



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

26th November 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Head Student Group Interviews

Well done to the sixteen Year 12s who did themselves and the school proud in the interview process for the Head Student Team. Like last year, it was a rigorous process involving a letter of application and an observed group task. Miss Riebold, Mrs Neil and I had the very difficult task of selecting students, as all sixteen were so impressive. Due to the large number in Year 12, we have increased the size of the Head Student Team to seven student leaders.

Congratulations to Cassie, Gracie, Olivia, Holly, Sol, Sude and Charlie. These students will take on the role of deputy head students and will form the new Head Student Team after Christmas. The next stage of the process is for them to apply to be Head Student. This will involve a presentation to an assembly, and an interview with a governor, Miss Riebold, and myself.

Post 18 pathways

Over the past few weeks, Year 13 students have been receiving offers from the universities they have applied to. This week, several students have secured interviews at the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge, as well as interviews for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. Congratulations and best of luck to them all!

On Wednesday, Sixth Form students were visited remotely by Danielle Z, who was Head Student at SHSG from 2018-2019, and is now undertaking an apprenticeship at JP Morgan. She gave students invaluable information about the application process for apprenticeships, as well as discussing her own journey from A Levels to her day-to-day life as an apprentice. Thanks to Danielle for continuing to support our Sixth Form students.

PE News – Cross Country and Athletics

On Thursday 18th November, our Year 8 and 9 cross country team won the *Harrow Ten Schools* Cross Country competition. Congratulations to Chloe B and Shiloh O who received medals for second and third positions respectively. Year 10 students encountered a challenging course, ran exceptionally well, and were placed third. Well done to all students who took part.

On Wednesday 17th November, a small selection of Year 8 and 9 students represented SHSG PE at *Lee Valley Indoor Athletics* competition. Students were placed second and seventh, which enabled them to progress onto the semi-final on Wednesday 24th November. All athletes performed very well, achieving some personal bests. The students have now qualified for the final on Wednesday 8th December. We wish them good luck!

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New assessment model in PE

This year, we are implementing a new assessment model for Key Stage 3 Physical Education lessons and thought that we would share this with parents. Students are now assessed using three key components; these are referred to as the 'Head, Heart and Hands' concepts. 'Head' refers to the students' cognitive understanding of the activity - how well they understand rules and strategies and how well they communicate this knowledge, their ability to think, and their ability to make the correct decisions. 'Heart' refers to their demonstration of positive behaviours - effort, resilience, leadership, teamwork, persistence, and the drive to make personal improvement. 'Hands' is focussed on their physical ability to execute a skill, task, or activity. When parents receive their daughter's assessment, they will see the standard 'EDPM' assessment descriptors, but they will receive one for each of these components as well as an overall grade. If you would like to know more about this system, then please email Lbuscombe@shsg.org.

Year 11 PPEs – Message from Mr O'Brien

A big thank you and well done to Year 11 from myself and the staff on the determination, effort, and enthusiasm they have demonstrated over the past two weeks. It has been a pleasure being there to see them into their examinations throughout this whole process. It has been a busy period for Year 11, one which we hope will stand them in good stead moving forward in preparation for their GCSE examinations in the summer. I would like to remind all Year 11 students that this is only a snapshot in time and should only be used as a building block towards the summer, highlighting areas to focus on. We are on a journey, and this is only a pit stop. There is ample time to consolidate, grow and improve from this point and look forward to the summer where the sky is the limit. I would also urge Year 11 to take the learnings from this period and then move on to the next challenge. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish Year 11 all the very best in their upcoming examination results and I am sure they all did very well.

COVID Vaccinations – Information from Director of Public Health

Please find attached a flyer advertising an additional vaccination clinic which is being held on Saturday 27th November at the Balmoral community centre, Westcliff-on-Sea. Please also see the latest guidance around Covid-19 vaccinations [here](#).

Funeral of Sir David Amess

We are incredibly proud of Beatrice B in Year 10, Molly H in Year 11 and Lyndsey H in Year 13 who joined a small group from the *Southend Girls' Choir* to perform before and during the funeral service of Sir David Amess. The music was greatly appreciated by the guests and particularly by the family. Elodie W in Year 12 also attended the funeral. All these students will receive community achievement points.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Yours faithfully



Jason Carey
Headteacher

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