



# *Kindness Matters*



A guilty pleasure of mine, which takes me right back to childhood is the FAB ice lolly, which I have had too many of recently! I do think they are Fab and so is this edition of the newsletter; art, baking and all levels of creativity abound.

The lockdown and home learning also continues to take centre stage, but also the Black Lives Matter movement features prominently.

As we welcome the present Year 6, we also have a look back at Smithdon's historic past. Then, turning to the future, please look and enter the C Block competition. Hope you enjoy the newsletter and please keep well and safe.

Mr Hirst

# What's changing at Smithdon High School?

As you are aware, from the 29 June, Year 10 Smithdon students have returned back to school for some lessons in Maths, English and Science.

Alongside this, we are looking to improve provision for our students who are completing work through home learning. This includes a range of different strategies included below...

1. **Personalised Presentations:** You may notice a more familiar tone to your PowerPoints, with teachers giving instruction and direction through audio.
2. **Live feedback calendar:** Students in Years 9 and 10 will be able to drop in with teachers to observe live marking and ask those all-important questions.
3. **Improved feedback:** Teachers will now provide regular feedback every 2-3 weeks providing detail of how students can improve.
4. **Challenge tasks:** To provide plenty of opportunity for those students wishing to extend their learning and challenge their minds.

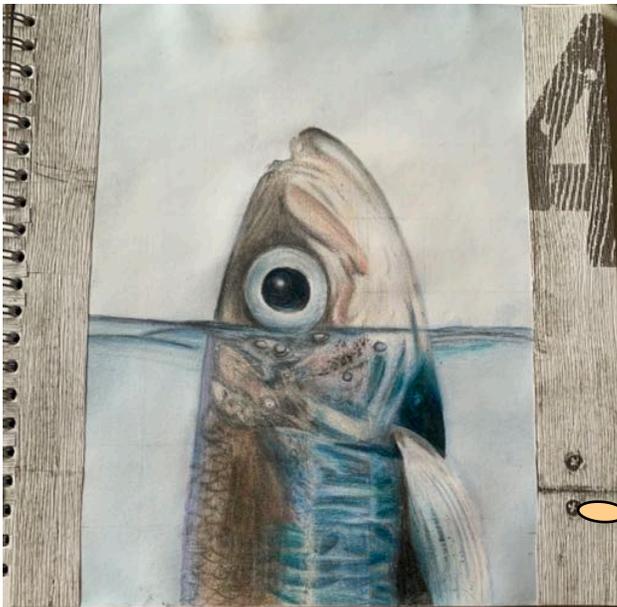


# Ideas you could try at home

Casey's cake looks too good to eat.



Jessica's art work looks amazing.



Ben and Olivia's sausage rolls look delicious!





Build a model from lego like Freddie.

Ffion has drawn a picture.



Bobby has been taking photographs.

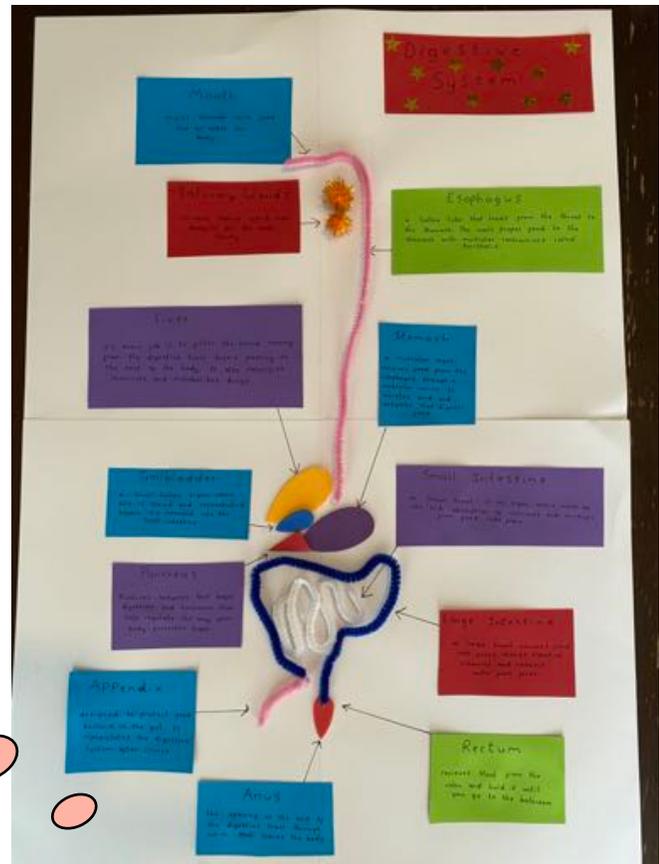
Bake some delicious cakes like Roxy.



