



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 11th November 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Poppy Appeal

Imogen C in Year 11 has been selling homemade poppies for The Royal British Legion poppy appeal at lunchtimes, which are now completely sold out! There has also been a raffle to win the hippos kindly made by Imogen's mum. The total amount raised is £212. Thank you to all the staff and students that have supported this appeal and to Mrs Francis for overseeing.



Armistice Day

Armistice Day marks 104 years since the end of World War One ended, at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, in 1918 and to remember the people who have died in wars around the world. Every year the nation comes together to remember the bravery of the men and women who played a role. Earlier in the week, Head of History Mrs Robertson led a whole school assembly, and today the school held a two-minute silence at 11am to mark our respects.

Every year it has been a tradition that the Head Student places a wreath on behalf of SHSG at the Cliffs Cenotaph. This year, our Head Student, Gracie will be attending.

Year 12 Newham Fieldwork Trip

Year 12 Geographers spent the day in Newham on Tuesday looking at place and carrying out tasks such as environmental quality surveys. They had a successful day despite being soaked through as it rained most of the day!

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Student Achievements

Congratulations to Anna S in Year 11 for being selected to be part of the ESSKIA team in the Schools' World Championships which will be taking place in Turkey between 11th and 19th February 2023. Team England is made up of 20 ski racers who have been selected from schools all over the country, so this is a huge achievement to be selected to represent a national squad at a world level event. Well done, Anna!

Michelle A in Year 12 made her Arsenal WFC senior debut at the weekend against Leicester where they won 0-4. You can click [here](#) to read the match report. This is a huge achievement at just 16 with Arsenal sitting top of the Women's premier league undefeated. Please click on the link [here](#) if you have access to Twitter to see her TV interview. Congratulations Michelle!



An SHSG high-flyer

Post-18 options are at the forefront of Year 13's minds now. Whilst most of our students go through the UCAS application process to secure courses at university, some choose different pathways.

Katie K in Year 13 has successfully secured a position at a flight school next September where she will train to be a pilot. She explains how she went about this below:

Since I was little, I always knew I wanted to be a commercial pilot, and when I saw on my social media that a friend of mine had just started her pilot training, I reached out to her to find out the process of how she did this. I then went to the open day of the flight school she is at, Leading Edge, and got more information on the application process. After viewing a few other flight schools and being fortunate enough to have a trial flight lesson to confirm this was what I want to do, I applied to take my skills assessment at LE and began the revision process for the many online aptitude tests, in person interviews, and group interviews. I worked hard to be adequately prepared for this and recently passed the assessment in October half-term and was offered a place on a training course beginning next September! All that is left for me to do is pass my medical and move up to Oxford!



PE News and successes

Borough Cross Country Championships

On Wednesday we competed in the Borough Cross Country Championships.

Erin in Year 12 brought home gold for us in the sixth form race. Year 10 and 11 were equally as impressive taking first place with an amazing 31 points. Liliana was crowned the Borough Champion for the 8th year running! Georgia, Skye, Abigail, Charlotte, and Darcy all performed brilliantly, with everyone finishing in the top 11.

The performances of Year 9 were incredible, and they took first place with a very impressive 37 points. Congratulations to Chloe B and Shiloh who finished 2nd and 3rd, closely followed by Chloe F, Poppy, Grace, and Hanna all in the top 15.

Year 8 scored 74 points and took silver behind Eastwood. Congratulations to Annalise, Niamh, Isabelle, Emily, Zoe, and Maisie for finishing in the top 21 places.

Year 7 finished 2nd with 54 points. Well done to Alice, Orla, Mila, Anna, Angira and Lara for all finishing in the top 20. This meant that overall, we shared the Borough title with Eastwood. Congratulations and a big well done to everyone that represented SHSG in this competition and thank you to our Year 12 helpers who did a great job on the finish line.



On Saturday we have three teams competing in the Regional cross-country competition at Felsted School. Good luck to everyone involved. All the teams are chasing qualification for the National final in December.

Netball winners

On Tuesday our U14 Netball squad beat King John convincingly in the second round of the Essex Cup, well done to them for playing so well in terrible weather conditions.

