



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

Friday 10th June 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope you all had a wonderful half term break. Please find below information and updates from this week.

National Theatre 2022 Winning Play

We are delighted to announce that Eloise in Year 12 has won **New Views 2022** with her play, **Barrier(s)** from over 400 entries. It will be performed at the National Theatre, directed by Lucy Jane Atkinson, featuring a cast of professional actors from the D/deaf community, and performed in a mix of BSL and spoken English. Eloise will be involved in bringing the play to the stage, joining the cast and crew when they begin rehearsals on 20th June.

Eloise is the most extraordinary young woman who champions the cause of her deaf community at every opportunity. She has taken part in our lunch time New Views playwriting programme for three years and her NT mentor, playwright Jennifer Farmer, cannot speak too highly of her. The play will be shown on 6th July at 7.30pm and 7th July at 2pm and 7.30pm at the Dorfman Theatre. Alice King-Farlow, director of Learning at the National Theatre said:



'We received over 400 brilliant original plays from young writers from 99 secondary schools across the UK, a testament to the talent and hard work of this year's participants and the support of their schools. New Views offers a platform for young people to share their views on important issues, develops their creativity and self-expression and nurtures a new generation of writers and theatre makers. We're hugely excited to bring Eloise's winning play to life on the Dorfman stage alongside readings of an exceptional group of shortlisted plays at the New Views Festival this summer.'

You can find more information about the play and how to book [here](#).

Hay fever

A polite reminder that during the hay fever season we are unable to administer or provide students with antihistamines. Your child may bring in their own; we are happy to keep them in the school office if necessary or suggest that they take them before attending school.

UKA Dance Competition

Congratulations to Erin in Year 9 who was placed 6th in ballroom for her quickstep and 2nd in Latin for her jive during the UKA Dance competitions in Blackpool over the half term break. Well done Erin – keep up the good work!

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Microbiology Competition



Well done to our Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 Biologists who were awarded certificates for their entries in the *Microbiology Poster Competition* organised by MiSAC (Microbiology in Schools Advisory Committee).

Students found these activities enjoyable and have been stimulated in learning more about Microbiology through this competition.

Year 5 Open Evening Reminder

Parents and carers will now have received a letter detailing the arrangements for the Open Evening taking place on 30th June. On this day students will attend lessons as normal in the morning and will be dismissed at 12.25pm.

Please note that food will be available to purchase at break; however, **the canteen will not be providing lunch on this day**. If your child is entitled to a free school meal and you would like the school to provide a packed lunch for them, please indicate this on the form. Any students who are unable to go home until their bus arrives (Stephensons and Maymist will run as normal) and are unable to arrange alternative travel arrangements may stay in school until the end of the school day.

Students helping at the open evening who need to stay in school for the afternoon until 4.45pm may also do so. Students staying in school will be supervised and will need to bring a packed lunch.

If you are willing to give permission for your child to take part in the open evening from 4.45pm, and if you would like to request free school meal entitlement on this day, please complete the consent form [here](#) by 17th June.

Bringing Sociology to Life

On Thursday 9th June, Year 12 Sociology A Level students joined Sixth Form students from King Edmunds school to take part in a live MS Teams discussion with eminent sociologist Professor Louise Archer from the Institute of Education at UCL. This was a great opportunity to bring our curriculum to life, and students benefitted from being able to ask Professor Archer questions linked to their studies.

Students enjoyed hearing about Professor Archer's route to becoming an educational researcher. Professor Archer talked about some of the research she has worked on, such as the 'Nike Identities' study, investigating why students from some social groups may be less likely to go to university, and what can be done to improve their life chances.

Sociology Captain Deborah remarked: *"In sociology we study the work of many different theorists, so it was very beneficial to have an opportunity to talk with somebody that has an impact on aspects of our course. It was great to ask Professor Archer about her research and understand her thought processes and reasonings. Talking to her first hand makes all the difference. It was an amazing session"*

The sociology department has more sessions planned with leading sociologists such as Professor Diane Reay from Cambridge University, and Professor Venkatesh, author of *Gang Leader for the Day*, who will be speaking to us from Columbia University, USA.

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](#).

Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Jason Carey
Headteacher