Oliver has got creative with editing photos.



Grace has made a digestive system from crafts.



# Black Lives Matter

## Something to think about ...

Racism is wicked. I don't think anybody would disagree with that, but as we have seen recently in the papers and media since the death of George Floyd; there are questions, raised by his death, which are much more complicated to answer.

Protesters across the world have been challenging the injustices of racism and championing the fact that Black Lives Matter. One question raised by the protesters is whether certain statues, which commemorate the achievements of individuals, should be removed. In Bristol, the protesters took matters into their own hands and pulled down the statue of Sir Edward Colston, a prominent member of the community, who had given away much of his fortune to good causes in the city. This fortune however, had been made during the transatlantic slave trade.



By the time the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act became law in 1807, 10 to 12 million Africans had crossed the Atlantic in awful conditions to the Americas. The British Empire finally abolished slavery in 1833; the USA in 1865, after their Civil War, and Brazil was the last country to abolish slavery – as late as 1888.



Slavery and the slave trade was abolished for moral reasons and for economic reasons. In the USA, however, racism prevailed in the former slave states and the “Jim Crow” laws were passed from 1865 all the way through to the 1960s, enforcing segregation and preventing Black Americans from voting. As the laws were passed and the segregation was enforced, statues of former Confederate Generals started to appear in the 1920s to commemorate their fight to prevent the end of slavery and to mark white authority. It is, perhaps, not surprising that Black Americans and the Black Lives Matter movement would like these particular statues removed.

In the UK, the removal of Edward Colston, little known outside of Bristol, might be less contentious.

However, when we start to look at many of our heroes from the past, we can also start to identify their flaws: Thomas Guy, who (amongst other things) set up Guy's Hospital in London, made part of his fortune from Slavery; Cecil Rhodes, a nineteenth century imperialist, set up the Rhodes scholarship and a statue of him is centre stage at Oriel College, Oxford, but also proves to be contentious. He was undoubtedly an imperialist, a racist and caused the death and exploitation of millions of Africans in Southern Africa. There is debate over the removal of their statues.



Nelson and Churchill are also flawed heroes. Both helped save Great Britain from existential threats – Napoleon for Nelson and Hitler for Churchill – but some of their attitudes, particularly towards race would be questionable, if not downright offensive if we asked them today. Should their statues be removed?

In the past, we have applauded other countries when they have pulled down the images of former leaders: Saddam Hussein in Iraq, for example, and the communist leaders of the former Soviet Bloc in Eastern Europe, as well as, and perhaps most well-known, all signs of Nazi Germany's leadership. So countries do remove statues, either in the "heat of the moment" or more coolly, particularly if it is removing the signs of oppressive rulers or invading powers. But what should we do when the people those statues represent have been classified as "heroes" but our attitudes have changed?

Because attitudes do change, and we can see social attitudes changing most quickly and noticeably in comedy and reactions to comedy. Most people would find comedies from the 1970s abhorrent today, but Matt Lucas and David Walliams, current comedic icons, have apologised for some of the sketches from Little Britain, saying that they would not make those sketches now. And Little Britain has recently been removed from Britbox. Is that the same as removing statues?



Should we remove statues of past heroes who we now deem flawed or do we keep them? Do we try to understand the context of the time (which made these people so flawed) and keep them as markers of the past, to show how much we, as a society, have evolved or do we remove them to ensure that no offense is caused to anyone of any race? Questions are often easy to ask, but there are rarely easy answers.

