



SHSG **WEEKLY GAZETTE**



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Edition No: 20, 4th March 2019

It seems that every week there is some warning to schools and in the media regarding online activity and, sadly, this week is no different.

There have been some concerns in the educational media about an app called TIKTOK. This app is aimed at young people as an instant communication app. The concern surrounds a trend known as #takeitoff which encourages young people to take some of their clothes (or all) off and post pictures of themselves online. There is a worry that this site is being used to stalk and court young girls in particular and The Times last week regarded it as a hunting ground for paedophiles.

MOMO is another site which is causing anxiety to younger girls and I am afraid some of our students have been forwarding this site to others. Why they want to scare other students is beyond me but this needs to stop. Instagram was also mentioned on the BBC this morning as the major site for bullying and online sexting taking over from Facebook and Snapchat.

Please check with your daughters and sons what apps they are using and how they are using them. I can not emphasize enough how disturbing and potentially dangerous some of these apps are and that there are many youngsters using them inappropriately. Whilst you might think your child has enough awareness of these apps, they are often still naïve enough to get involved or be a recipient of inappropriate material.

A couple of big themes in education at the moment are a new OFSTED framework for school inspections and Sex and Relationship Education. The new OFSTED framework will be implemented from September but at the moment is open for consultation. If you wish to have your say on OFSTED inspections please go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/education-inspection-framework-2019-inspecting-the-substance-of-education> Sex and Relationships Education will be mandatory from September 2020 but schools are being encouraged to implement the guidance from September 2019. This week Damian Hinds announced the age at which students supersede their parents in making decisions about their sex education which may be of interest to you.

“Damian Hinds has confirmed that children from the age of 15 will be able to opt into sex education classes against the wishes of their parents. The Education Secretary said pupils will be allowed to request sex education lessons three terms before they turned sixteen. Until then, parents will retain the right to withdraw children from sex education. Announcing the final guidelines on sex education, he said: “We have retained the longstanding ability for parents to request their child be withdrawn from the sex education element of RSE 'relationships and sex education'. The schools should respect the parents' request to withdraw the child - except in exceptional circumstances - up to and until three terms before the child reaches age 16. At that point if the child wishes to take part in sex education lessons, the headteacher should ensure they receive it in one of those terms.” The new curriculum guidelines will see dedicated lessons about sex and relationships introduced, while children will be taught how to stay safe online and look after their own mental health. Secondary school pupils will also be taught about female genital mutilation, grooming, forced marriage and domestic abuse, while those in primary schools will be taught about periods and menstruation. Mr Hinds added that primary school pupils will be taught about having respect for all kinds of people.” The Times

We already have dedicated lessons for sex education (SHAPE lessons) and include the issues identified in the guidelines. However, we are reviewing our pastoral curriculum so that it is appropriate for our students and the world in which they live.

F Brierley, Headteacher

SHSG Ski Trip: Zauchensee 2019

After leaving school at 4.15pm on the last day of school, we endured an exhausting twenty three hour coach journey, making our way through France, Belgium and Germany before arriving in Austria for our final approach to Zauchensee around 4pm on Saturday afternoon. We participated in six days of skiing varying from three to five hours a day. Every evening we nominated a 'Muppet' and 'Mishap' based around the events of that previous day, which resulted in them wearing a hi-vis jacket whilst skiing for the duration of the next day. To name a few: Amber P got her skis stuck in a mountain; Miss Jenkins took down a flag on the Half Pipe; Jess L misplaced almost the entirety of her ski wear; Emilia I picked up the wrong skis (a pair that were taller than she was!); and Mr Peugniez was nominated almost every day for his regular mishaps on skis. For the skiing sessions we were separated into five different groups based on ability, ranging from 'baby' beginners to the advanced, with a new challenge for individual groups each day assigned by our remarkable instructors.

