



West Surrey Partnership

Summer 2025 Newsletter



**Jenni Hall, WSP
Operations Group**

It has been another exceptionally busy year for the WSP, this term alone hosting events for over 650 primary pupils and 200 secondary students from across our partnership schools.

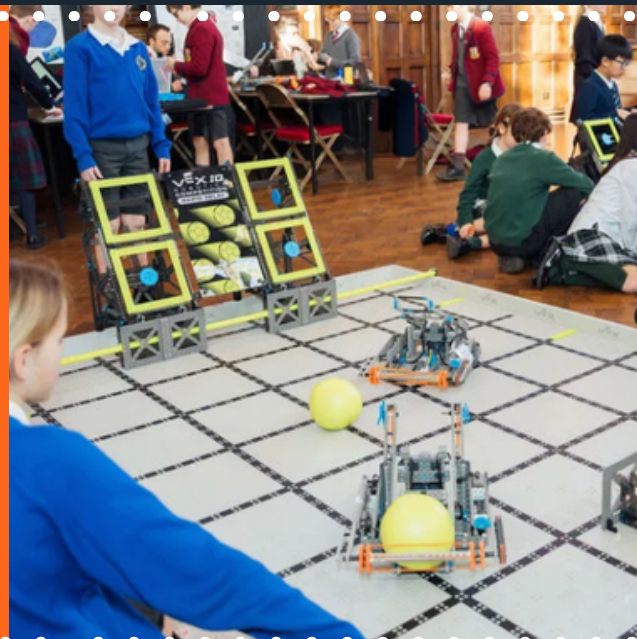
Our students have embraced diverse challenges and opportunities: building new planets through innovative STEM projects, crowning winning authors at literary celebrations, and fostering mentorship as older students shared their sporting talents with younger peers. Significantly, students voiced their opinions about the future direction of the WSP through our newly launched Student Council. We were particularly delighted to hold our inaugural WSP Model United Nations – a long-held aspiration that finally came to fruition, demonstrating the continued growth and ambition of our partnership.

We look forward to working with you all in 2025/26 and wish everyone a very happy summer.

Robotics

Our inter-school robotics competition on 30th January 2025 was a resounding success, bringing together 78 KS3 pupils for a day of innovation and friendly competition. The collaborative spirit was evident throughout the event, with students from different schools working together and learning from each other. The competition began back in September when Mrs Andrew Thomson (Charterhouse) led a training day for all teachers involved, equipping them with the tools and knowledge to coach their pupils.

Three former pupils were invited to help judge and run the event, all three exceptional role models in their field of Design Engineering. Overall 'it was a fantastic day, and a good time was had by all.' Our thanks to Charterhouse for organising and hosting the event.



Literally Brilliant Book Awards

Over 140 KS3 pupils gathered for the exciting finale of this year's Literally Brilliant Book Awards, creating a morning filled with laughter, learning, and literary celebration. Hosted once again by the wonderful Jack Meggitt-Phillips, we learnt a lot about our shortlisted books from two of our brilliant authors, Cathy Faulkner & Sarah Merrett, who shared insights into their work and writing process. The highlight of the morning was crowning Yorick Goldewijk and his captivating book "Movies Showing Nowhere" as the LBBA winner for 2025.

The Literally Brilliant Book Awards run throughout the academic year with a clear mission: to introduce KS3 students to new authors and genres while inspiring a genuine love of reading. Much more information can be found [here](https://www.westsurreypartnership.co.uk).



Planet Utopia

On 3rd July 2025, 65 students from five senior schools tackled an ambitious challenge: explore a new planet, design the lived environment and look at what is needed to sustainably thrive as a community. Working in cross-school teams, participants experienced collaborative problem-solving that combined scientific thinking with creative design and environmental awareness. The project encouraged students to think beyond traditional subject boundaries and to work with and learn from peers with different perspectives.

Our thanks to SATRO for their excellent facilitation and to the RGS for hosting us.



SPM Children's Concerts

The RGS were delighted to welcome SPM, led by its conductor Jonathan Willcocks BEM, for a series of concerts for Y4-5 pupils designed to introduce the different instruments and sections of a classical orchestra. Over the course of the three concerts in the day, over 350 Y4 or Y5 pupils attended. The children and accompanying staff were delighted with a range of musical styles from the like of Haydn, Handel and Bach with solo vocalists, violin, flute, oboe and, everyone's favourite, the xylophone! The children also enjoyed a musical retelling of Rudyard Kipling's Just So Story 'How the whale got his throat' (including making their own whale song!). All of the costs of the concert including transport were met by the RGS supported by the WSP. With many thanks to Mr Dale Chambers (RGS & SMP) and Mrs Gerry Newman (RGS) for undertaking all the organisation.

Model United Nations

The inaugural WSP Model United Nations took place at Tormead on Friday 20th June, bringing together 80 students from six different schools for an impressive debut event.

Many participants experienced their first MUN conference, yet all delegates rose to the challenge with remarkable confidence and articulate contributions. The event demonstrated the power of diplomatic simulation to develop public speaking skills and global awareness among young people.

The enthusiastic engagement from all schools and the high quality of debate throughout the day established a strong foundation for what promises to become an annual highlight of the WSP calendar. Our thanks to Mr Tony Breslin (Tormead) for organising and to Tormead for hosting.



WSP Student Council

The long-awaited WSP Student Council finally came to fruition, spearheaded by Tormead's head girl team and bringing together student leaders from six schools. All our senior schools will be taking part from September.

The inaugural meeting began with informal networking over pizza (!), allowing participants to get to know each other. Students then divided into four focused breakout sessions exploring key WSP themes: sustainability, literacy, STEM, and leadership. Some fantastic ideas for future events included a climate conference and large subject specific events that tie into topics covered in class.

