Vicky marks

Students from Sevenoaks School held a birthday party for resident Vicky Lutton to mark her 101st birthday.

Vicky celebrated at the school with a specially baked cake, party food and presents.

She belongs to a group of local elderly residents who attend the Thursday Club, held at the Sennocke boarding house at Sevenoaks School.

The Thursday Club is held weekly and is run by 11 students from Year 10 to Upper Sixth, who are participating in the school’s Voluntary Service Unit’s (VSU) community programme.

Sevenoaks School students complete weekly voluntary service as part of the International Baccalaureate and the school has more than 400 students doing voluntary service at the school.

Combined, the students log over 30,000 hours of voluntary service every year, helping both the local community and causes further afield.

Mrs Lutton said: “We all thoroughly enjoyed it so very much and appreciate all the work involved with balloons, banners, birthday cake, cards, gifts, music and fun and fizz.

“Someone has said, ‘the longer you live, the more birthdays you have,’ and may I add, ‘the better they bloom’. Thank you everyone for such a magnificent occasion.”

Cathy Tse, Upper Sixth student at Sevenoaks School added: “I have been part of the Thursday Club since I first started boarding at Sevenoaks School and within a year of service, I found myself growing more and more attached to our wonderful weekly visitors.

“This celebration was more extravagant than last year’s (which I didn’t think was possible) and I am awed at how much we can learn from Vicky and the others who have led such long and fulfilled lives.”