As part of our school spirit, despite a lack of people taking part, the teachers organised 'Onesie Wednesday' and 'Fancy-dress Friday' which featured koalas, penguins, unicorns, care bears (Mr Peugniez), Tiggers (Mr Barnett), which lead to countless laughs. In the evenings, once we had returned from the day's skiing, we had free time around our hotel, which entailed playing games of ping-pong and socialising with the other resident schools, or rushing to get the first shower in a room of eight girls. If we didn't have free time we were provided with activities; one night we competed in a game of bowling in which the winning team got to play against the teachers, another night we visited a pizza place to devour margarita pizza and unwind after a challenging day of skiing. Our last activity for the week was a quiz night created by the teachers themselves; Mr Peugniez constructed an exquisite Austrian Geography round, Mr O'Brien a History round, Mr Barnett a Food round, Miss Ryan an Intros round, Mrs Simpson a Sports round and Miss Jenkins presented a much-loved Teacher round, wherein we uncovered interesting facts surrounding the present teachers.



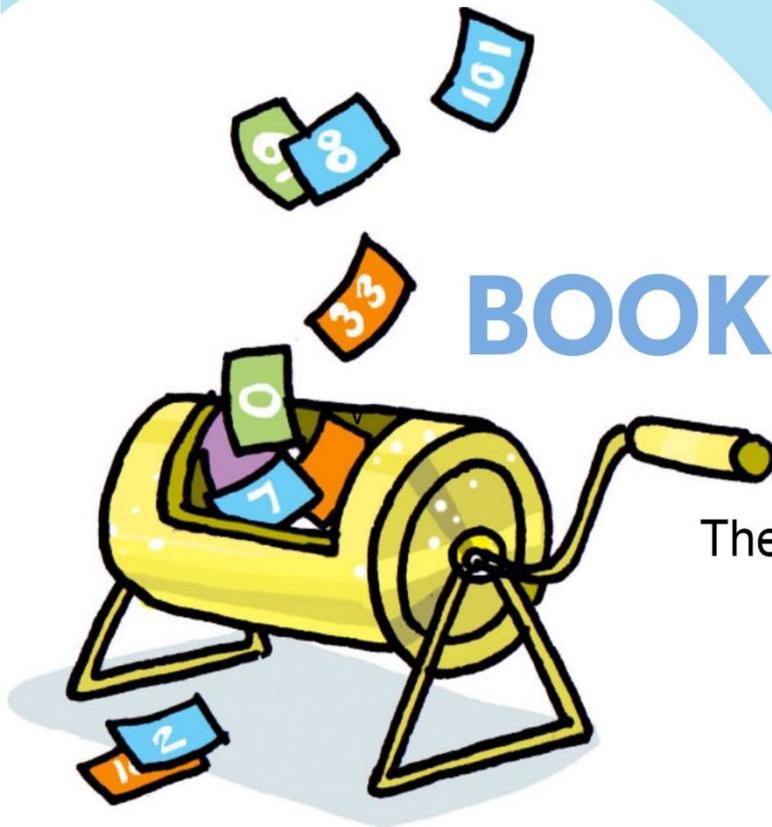
We were all saddened to have to leave on the Friday afternoon, particularly due to the angst of the long journey ahead of us, but we were truly appreciative for the absolutely fantastic week we got to experience, regardless of all the falls and bruises we gained. It's safe to say this was the best school trip we have ever attended, resulting in new friendships formed and memories to last a lifetime.

Tess K, Abby P, Georgia W and Sara A Year 10

Maths Online Sessions

Angel one to one sessions 6:45 Tuesday and Thursday online. Book an angel session ahead with Mrs Imbush on simbush@shsg.org

WORLD BOOK DAY 7TH MARCH



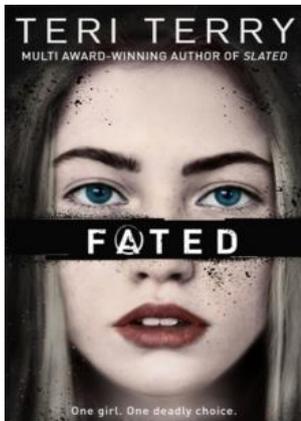
BOOK TOMBOLA!

The library are hosting a book
tombola!
50p for a ticket!

Author Visit – 12th March

On 12th March, award-winning author Teri Terry, will be visiting SHSG to talk to students about her books and career as a writer.

Teri is the author of award-winning debut trilogy - *Slated*, *Fractured* and *Shattered*. Teri has lived in France, Canada, Australia and England, has four degrees and her past jobs have included a scientist, a lawyer and an optometrist. She started writing full time when she moved the England in 2004 and is now very much the queen of the teen thriller.



