



Southend High School for Girls

An Academy Grammar School

Southchurch Boulevard, Southend-on-Sea, SS2 4UZ

Headteacher: Mr J Carey MEd (Cantab), BA (Hons), LLE, NPQEL

30th April 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope that this week's letter finds you well. Please find below information and updates, including a message from the Head Student Team.

Year 11 and Year 13 assessments

Well done to Year 11 and Year 13 for their continued hard work and commitment this week. Students appear to be positive about their experience of the EB assessments. Next week, students are in lessons preparing for their next assessments or undertaking post-16 and post-18 preparation activities.

TrustLinks – a message from the Head Student Team

The Head Student Team have been busy organising a series of charity initiatives. I invited them to contribute to my weekly letter to inform you about work they have been doing on mental health and the charity *TrustLinks*:

The Head Student Team are proud to say that they are implementing their mental health vision through a series of workshops which will be hosted out of school hours from a charity called TrustLinks. TrustLinks are based in Westcliff and have gardening and youth groups designed to promote positive mental health and to support those who need it - they have also started delivering workshops for schools on topics tailored as we wish. The TrustLinks website can be found [here](#).

We will be holding workshops tailored to each year group (6th Form counting as one year group) during evenings, based on certain identified topics: the upcoming week is for Year 7 on Tuesday 4th May at 5:30-6:30pm on the topic 'Emerging from lockdown' on Teams. You can find more information on the Head Student Team Instagram and should hear more about it in school.

In addition, we are excited to announce that the bra recycling was launched on World Earth Day, 21st April, in aid of a charity called 'Against Breast Cancer'. The bra recycling scheme funds their vital research into breast cancer, namely for the search for a vaccine. By the collection of unwanted and unloved bras, 'Against Breast Cancer' and their recycling partners run a textile recovery project in which they give these bras a new lease of life in developing countries such as Togo, Ghana and Kenya where bras remain too expensive to produce locally.

'Against Breast Cancer' also receives £700 for every tonne of bras collected, contributing towards their fantastic research. As part of the environmental side of the project, any bras that are beyond redemption are dismantled and disposed of properly, preventing them from going straight to the landfill. As a girls' school eager to save the environment, this seemed perfect for us.

Each Year of Year should have collected a cardboard box labelled 'Bra Recycling' and placed it into a location within their bubble, ready for you to bring in your unwanted bras. We want as many as we can get; every bra helps!

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Also, please note, these bras do not need to be in great condition as they will be helpful either way. The Against Breast Cancer' website can be found [here](#).

*Regards,
The Head Student Team.*

On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank the Head Student Team for their commitment and hard work in organising these initiatives.

Lateral Flow Tests

We would like to remind all parents and students that the government guidance states that students should be undertaking two Lateral Flow Tests per week. Students are being given packs of LFT's at regular intervals at school to take home for this purpose.

Once the test is undertaken, we ask that parents (or students in 6th form) complete a form for each of the two tests carried out. The link to the forms is sent out by email from the school when the packs are distributed to students.

In addition, as outlined within the leaflet in the packs, parents (or students in 6th form) need to report their result to the NHS. The link to do this is <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

The website explains that you should use this service to report your result to the NHS after using a rapid lateral flow test kit to check if you are infectious with coronavirus (COVID-19).

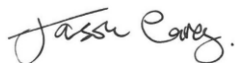
Reporting results helps to:

- reduce infection rates in your community
- protect people at higher risk of infection
- prevent and reduce the spread of the virus
- find out if you are infectious (you may not have symptoms)

As you are aware, you and your household may need to self-isolate depending on your result.

I wish you an enjoyable and relaxing bank holiday weekend.

Yours faithfully



Jason Carey
Headteacher