2020. The modern era. 2020 was supposed to be one of the greatest years. One of the years that people will look back on and go "Wow, I'm so glad I lived I that time." However, so many events have occurred where people will now look back on this year and go, "How. How did we survive this horrible, controversial and worrying time." WW3 threats, Australia on fire, Coronavirus and most recently George Floyd's death which has sparked devastation to the world.

The Black Lives Matter movement is a community of people of all races, colours, shape and size coming together to support the black people around the world during whenever they need us. It is all about different people coming together to show the whole world that we are all stronger and more powerful together so we can make a change. And you may ask what is the change? What change will happen from all of this? Well, my answer is for you, if we show a united front to the whole world and show that we are all the same on the inside, it doesn't matter about colour, but the goodness and kindness in our hearts. Equality should and will be served if we all do what we can. Donate too charities if you can, or if you don't have any spare money, watch YouTube videos with ads that all proceedings go to different charities. And most importantly use your voice. If you have one, use it. See what difference it makes.

But we must not forget what got us here. George Floyd was killed. An innocent man, killed. For the colour of his skin. What does this tell us about the society of today? It has been 46 years since The Civil Rights Act was passed. 46 years where racial equality should have been served, and hasn't. This is truly heartbreaking to us but imagine being the families of the poor people who have died of racial injustice. And we need to change this. Right now. Before it is to late still and people of future generations do not see the good in everyone, like a lot of people do not in this day and age.

However, there is something along with the heart wrenching deaths. And that is the "peaceful protests". Yes, there are some places in the world that are protesting correctly and not causing havoc and destruction to where they live, but in some places of the world, peaceful is not the right word for it. Peaceful protests are turning into riots, and riots are destroying peoples homes, streets, local shops and much more. This is not right. I get it, the whole world is angry but using a mans death as a reason to start a commotion is not right, in no circumstance. Think, before you act. Destruction of history, of anything is not right.

Please, take all my words into account. Stay safe and one day justice and equality will be served.

by Gracie

# **BLACK LIVES MATTER TOO!**

**By: Chloe**

Wake up! You are living in a burden. It's not right. How can you just sit there and watch when you were gifted with a voice?

How can the colour of your skin determine who you are as a person? It can't. It's society that's led to believe that white privilege is a thing. Okay, yes it is but it shouldn't be, everybody regardless of their race deserves the same amount of dignity and respect but most of all equality.

Stop institutional racism and microaggressions against **BAME!** Who has told you it is right to discriminate and segregate race's? Who told you that it's okay? Who said you are superior? No one! Absolutely nobody, it was the world you were brought up into. Today is the day we are going to make change so Black lives matter!

From today you are the epitome that everybody wants to be because you were the one that influenced change. From today people are talking good about you as you were the one that manipulated racism. From today you dispute all people who are to be racist. From today you are the new and improved non-racist you!

I may not be the same race as you but I must certainly stand with you!

Today is the day we are going to make change.

Don't be an enemy, be an ally. Don't be ignorant, educate yourself. Don't use acquaintances' words, use your own.

Perceive, being a different race only meaning good, innocence and kindness but being engulfed in racism to the point you can't even step outside of your own home. Then you start to slowly terminate fighting back as you know you are thought to be inferior to the white race, so nobody will take into consideration what you have to say so you sit there in silence to be encompassed by antagonism and racism.

