



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

11th March 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

BBC Young Reporters

Our BBC Young Reporters, who regularly attend the Wednesday lunchtime club, had a fantastic time this week. They took part in a 'News Day' as part of the BBC Young Reporters festival. In the morning we were visited by the ex-editor, Johnny Jenkins. An ex-Deputy Head Student at SHSG and recent Politics graduate of Warwick University, Johnny has just started working on the Andrew Marr show on LBC radio. Johnny guided the students on how to create a news bulletin from scratch. In the afternoon they joined a BBC Webinar from the News Reporter Festival and participated with intelligent questions. Well done to Chiana who has led the group for the past two years and thank you to Mrs Arnold for her tech support. Media Captains did a good job encouraging and supporting the younger students. The finished bulletin will be premiered in next week's lunchtime club session.



Geography Trip

Year 10 geographers visited Thorpe Bay, Southend High Street and Westcliff on Thursday to carry out urban fieldwork, looking at inequality along the transect of the railway line. There was lots of walking on a beautiful sunny day. They carried out environmental quality surveys, services, housing surveys and observed the street scenes at each location.

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Year 7 Waterstones Trip

On Friday 4th, Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th March Year 7 form groups visited Waterstones as part of the celebrations for World Book Day. They were all able to select a book of their choice which was funded by SHSG. Year 7 clearly enjoyed this experience, including the train journey, and behaved impeccably.



Careers in Advertising

Students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 had a fascinating talk via Teams about careers in the advertising industry. They heard from ex SHSG students Louise Stubbings and Nicola Williams who now work for top advertising company Clear Channel. Louise and Nicola left in 1998 when Ms Alinek was Headteacher. They are looking forward to returning to us before Easter to deliver a longer 'masterclass' to A level Media Studies students.

Charity week

A very big thank you to the House Captains and Mr Cannon for Charity Week. The whole week was filled with a wide range of events from, for example, talent shows to students paying to throw wet sponges at teachers (including me). We are looking forward to hearing how much has been raised and to receive a full report from the captains, which I will include in next week's letter.

Year 11 and Year 13 information

Please see below some provisional key dates for your diaries.

- ***Year 11***
 - Welcome to Sixth Form induction presentations – Summer first half term
 - End of Key Stage 4 celebrations – Friday 13th May
 - Study leave begins – Monday 16th May
 - Contingency date – Wednesday 29th June (please make sure your child is available up to and including this date as any rescheduled exams could take place in this time)
 - Results day – Thursday 25th August, further details to follow in due course

- ***Year 13***
 - Leavers' celebrations – Friday 20th May
 - Study leave begins – Monday 23rd May
 - Contingency date – Wednesday 29th June (please make sure your child is available up to and including this date as any rescheduled exams could take place in this time)
 - Results day – Thursday 18th August, further details to follow in due course

- ***Arrangements for exams and study leave***

Further information regarding arrangements for final assemblies, exams and study leave will follow in due course.

Twice-weekly asymptomatic testing

The last date that asymptomatic test kits were provided to the students was Monday 21st February to cover the period up to the week commencing 14th March 2022.

Since 21st February the Government removed the guidance for staff and students in education settings to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.

We are therefore no longer receiving deliveries of test kits and hence students will no longer be prompted by email to undertake these regular tests. We do request, however, that if students do test positive, they continue to report this result on the school's TestRegister system. Access to this system will be via a link on the school's website under the student tab [here](#) or under the Parents' tab [here](#).

The government education testing delivery channels will remain open so that staff and students of secondary age and above can access tests if needed to respond to local public health advice, in relation to outbreaks. Staff and students are also able to access test kits from their local pharmacy.

We are also advising parents to follow the government guidance which states that adults and children who test positive continue to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.

SHSG Parents' Association raffle reminder

The Parents' Association will be holding an Easter raffle on Wednesday 30th March 2022. The prizes are:

- 1st prize – two tickets to *Rock of Ages* at the Cliffs Pavilion
- 2nd prize – a Katie Loxton handbag/backpack from Quinn's
- 3rd prize – a £50 Danielle's school wear and uniform gift card
- 4th prize – a Cadbury's Easter Egg from Waitrose

Tickets cost £2 and can be purchased from the school bank or on ParentPay (tickets will need to be collected from the school bank if purchased on ParentPay).

All contributions support SHSG Parents' Association. Thank you for your continued support.

Key Dates

The calendar on our website is regularly updated and contains key dates of activities and events that are taking place in school. A full list can be found [here](#).

Wishing you a good weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey
Headteacher