Football

We also played in two U13 football cup matches this week. One in the Essex Cup and one in the National Cup. Unfortunately, our U13 side had very difficult draws in both competitions and were not able to secure victories to progress to the next round. We wish FitzWimarc and Shenfield good luck as they progress through.

STEM & Medicine Summer Experiences for Ages 12-18

[Investin](#) are offering students interested in a career of STEM or Medicine real-life industry experience alongside professionals, empowering them to choose the right career path and gain vital professional skills before leaving school. There are many other summer experiences including Architecture, Dentistry, Engineering, Forensic Science, Investment Banking, Psychology, Software Engineering, Veterinary Medicine and Video Game Design. Places are highly limited; students can **register before 31st December** at a 15% discount by using the code SUMMER15. To find out more for **Ages 12-14** click [here](#) and **Ages 15-18** click [here](#).

Charity support for homeless people in Redbridge

Well done to Willow C in Year 8 who has been volunteering weekly, providing food and support to homeless people in Redbridge. We are very proud of you, Willow for this excellent work in the community.

Christmas Concerts

The Music Department are preparing for the annual Christmas Concerts, and we invite all parents, staff and friends of the school to attend and show support for SHSG music-making and theatre. Students from all years will be participating in the performances. Year 7 students will be performing their carols on the below dates:

Form Group	Date
7 Aphrodite, 7 Artemis & 7 Athene	Tuesday 6 th December
7 Aurora, 7 Hera & 7 Hermes	Wednesday 7 th December

Tickets are available to purchase on ParentPay and will ideally be collected by students from the finance office, or otherwise made available for collection on the door: £6 (adults); £4 (concessions). Alongside the big ensembles, we look forward to Year 7 performances of original Christmas songs, created in their form groups later this month. In addition to the array of musical performances, the Drama Department are presenting scenes from the play *Love and Information*. There will also be a raffle organised by the Parents Association and refreshments will be served in the interval. Please check your diaries and book tickets in advance.

Mrs Symes has sent an email to all parents of Year 7 and asks that they complete the online consent form within the email no later than Wednesday 30th November. A link to the consent form can be found [here](#).

Christmas Carol Service

The following week, on Tuesday 13th December at 7pm, the SHSG Nine Lessons and Carols service takes place at Holy Trinity CofE Church, Southchurch Boulevard. This service features our student choristers and readers, joined by staff and guests. Entrance is free, and there will be an opportunity to buy refreshments served by the Parents Association after the service. We look forward to welcoming you to this special event.

Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas Dinner will be served on Thursday 15th December at 12.00pm. Christmas Dinner must be paid for in advance no later than Monday 5th December. Please note that the canteen will not be providing any other food on this date. I have attached the flyer for more information.

SHSG Parents' Association Reminder

SHSG Parents' Association will be holding a raffle each night of the Christmas Concerts, Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th December. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes are Christmas hampers provided by Year 7 students. Tickets cost £2 each and can be purchased on ParentPay up until 1pm on Tuesday 6th December 2022 (tickets to be collected by students from the school bank). All donations support the school. If you miss the cut-off time don't worry, tickets will be available on the night. An additional raffle will also be available on the night with prizes including food and drink, beauty products and confectionary. Thank you for your continued support.

Online Safety and activity in Year 7

Mrs Symes would like to advise parents of Year 7 students to check emails as she has been in touch with parents regarding online safety and activity in Year 7.

Peer to peer emotional support Tuesdays

If your child ever needs a friendly listening ear or some caring support, the school is glad to let you know that a group of students have trained to become Emotional Support First Aiders and are ready to listen and give some support to their peers. They are available weekly in Room 3 on Tuesday lunchtime. This is open to all year groups.

This is part of our wider wellbeing strategy, helping us to deliver SHSG's *safe, happy, successful guiding principles*. This year we have employed a full-time, on-site school counsellor, as well as being a lead school for the Diana Anti Bullying Ambassador scheme. Let us know if there are more wellbeing initiatives that you would like to suggest.

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 wonderful weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey
Headteacher