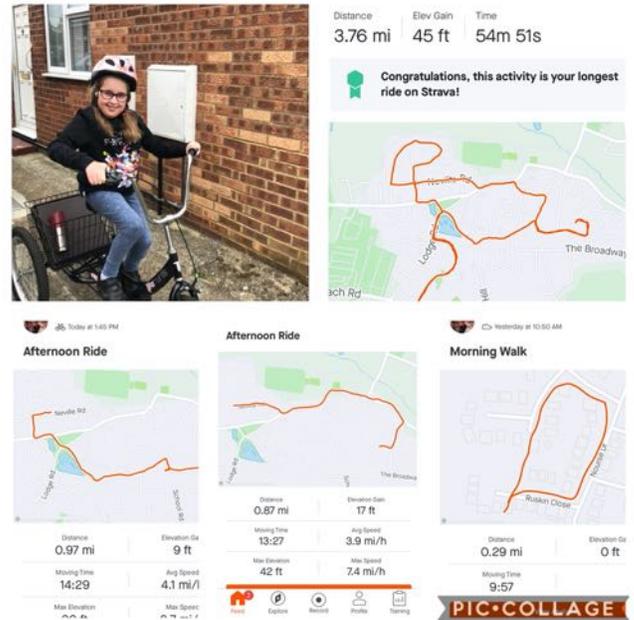
In no world should this be acceptable, especially in modern society. From today we all stand together, nobody is alone. Today is the day you are the better non-racist you. Today is the day we are going to make change so all race's matter!

Remember you are not alone.

I may not be with you or be the same race as you but, I hear you and I stand with you.



Well Done!

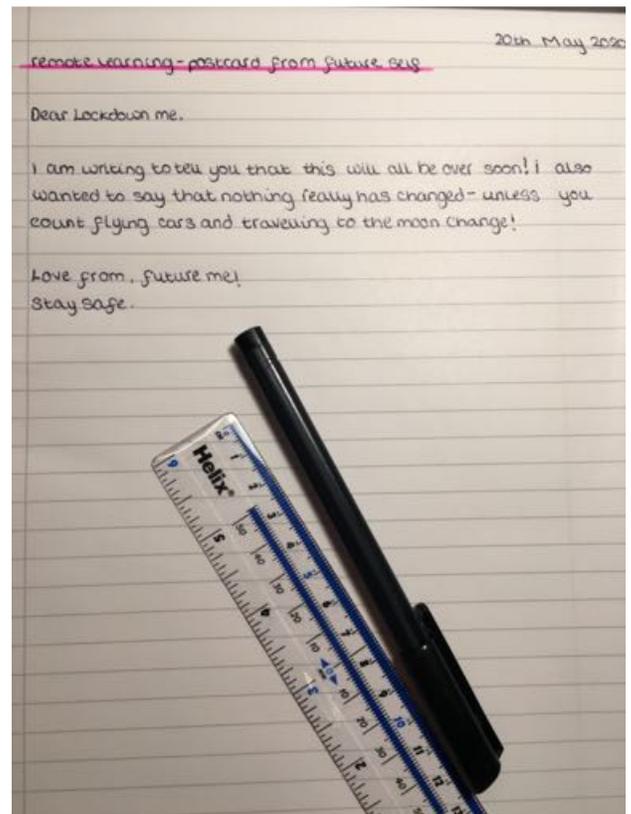


What a fabulous achievement by Adele on the biking challenge.



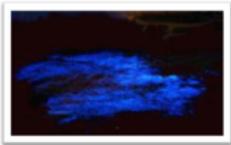
Nathan and his brother created this beautiful rainbow banner that has been the talk of the village.

Lovely written piece by Olivia - thinking outside of the box.



## Most Improved Player - Paige

Paige has been at the West Norfolk Junior Badminton club for 4 seasons, achieving 100% attendance for the last term. Her cheerful presence has always impressed and she has added significant improvement to her play at both club and County U14 level, as well as winning doubles at a County tournament therefore winning most improved player at the virtual end of season presentation.



### My observation

### during lockdown



During the evening as the sun sets I can see the beach unlit. The sea is luminous and crystal blue. It's silent and still, all you can hear are the waves, the birds and all the nature around us. Until now we didn't realise how much we impact the world.



