The rescheduled **London** trip took place just days after the death of Queen Elizabeth. The group laid flowers on behalf of the school before visiting Leicester Square and Covent Garden. A theatre visit to see *Grease* was the highlight.



All non-residential Challenge groups came together midweek for a game of **'We're a Knockout'**. The Staff team tried, and failed, to take top spot!

In other Challenges: **Osmington** was the destination for outdoor activity loving students. They experienced a range of land and water-based activities during their few days away. With visits to Leeson House, Arne and a boat ride, the **Sights & Sounds of Nature Challenge** was a calmer trip than some!

Planning for Challenge Week 2023 is well underway!

WELLBEING MATTERS



CHALLENGE DAY: HEALTHY MIND

Students had a day at Knowle Beach in Studland for the first Challenge Day of the year. Themed around 'Healthy Mind', wellbeing and mindfulness were the order of the day in a range of activities led by The National Trust. These included a 'Dune Stampede' and using invasive plant species to create art.

TALK TO US!

Please talk to us if things are tough. Staff are here to help, so get in touch if you have any concerns about wellbeing or mental health issues.

Students - your Crew Leader is a good first port of call, or speak to a member of the safeguarding & welfare team. Ms Sands is our Safeguarding & Welfare Officer and has an 'open door' policy meaning you can knock and go in so long as she isn't with anyone at the time. Please don't keep worries or anxieties to yourself - we will do our very best to support you and help you resolve any issues.

Parents - please get in touch if you are concerned about your child. Phone 01929 500599 and ask to speak to Ms Sands or another member of the team.



MIND your mental health

A group of students joined a focus group for mental health charity MIND, as part of the Whole School Approach Programme. Over a series of sessions, they talked about issues facing teenagers and ways in which mental health support in schools might be improved.

Details of the Active Monitoring campaign is on the next page and has been emailed to parents/carers. Our representative from Mind, Amy Miller, will be at The Swanage School every Friday.

ENOUGH!

You may have seen ads on TV and billboards recently as part of the government's ENOUGH campaign to highlight the importance of standing up to friends and colleagues when their behaviour is bullying or harassing to others. We have long had this ethos at The Swanage School and encourage all students to 'do the right thing' both in terms of their own behaviour and in recognising that peer abuse, harassment and bullying are NOT OK and should be challenged and reported, even if that means standing up to your friends. Zero tolerance. **NOT@TSS**.



MAKING IT EASY TO REPORT CONCERNS:

Students can report concerns to any member of staff or, if they prefer, can report any concerns or seek support via the QR code on our NOT@TSS posters around school.



Active Monitoring: Local support to help young people aged 11-18yrs, self-manage their mental health and wellbeing

| What is Active Monitoring? | Where/when do sessions take place? | What can it help with? |
|---|--|--|
| 3x 8 weeks of 1-2-1 sessions with one of our friendly trained practitioners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools/college GP Surgery Online Monday to Friday 9am - 6.30pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anger Anxiety & stress Brief & loss Low mood Low self-esteem |

I shared my feelings and felt listened to.
- Active Monitoring Feedback

Book an appointment through your doctors, and access this service for FREE

dorsetmind.uk #LiveLifeMentallyHealthy Mind Dorset

What are the signs you might be struggling?

These can be unique to you and your experiences, but might include:

- Withdrawing or distancing yourself from people
- Changes in sleeping or eating routines
- Feeling overwhelmed and unable to cope with things
- Being anxious to the point it stops you doing things
- you want to

Trust yourself, if something doesn't feel right, let someone know.

Need help now?

FREE numbers to contact 24/7:

- Connection: 0800 652 0160 or via NHS 111
- Shout! Text SHOUT to 83258
- Samaritans: 116 123, FREE
- Childline: 0800 11 11

If you need urgent medical attention, phone 999 immediately, or go to your local A&E if you can safely.

For no-charge help, the first step is to talk to someone you can trust like a parent, carer or teacher. They can then help you find the right support.

Dorset Mind is not a crisis service. Find out what the charity does at dorsetmind.uk #LiveLifeMentallyHealthy



ALL ABOUT ALUMNI

Jonathan Aiko (2017) took A-levels in Maths, Physics and Spanish and went on to study for an Accounting & Finance degree at Bournemouth University.

Sally Aiko (2019) took A-levels in Music, Spanish and History and went on to study Violin at the Royal College of Music, London.

Alfie Moyler (2017) completed a BTEC level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport (Outdoor Adventure) at Rockley Park. With two friends from the college, he has been living in Arusha, Tanzania, since January 2021.

UMOJA MAONO

The trio have set up a charity 'Umoja Maono' (which translates as 'united vision') and are working with the local headteacher to support the development of a preschool, where they also teach. In addition, they are fundraising for a bus to take local children to the nearest primary school and are planning for a future creating opportunities for young children in rural areas where there are no schools.

