



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 17th June 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Hot Weather

As the weather is getting much hotter, students will not be required to wear blazers. We will keep this arrangement until the end of term.

National Rail Strikes - 21, 23 and 25 June

You may already be aware that the Rail, Maritime and Transport union (RMT) workers have voted to carry out strike action on 21 June, 23 June and 25 June 2022. Information about which services will be affected can be found [here](#).

This action will affect C2C and Greater Anglia Line rail services, and it is likely that the strikes will create disruption for students who rely on the train for their journey to school. Due to the disrupted services, your child may need to travel to school at an earlier time on the strike days or leave later in the day. Should your child need to arrive in school early or stay late on any of these days, supervision will be offered in the library. If you require this provision, please use the link [here](#) to let us know **no later than Monday 20th June** so that we can put the necessary support in place. If you are unable to make alternative travel arrangements and your child will be absent from school on the strike days, please report your child's absence as usual by calling the absence line by 9.00am on each day of absence. Students have been informed that work will be made available on Microsoft Teams and Satchel One on these days so that work can be completed remotely. Should you have any questions please contact your child's Pastoral support officer.

For up-to-date travel advice during this industrial action, check before you travel; the National Rail Enquiries [website](#) will have the latest information on services, as will the c2c [website](#).

Exams

Despite the travel disruption external exams planned for these days will go ahead. Similarly, the Year 7 PUPs will also go ahead as per the exam timetable.

History Trip to Mountfitchet Castle

The history department had a brilliant day with Year 7 on Friday 10th June. Luckily, the weather was on their side as Mountfitchet Castle is an open-air museum. Students enjoyed exploring the castle, wandering around the village, and firing the catapult. There are a number of rescue animals living on site such as: deer, peacocks, and goats who all enjoyed the fuss and the animal feed. Although, a few goats did manage to eat some of our students' worksheets! We are very proud of Year 7, who were exceptionally well behaved, especially for their first big trip in a while. The staff at the museum and the other visitors also commented on how well behaved our students were.



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New Year 7 Parents' Evening

On Wednesday 15th June we welcomed new Year 7 parents to an evening event. Year 6 students transitioning to secondary school will shortly be having a virtual meet the tutor event as well as a transition day on 1st July. We look forward to the new cohort joining the SHSG family in September.

Alumni Media Visit to SHSG

The media studies department was delighted to welcome 'Old Girls', Louise and Nicola, back to SHSG to tell us about their exciting careers in the advertising industry. Louise and Nicola work for a top OOH (Out Of Home) advertising company, [Clear Channel UK](#), and kindly spent the day with Year 12 Media students explaining how the advertising industry works, in particular, how OOH advertising operates. They took the time to answer student questions and to judge adverts that they had created. As 'Old Girls' they enjoyed a tour of the school and were amazed at how much has changed at SHSG.

Biology Challenge

Students in Year 9 and Year 10 undertook the Biology Challenge which is a national competition for all students aged 13-15. We had some great results with three students awarded Silver and another three students awarded Bronze. Students found the Biology Challenge enjoyable and have engaged in learning that goes beyond the curriculum. Well done to all students involved.

Astro Pi: SHSG students coding on the International Space Station

Over the last few weeks, a record 16,869 teams of young people from 26 countries had their Mission Zero programs run on the Astro Pi computers on board the International Space Station. The level of entries this year were outstanding; the messages that young people sent on the ISS and seeing their imaginative use of the Astro Pi's LED matrix were really enjoyed by the astronauts. Students in Year 10 Computer Science were encouraged to send their python code to be included in this opportunity to have their programs included in this exciting event.



Mr Highmore will be sending the SHSG students, who sent their code, a special certificate showing the exact location that their code ran whilst orbiting the earth from the ISS. Congratulations to all the students involved.

Year 7 chemistry work

As part of the 'Earth' module, 7A1's chemistry class were asked to produce models of the Earth. This was based on material covered in lessons and independent research. There were many exceptional attempts but this one, constructed by Roxanne, was of a very high standard. The level of effort, attention to detail and structural engineering were truly impressive. The model was also accompanied with a fact sheet to outline key information about the various components. Great work, well done, Roxanne.



SHSG PA Big Band & BBQ Raffle

SHSG PA will be holding a raffle for the Big Band & BBQ on Friday 15th July.

The prizes are:

- 1st prize – Makeup Bag/Scented candle from Sullivan's Fine Cards & Gifts.
- 2nd prize – Scented candle and reed diffuser from Scape Interiors.
- 3rd prize – 2 tickets for Odeon Cinema.
- 4th prize – £10 gift voucher from Hollywood Babes Boutique.

Plus 6 Summer Hampers provided by Year 7 students.

Tickets cost £2 and can be purchased from the school bank or on ParentPay up until Thursday 14th July (tickets will need to be collected from the school bank if purchased on ParentPay). All contributions support SHSG Parents' Association. If you miss the cut-off time do not worry, tickets will be available on the night. 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](#).

Have a good weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey
Headteacher