By

Erin



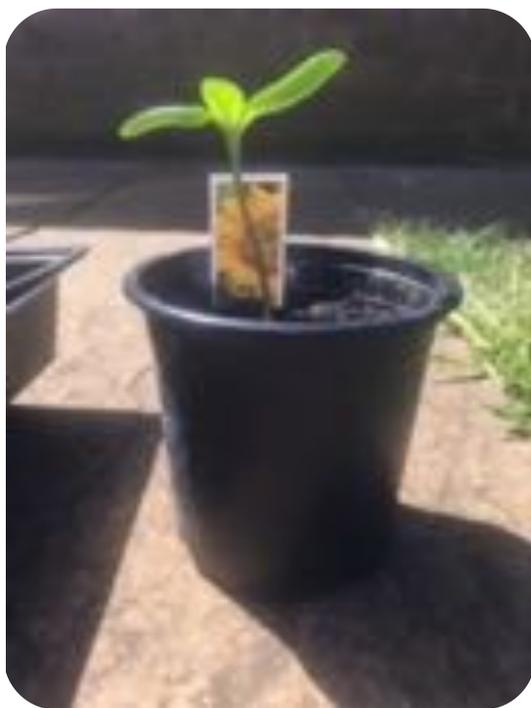
Beautiful written piece of English for the 50 word observation task by Erin - Y7



Miss Ruskin and Chloe have created this beautiful piece of artwork to showcase an NHS worker.

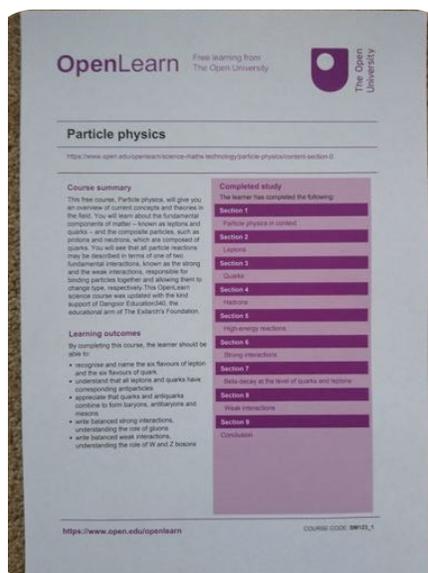
# Hello and Welcome

We are so excited to be able to include some pictures to show the brilliant things that some of our new intake Year 6 students have been doing during lockdown. We are sad not to be able to welcome our new intake in the way that we normally would but are pleased that we've been able to keep in touch with them. Mrs Robinson is thoroughly enjoying talking to all the Year 6 teachers, so that she can know as much as possible about the children when they do start with us. Keep an eye out for the welcome video coming out soon!



Ella wanted to learn more about gardening and has grown a plant from seed.

Daniel has been extending his knowledge on Physics and completed an online course.



Emmie has been making bird feeders for her garden.



Reece has learnt facts about space and made some planets from arts and crafts.

Aidan has been putting his baking skills to use - do you agree they look yummy?



Charlie hand reared some chicks until they were well enough to return to their mum.

# Smithdon's Historic Past



Although, on the whole, lockdown and the closure of the school to most pupils has not been a good thing, it has given us time to look at the fabric of the building more closely and have a thorough sort out. This has meant going into rooms and cupboards, which I am sure have not been opened since the late 1960s! In one particular cupboard, pushed to the back and covered in dust, we managed to find the equivalent to a croc of gold during the Klondike gold rush: a box brimming full of old documents and photos, in some cases dating back to the 1950s. These old, black and white photographs - and the odd colour one too - showcase Smithdon's rich history and its connection with the community since the first foundation stone was laid, back in 1954.

Built in 1954, to a controversial Brutalist design, it has remained a part of the community ever since, with generations of children (who are now parents and, dare I say, grandparents!) from Hunstanton passing through its doors and creating childhood memories before they made their way in the adult world.

Schools are about education and the creation of better life chances and futures for their students. Schools are also about, in normal times, places where children can develop friendships; build relationships; try things out without fear of failure; get new experiences and create those all-important memories.





Some of those memories we have found preserved on the photographic paper in these dusty boxes: sports teams; school trips and productions; all standard fare of good schools. On 28 February 2020, which seems so long ago now, our students performed their version of High School Musical, which was the first time we have had a production in the school hall for quite some time. I am pretty sure in the future there will be plenty more, and maybe even featuring a boat!