Excitingly, they have set up a hostel where they live and can accommodate volunteers to assist with the school project - so watch this space! We are chatting to Alfie about opportunities for a visit to Africa to contribute to their work! You can follow their progress on Instagram: @umojamaono_daily

PAST STUDENTS:
Please complete our **Alumni Survey** or email us on **alumni@theswanageschool.co.uk** to tell us what you're up to now and to be featured here. It will only take a minute and staff love to hear from you

Amelia Robertson (2021) enjoyed great reviews playing the lead in 'Legally Blonde' at Lytchett Minster School, where she is currently at the sixth form studying for her A-levels.

FORMER STUDENTS SHARE SIXTH FORM STORIES

We were delighted to be joined by past students [Katie Abrey](#), [Alice Craig](#) and [Rosie Goodwin](#) (all 2022) for an assembly to Year 10 and 11 students on sixth form studies. They are all studying for A-levels at The Purbeck School Sixth Form.



Our 'Alumni Map' shows where our former students are now! To be featured, get in touch via email or our survey (see above)!

NEXT STEPS & CAREERS

By Year 10 & 11 - the 'Next Steps' years - preparation for further education and future employment notches up a gear from the preparatory research and skills development undertaken during the lower years - the 'Transition/Foundation' and 'Gateway' years. All students are supported by Crew Leaders to be ambitious but realistic in their aspirations and each student benefits from an individual consultation with a Careers Advisor who helps them to plan a route map to any preferred aspirations or to think about how best to keep options open for the future.

MAKING APPLICATIONS

Applications are open for **sixth form and other further education courses** starting in September 2023, so don't delay!

Details of **apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities** can be found on the 'post-16 employment opportunities' section of the school's Employability SharePoint site.

Applications need to be of a high standard as most opportunities are time-limited and competitive. Speak to Mr Duke if you have any questions.

Another giant step for Astronomy Club

The California Nebula

After many hours of late-night observations and lots of time in front of the computer to create the composite image, the TSS Astronomy Team have learnt many skills and put their perseverance to the test. Here is their first attempt at imaging the California Nebula!

GOVERNANCE UPDATE

We are fortunate to have dedicated governors who take their role seriously and who are committed to ensuring The Swanage School continues to thrive and grow. Our governing board has an excellent relationship with the Senior Leadership Team that is both appropriately challenging and supportive. **If you would like to be a school governor, please get in touch with our Clerk on clerk@theswanageschool.co.uk or see our website for more information in the first instance: www.theswanageschool.co.uk/governance**

WHAT DO GOVERNORS DO?

Good schools favour continual improvement and constantly evolve. It is a key element for success and creates an environment in which the highest possible educational standards and best possible student experience of school can be met. Good schools also look after their staff, meet their statutory requirements and manage tight financial resources well. Good school leadership needs self-evaluation, monitoring, reviewing and constructive feedback, from which short, medium and longer term aims are developed. Governors play an important role in all of this.

Whilst governors do not manage the day-to-day running of the school, they have oversight and hold school leaders to account. They are, in effect, a 'critical friend' to school leaders, providing challenge and analysis, as well as support.

Governance Impact Statement

At the end of each academic year, governing boards must publish a statement, focusing on the value they have added. You will find our impact statement on the school website:

www.theswanageschool.co.uk/governanceimpactstatement

THE 3 CORE FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNANCE

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction

2. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring its money is well spent

3. Holding school leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the effective performance management of staff



WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

GOVERNANCE

If you want the very best education and opportunities for young people, being a school governor for The Swanage School is a role that will give you an opportunity to give something to your community and to play a part in shaping our wonderful school. Anyone over the age of 18 can be a school governor. You do not need to be a parent of a student at the school. **Interested? Please get in touch with our Clerk (clerk@theswanageschool.co.uk) to find out more about the role, commitment and the election process.** There are opportunities for election to our governing board in January and June each year.

JOIN OUR PTFA!

The school's Parent, Teacher & Friends Association needs new members to rejuvenate post-Covid. In the past, our PTFA has been a thriving body which has raised significant funds for the school, with members also lending a hand on special occasions.

Being a member of the PTFA is open to all who wish to support the school, whether a parent, a teacher or a member of the local community. Please get in touch to find out more.

Contact Sue Fletcher on: suefletcher@theswanageschool.co.uk

ACADEMY TRUST

The Swanage School is an academy with a co-operative membership. **This means any member of the community may join the Academy Trust, Education Swanage, if they share its vision and ethos.**

Members are the 'top layer' of governance at an academy school, but the time commitment is far less than being a governor. Members elect the majority of governors and are the body with the authority to intervene if the governing board is not fulfilling its role effectively. There are two short meetings each year for members.