I'm just one girl. What can I do?

Sam's cosy life as daughter of the Deputy Prime Minister is about to end. These are turbulent times. Borders have closed and protests are turning violent. The government blames the country's youth, and is cracking down hard. Mobile phones are blocked, gatherings are banned and dissent is brutally crushed. Sam is torn between family loyalty and doing what is right.

One girl, one choice. She can make a difference: she must. Even if her life - and her heart - are on the line ...

Teri Terry will be signing her latest book 'Fated' in school on 12th March - if your daughter would like a copy they can be ordered on ParentPay at a discounted price of £7.00.

SCHOOL TRIPS AND REMINDERS

Sixth Form cultural visit to Paris, 1st – 5th November 2019

We are pleased to be able to offer students who intend to study French in our Sixth Form next year (i.e. those currently in Years 12 and 11) the opportunity to participate in a cultural visit to Paris in November 2019. As the French A level course involves studying French culture in topics such as music, film, television, advertising and fashion, a cultural visit to Paris is a logical approach to see how these aspects are visible in daily life; a visit to Paris, while not essential to success, can only enhance the students' experience. Any student who is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity should ask Mr Smith or Mrs Page for a copy of the letter. There are 20 places available and the deadline for applications is Friday 15th March with initial deposits payable by Monday 1st April. Please speak to Mrs Page in confidence if you would like your child to participate in the trip but would have difficulty making the deposit payment by the due date.



Year 8 Day Trip to France:

Tuesday 2nd April for tutor groups 8A, 8B and 8C

Thursday 2nd May for tutor groups 8D, 8E and 8F



There are still a few places available on the French day trips to St Omer and, despite the deadline having passed, ParentPay is still open. If your child would like to participate, please make your payment and return the required documentation as soon as possible. Spare copies of the trip letter can be downloaded from the school website or a printed copy can be obtained from the Reprographics Office. If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mrs Page.

REMINDER: Russia – St Petersburg & Moscow Trip

Friday 14th February – Wednesday 19th February 2020

When studying History at A-Level the largest unit of the course is Russian History; the History Department will therefore be running a trip to St Petersburg and Moscow to visit some of the key sights, and to experience the culture for the students to gain a better understanding of Russia.

The trip will be a six day residential visit to St Petersburg and Moscow in Russia from **Friday, 14th February to Wednesday, 19th February 2020**. We will visit a number of sites including the Kremlin, Red Square, Hermitage Museum, the St Peter and Paul Fortress, The Catherine Palace and a guided tour of both cities.

If you would like your child to attend this trip, please return the reply slip to the School Bank and secure their place by paying a deposit of £350 by **Friday 29th March 2019**. **This trip is open to current Years 11 & 12 and is live on Parent Pay**. If you wish to pay in instalments or have any other queries about the payment schedule, please email kjohnson@shsg.org



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Raffle prizes

A big "thank you" to all those who have donated some lovely items that we will use as raffle prizes at the forthcoming events such as parents' evenings and others. Using your donations, either in form of an actual item, vouchers or cash, saves the Parents' Association using PA funds to buy raffle prizes and a 100% profit will go towards this term's spending money on equipment and events for the students. So please keep the donations coming!

Fundraise for our school with Village Green Festival 2019

Don't miss out on the 10th edition of Southend's best loved arts and music festival, celebrating homegrown stars and international acts, with surprises and spectacles for every generation!

By using our unique ticketing link, each ticket you buy will generate £1 for the Parents' Association who in turn will put any funds raised towards our current Wish List!

This offer ends with the Early Bird discount which expires May 31st, 2019. Applicable to Adult/Teen tickets only as Children go free!

Our fundraising link is: <https://www.skiddle.com/festivals/village-green/?skcampaign=shsgirls>

The Wish List

Thank you to those teachers and students who have emailed us with items and events they would like the PA to support them with. If there are any others you would like us to add to THE WISH LIST, please forward them to us. Once the PA team has had a look at the Wish List and has decided on how to allocate some of our funds, we will make an announcement in the upcoming Gazettes, on our Facebook page and also on our new Twitter account.

