



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

3 December 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

School Library - Amazon Wish list

Reading for Pleasure: This year we are promoting reading for pleasure and would like to invite you to support us in this programme. SHSG has signed up to Amazon's Christmas wish list where parents are able to gift books to our library. For ease, the list is held on Amazon but, of course, there are other excellent booksellers, or you may be able to source a good second-hand copy. We would appreciate your support to add these books to our shelves.

Click the link [here](#) to see the whole list.

You will see there is a "buying this item elsewhere" button which will take the item off the main list, if this is what you choose to do. Please include your name in the 'this is a gift' option and we will add a book plate to recognise your generous gift to the school. Of course, if you prefer, you can be a 'Secret Santa' and send your gift anonymously. Thank you for supporting us with this initiative.

Head Student Interviews

This week, seven Year 12 students have interviewed to be appointed to the prestigious role of Head Student of Southend High School for Girls. The interview process involved a letter of application, a presentation assembly and two panel interviews. The first of the interviews was with a representative of the school Governors, Dr Ladner, as well as me and Miss Riebold. The second interview was with our current Head Student, Tess, as well as her team and representatives from Student Voice. It was a rigorous process!

I am pleased to announce that the new Head Student is Gracie Pryor who will take up the role after the Christmas break. Congratulations to Gracie. Congratulations also to Holly K, Cassie S, Charlie B, Olivia T, Sol B and Sude P who have been appointed Deputy Head Students. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of students, staff, and governors to thank Tess, Carlos, Pollyanna, Jess, Chiana and Sara for their commitment, dedication, and achievements in their 2020 – 2021 tenure as Head Student Team.

COVID-19 vaccine - DfE update on second doses for 12 to 15-year-olds and booster doses for adults

Following the emergence of the Omicron variant, including confirmed cases in the UK, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has urgently reviewed vaccine response measures. JCVI now advises that:

- all adults aged 18 to 39 years should be offered a booster dose, in order of descending age groups. To be given no sooner than three months after the primary course.
- young people aged 12 to 15 years should receive a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, no sooner than twelve weeks after the first dose.

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- all severely immunosuppressed individuals should be offered their booster dose no sooner than three months after completing their primary course of 3 doses.

These measures aim to accelerate the deployment of COVID-19 vaccines and raise levels of protection across the population and have been accepted by the government. Vaccinating young people should help to reduce the need for young people to have time off school and should reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 within schools.

Further information on how 12 to 15-year-olds will be able to access a second dose of the vaccine, and how adults below the age of 40 will be able to access a booster vaccination, will be provided shortly. JCVI previously advised that those aged over 40 years and those at higher risk from COVID-19 should be offered a booster. Those eligible can book their appointment on the [NHS website](#).

Parking outside the school

A reminder that parents should not be parking directly in front of the school or in the bus stop before and after school. Also, students should always use the pedestrian crossing and not cross the road in front of traffic to prevent accidents. The safety of our students is paramount; we appreciate your help with supporting us with this matter.

Christmas Dinner

A reminder that Christmas Dinner will be served on Thursday, 16th December at 12.25pm. It must be ordered and paid for in advance, no later than Monday, 6th December. The cost is £5.50, and payment can be made via ParentPay.

Christmas Concerts – Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th December 7.00-8.45pm in the Hall

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to our Christmas Concerts this year. Tickets can still be purchased from the School Bank, priced at £6 for adults and £4 for concessions. We would encourage you to secure tickets in advance of the evening as we cannot guarantee they will be available on the door.

Following the recent government guidance regarding Covid-19, we advise all audience members to take a Lateral Flow Test 24 hours prior to attending and to wear a face covering throughout the performance, unless exempt.

Message from the Parents' Association

The Parents' Association will be holding a raffle each night of the Christmas Concerts (Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th December). Prizes include Christmas hampers provided by the students, bottles of spirits and beauty products. If you would like to buy tickets before the concerts, you can do so via ParentPay. Tickets are 20p each with the options to buy 5 for £1, 25 for £5, or 100 for £20. Tickets will be available on ParentPay up until 1pm on Tuesday 7th December. All donations support the school. If you miss the cut-off time, do not worry as tickets will be available to purchase on the night along with refreshments. Please bring along some change should you wish to purchase.

SHSG Christmas Card Competition

We had some fantastic entries this year and are delighted to announce that the winner of our Christmas Card competition is Charlotte C in Year 9. Well done Charlotte on your achievement!

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Yours faithfully



Jason Carey
Headteacher