To join, please contact the Clerk on clerk@theswanageschool.co.uk

VOLUNTEERING

Working with the community and volunteers makes The Swanage School a special place and creates fantastic opportunities for our students.

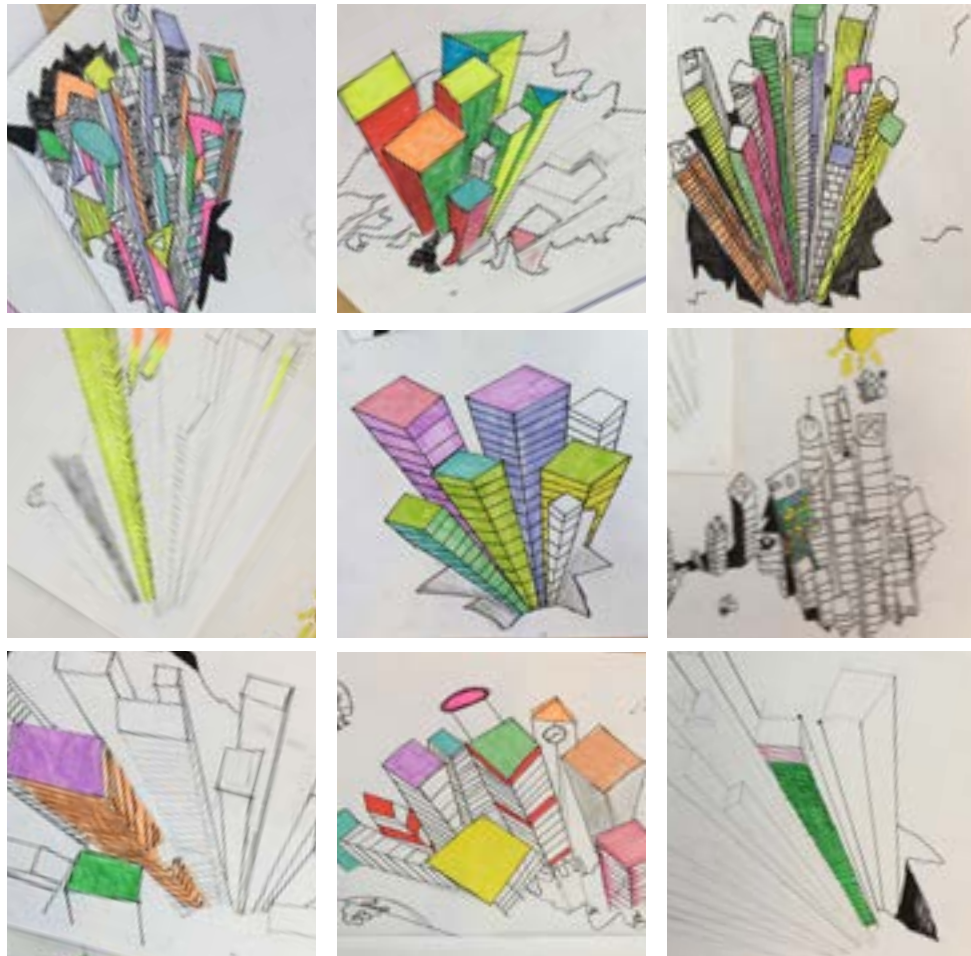
Whether it is to give a talk in assembly, help run a club or lend a hand in the garden, input from volunteers has been incredibly valuable.

Please get in touch if you have skills and experience to offer: email Sue on suefletcher@theswanageschool.co.uk

YEAR 7 DESIGN SHOWCASE

RIGHT: Design in action! Year 7s were given a mini brief to design packaging suitable for a single 'birthday cookie' - to be displayed and sold in a local bakery. Students attempted this challenge with imagination and energy, collaborating with each other to generate unique, unusual and fun results! Having sketched their designs on paper, they then used card to create prototype models. Check out Cookie Monster, balloons, party hats and a new character - 'Gunter the Pigeon'!

BELOW: Sinking cities! Year 7 have also been investigating one point and two point perspective. Their 'sinking city' drawings are effective in demonstrating one point perspective!



THE SWANAGE SCHOOL PRESENTS



The
Addams
Family

A NEW MUSICAL
COMEDY

THE MOWLEM THEATRE

FEBRUARY 2023: THU 23rd, FRI 24th, SAT 25th at 7:30pm & SAT 25th at 2:30pm

Tickets £13 plus booking fee available from The Mowlem Box Office

0333 666 3366 (standard rates apply, lines open Mon-Fri 9-5) or visit themowlem.com

Book by MARSHALL BRIDGMAN and RICK ELICE, music and lyrics by ANDREW LIPPA. Based on characters created by CHARLES ADDAMS

THE ADDAMS FAMILY is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by
Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW). www.theatricalrights.co.uk