School trips are also vastly important, either locally or further afield. Indeed some of our students visited New York with other Trust students recently, although I'm not sure their preparations were as exhaustive as these students practicing for, what I assume, is a skiing holiday. Although how far two planks of wood and a couple of mops would have prepared them for the snow-covered peaks they were planning to descend is up for debate. I hope that future trips planned at Smithdon will generate such nostalgia as these create for us today.



Two of my favourite photos are of the children and staff taking "afternoon tea" in one of the "quads", which would be great to replicate when we return to normalcy. The other photo is the school buses, all lined up and squashed in, ready to take the children home - some looking like they date back to the 1940s with the whole scene resembling a modern day transport museum.

Two other aspects of school life which cannot be overlooked are sport and haircuts! The fabulous picture of the football team from the 1959 – 60 season is dated, not so much by the handily written year on the ball, but by the preponderance of Elvis-inspired Teddy Boy quiffs.



The football haircuts of the 1950s are somewhat matched by the fashions displayed in the 1980s picture taken during the “Olympic Stroll”, which must have been organised to commemorate either the Moscow 1980 Olympics or those in LA in 1984. With Tokyo 2020 now being pushed back to 2021, it might be time to resurrect the “Olympic Stroll” or something similar.



I hope you enjoy these photos as much as we have. If you have recognised anyone associated with these pictures, or have any other stories from Smithdon’s past and you would like to share, please let us know and we can publish them in the next newsletter. Email at [home@smithdonhigh.org.uk](mailto:home@smithdonhigh.org.uk)

# Riddles

*How well did you do? Did you find them easy or hard?*

**Mrs Robinson's riddle** - *One night a king and a queen went into an empty castle, the next morning 3 people walked out. Who were the 3 people?*

**Answer** - *A Knight, King and Queen*

**Mr Hirst's riddle** - *A man in a completely sealed room, no windows, no doors, solid wall and floors. There is only a table in the room. How does the man get out of the room.*

**Answer** - *He bangs his head on the table until it is sore, he uses the saw to cut the table in half. He then puts it back together to make a whole. He climbs through the hole and shouts until he is hoarse. Then he jumps onto his horse and rides away.*

**Mr Knott's riddle** - 101010 Using one straight line make it nine-fifty?

**Answer** - Add one straight line to make it 10 TO 10 (9.50)

A huge well done to everyone who got the answers correct or attempted to solve the riddles.

Sending a virtual Gold Star to you all.

**Here are just a few of you that  
emailed in your answers**

Ella  
Brandon  
Mia  
Taylor  
Jack  
Eleanor  
Chloe



Elliott  
Amelia  
Joshua  
Theo  
Sharday  
Ffion  
Caitlin  
Gracie

Tay  
Eleanor  
Jade  
George  
Alana  
Joel  
Louis





**Maxwell Roney**

## Mini Victoria Sponges



### Ingredients

- raspberry jam
- icing sugar, for dusting
- butter icing

#### For the sponge

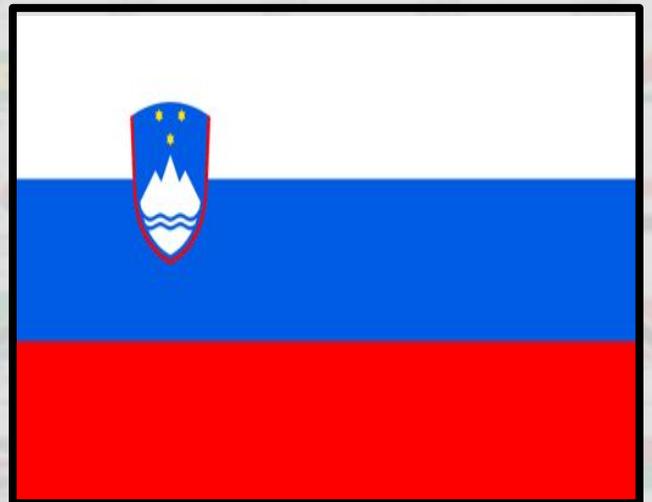
- 175g/6oz unsalted butter, at room temperature, plus extra for greasing
- 175g/6oz caster sugar
- 3 large free-range eggs, beaten
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 175g/6oz self-raising flour