PA meetings and support

We had a very productive meeting last week that included planning of upcoming events and also the growing wish list. Our next meeting is going to take place on **Thursday May 9th** (location to be confirmed nearer the time) but even if you can't attend the meeting, please let us know if you are available to help at any events in this coming term. The months of June & July are our busiest months with open days, induction events for the new year 7s and music events, so if you could spare some time and help us run raffle draws or serve refreshments, please contact the PA secretary on shsgpasecretary@gmail.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

The SHSG Parents' Association

SEALIFE TICKETS - AVAILABLE THROUGH THE SCHOOL

The PA has a supply of tickets for the Sealife Centre in Southend at a cost of £6 per ticket, which is quite a saving as the current entry prices are £13 per adult and £9 per child.

ADVENTURE ISLAND

We currently have a small additional supply of Adventure Island tickets that are restricted to use on a week where there is NOT a public holiday. As these are restricted use tickets we will be selling these tickets for £15 instead of the usual £17.

Tickets are available to purchase from the School Bank.

Payment can be made by cash or cheques made payable to SHSG -PA.

Tickets for Sealife and also Adventure Island can be purchased through the school bank in the usual way or, if the school is closed, please contact the PA Treasurer Kim Foster, who has a supply of tickets as well. Her email address is shsgptreasurer@yahoo.com

For up to date information, please join our Facebook page: **SHSG Parents' Association**



THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

WEEK B

Monday 4 th March	Compulsory Team Training Elite Athletes Training Group Cross Country All Years Orchestra GCSE Music drop-in GCSE Music composition catch-up GCSE English Unseen Poetry Drop-in Sociology Open House (Years 12 & 13 welcome) Netball Club Year 8 Football Club Years 7 to 9	12.20pm 12.20pm 12.20pm 12.25-1.00pm in MU2 12.25-1.00pm in MU1 12.20-1.15pm in MU1 12.20pm in B8 12.40pm in MH1 3.30pm 3.30pm
Tuesday 5 th March	Training Wind Hurdles Years 7 & 8 PE A'Level Open House Handball Club Years 8 to 10 Wind Band A Capella Ensemble GCSE Music composition catch-up Netball Club Year 7 <i>Japanese Class with Mrs Baxter</i>	8.30-9.00am in MU1 8am 12.20pm 12.20pm 12.25-1.00pm in MU2 12.25-1.00pm in MU1 12.20-1.15pm in MU1 3.30pm <i>3.45-5.15pm in room 3</i>
Wednesday 6 th March	Cross Country All Years Table Tennis Club Years 9, 10, 11 (with a qualified coach) PE GCSE Open House Hurdles Years 7 & 8 SHSG Choir Flute Ensemble Guitar Ensemble Musical Theatre Club GCSE Drama support sessions DNA production rehearsals Music Theory & Open House	12.20pm 12.20pm 12.20pm 12.20pm 12.25-1.00pm in MU2 12.25-1.00pm in MU1 12.25-1.00pm Music Tech or practice rooms 12.20pm in Drama Studio 12.35-13.10pm in Drama Studio 3.30-4.30pm in Drama Studio 3.30-4.30pm in MU1/MU2
Thursday 7 th March	String Quartet Intermediate Strings Novem Consort Clarinet Ensemble LAMDA coaching Year 8 & 9 Netball Club Year 7 Long Jump Geography Open House History Club Years 7 & 8 High Jump	8.30-9.00am in MU1 12.25-1.00pm in MU2 12.25-1.00pm in MU1 12.25-1.00pm Music Tech or practice rooms 12.30pm in Drama Studio 12.20pm 12.20pm 12.20pm KS4 in B4 and KS5 in B2 12.30-1.10pm in room 18 3.30pm
Friday 8 th March	KS4 Dance Club Netball Club Year 7 Tag Rugby Years 8 to 11 KS4 Fitness Suite Induction Training Strings Chamber Choir Year 7 Drama Club (Leader Leah Collins) Geography Club (Week A only) Sociology Exam Preparation (Year 13s) Big Band	12.20pm 12.20pm 12.20pm 12.20pm 12.25-1.00pm in MU2 12.25-1.00pm in MU1 12.30pm in Drama Studio 12.20-12.55pm in B4 12.40pm in MH1 3.30-4.30pm in MU1/MU2

Thought of the week