### Method

1. For the sponge, preheat the oven to 190C(170C fan)/375F/Gas 5. Lightly grease the tins with butter.
2. To make the cakes, cream the butter and caster sugar together until the mixture is pale and light. Gradually add the beaten eggs, mixing well between each addition and scraping down the sides of the bowl from time to time. Add the vanilla extract and mix to combine.
3. Sift the flour into the bowl and fold in until the mixture is glossy and smooth.
4. Divide the mixture between the cupcake cases and try to level with a teaspoon.
5. Bake on the middle shelf of the oven for about 15 minutes until golden-brown and springy to the touch.
6. Leave the cakes to cool in the tin for two minutes and then ease onto a wire cooling rack and leave to cool completely.
7. Add a generous spoonful of jam to the top of the mini cakes.
8. Mix the butter cream together and then add on to the top of the jam.
9. Place another of the mini cakes on top of the cream to form the mini sponge cake.
10. To finish add a slight dusting of icing sugar on top.

# Flags

Can you identify the five country flags shown below?



# Issue 2 Answers

## **1. Nile**

Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi,  
Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea,  
South Sudan, Republic of Sudan and Egypt

## **2. Amazon**

Peru, Colombia and Brazil

## **3. Yangtze**

China

## **4. Mississippi - Missouri**

USA

## **5. Orb - Irtysh**

Russia



1. What is the biggest planet in our solar system?

**Jupiter**

2. What is the most abundant gas in the Earth's atmosphere?

**Nitrogen**

3. Roughly how long does it take for the sun's light to reach Earth?

**a) 8 minutes**

4. On the periodic table, what symbol stands for silver?

**Au**

5) How many teeth does an adult human have?

**32**

# C Block Competition



Covid 19, although desperately bad, does have the occasional benefit if you look closely. We have been able to have a big spring clean in school and remove anything that we do not want or need any longer.

You may notice something missing in C Block and it is not just you, the students! Tables, chairs, computers, all the art materials and anything else that lives in C Block has gone.

Although C Block was in need of a good clean, which it is now getting, the clear out is also down to the fact that it is going to get a full refurbishment.

Over the past year, we have been concentrating on the roofs of A block, the Gym, canteen, Maths Block and the old Drama studio. The roof of the Sports Hall was finished last year and so that will mean that all roofs have been completed for the start of the new academic year in September 2020.

The problem with renewing roofs, is that they always need doing, but once done, you generally cannot tell that anything has happened. That is why it is much more fun to change a kitchen than a roof! I am not sure when C Block last had a refurbishment. We did complete the Food Technology room last year, but that was all. So, this year, we are looking for a total refurbishment of C Block. The roof, of course, will be done. In addition, we are also replacing all the windows, flooring, new ceilings, insulation, lighting, heating and air conditioning. The whole building will receive a new coat of paint, inside and out, and some new display areas will be added. In essence, C Block will become a new building, fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. No more intensely hot or absolutely freezing days in Art lessons!

This brings me onto the competition. When looking at the plans for the refurbishment and what it should look like when finished, we didn't think the name C Block really



worked! In fact, naming all the buildings “Blocks” and after a letter of the alphabet doesn’t really work. So, we are renaming all the buildings by calling them names associated with the historic past of the school, with the possible exception of C Block, where we would like to look towards the future. The competition is therefore, quite simple. Come up with an appropriate name for C Block which shares the vision of the future of our Smithdon High School. Email in your suggestions to [home@smithdonhigh.org.uk](mailto:home@smithdonhigh.org.uk) by July 10 and we will publish the winning suggestion in that week’s newsletter. The competition winner will be invited to the opening ceremony with other VIPs in the new academic year.



# Postcard Competition

Can you remember at the start of the academic year Mr Hirst set the task for you to collect the complete set of 6 Smithdon High School postcards, well, the time has come for you to send us a picture of your complete set - all 6 front images and all 6 back messages to [home@smithdonhighschool.org.uk](mailto:home@smithdonhighschool.org.uk).