



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, 3rd February 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Sixth Form preparation

Year 11 students have come to the end of their preparation programme for selecting their A Level subjects this week. The programme has included:

- Two A Level taster days, where students have had the opportunity to sample up to 10 A Level subject lessons.
- Sixth Form Open Evening.
- Subject presentations from Heads of Department or subject teachers, where they have been informed about the A Level course.
- Subject Fair where students had the opportunity to speak to our best ambassadors, our Sixth Form students.
- Careers consultations with Mrs Tinnams, our careers advisor where students have had the chance to discuss their post 16 and post 18 aspiration.

This week, Year 11 students used all this information to select their A Level subject choices. In the summer term, students will attend 'Welcome to Sixth Form' presentations, which will provide some final details about Sixth Form as well as preparatory work that students can undertake over the summer holiday.

Information about GCSE Results Day will follow in due course.

Thank you to teachers, Sixth Form Subject Captains, Mrs Tinnams (our careers advisor) and Parents/Carers for all the support given in helping students to select their A Level subject choices.

The Inspiring Culinary Generations Cookery Competition

Jessica K, in Year 11, competed at The ICG National Finals in Bournemouth last week. Jessica came away with second place and a trophy. There is only one highly commended trophy that is given across all the categories, so this is an amazing achievement.

A huge congratulations to Jessica on your success!

Term dates and inset days

I am pleased to confirm our Inset Days for the next academic year below:

- 1st September 2023
- 4th September 2023
- 5th September 2023
- 22nd September 2023
- 22nd July 2024

On the dates above, the school will be closed to students. Students will be returning to school on Wednesday, 6th September 2023. We will be publishing the full term dates on the website early next week.



PE updates

The U14 netball team competed at the regional netball final of the National Schools Netball Tournament held at Stanborough School on Saturday, 28th January. The squad of 12 played superbly throughout the day with some strong wins against Norwich, Bedford and Finborough. After a couple of close games, the team placed 5th overall narrowly missing out of the semi-final. Well done to the whole team for demonstrating good sportsmanship over the course of the day. Thank you to Emily A (Year 9) for taking on the responsibility of team captain. The team now look forward to the quarter finals of the Essex Cup against Brentwood School.

The U15 had an excellent performance in their first round of the Sisters in Sport National Cup with a 5-1 win against Drapers Academy. Shout outs must go to Isabelle R's hat trick, a goal for Sienna W and a nice finish from Isabelle F to make it 5. The team will play their second round against Croydon after half term!

Well done to Sanaa J (Year 9) who participated in the Essex Futures - Colchester 2023 badminton tournament last weekend and came away with a silver medal for girls' singles and girls' doubles.

Good luck to the following cross-country runners who are representing Essex at the Southern Intercountry Championships tomorrow in Sussex! Liliana T, Chloe F, Shiloh O, Chloe B, Annalise B.



The 2 Johns Parent Event - Zoom

For those that wish to view the recorded E-safety webinar by The 2 Johns, please click [‘here’](#).

Careers information

We were delighted to welcome into school two local magistrates to deliver a bail application workshop. The bail process was explained to students from Years 7-13 and they were presented with a scenario where a criminal had pleaded guilty to burglary but asserted that their personal circumstances had changed and that being held on remand would cause severe hardship to their young family. It was a complex case, and our students impressed the magistrates with their intelligent and insightful discussions. In the end the group were split in their decision and the magistrates revealed that due to the defendant's previous criminal history they would indeed have been remanded in custody. A brilliant experience for our students and one we hope to repeat next year.



Below is a review of the workshop from Ashleigh:

“The Magistrate Bail Application workshop was very interesting. The 2 magistrates that came in to talk to us were very friendly and they were also passionate in what they were talking about, which made me very intrigued. The activity we did was also inclusive and fun. It was a great opportunity to have taken up.”

National Apprenticeships week

Next week is National Apprenticeships week, this year our students have already engaged directly with talks about apprenticeships at registration time and lunchtime from Jaguar Land Rover and the BBC. After half term we have a talk planned from our Enterprise Advisor regarding apprenticeships in the NHS and we have invited SEEC in to school to speak to KS3 and 4 about T levels and apprenticeships that are available post 16 and 18.

In addition, we regularly share opportunities regarding apprenticeships via our online careers platform 'Unifrog'. Please see the attached for the types of exciting opportunities that are regularly promoted via the site. Students have set registration times to explore Unifrog. They are also able to access it from home and I would encourage parents and carers to visit the site to see for themselves the different careers paths that are available.

DfE - letters for students and parents about apprenticeships

To coincide with National Apprenticeship Week (6-10 February 2023), Minister Halfon is writing to students and parents about the opportunities and benefits apprenticeships can bring to young people and encouraging them to consider apprenticeships when they are thinking about career choices. We have been asked to share the below letters with you:

[Open the letter to students](#)

[Open the letter to parents, guardians and carers](#)

Flatford Mill

Year 12 stayed at Flatford Mill Field Studies Centre for three nights to get started on their NEA for Geography. They visited Dedham, Ipswich docks and Walton on the Naze to carry out a variety of fieldwork techniques. They worked hard - both out and about and in the classroom - until 8pm each evening. They also had time to relax!



Poetry by Heart

Yesterday, we held our 5th annual Poetry by Heart competition. Each student in our 7-10 drama classes, were tasked with learning a poem and bravely reciting it in class. Together with students from years 11 and 12, over 70 participants were shortlisted to recite their poems again before our panel of judges. Judging criteria takes into account students' expressive use of voice, their understanding of the poem, how captivating their performance is for an audience and even how accurately they've memorised the poet's words. The winners from each age category will be entered into the Poetry by Heart National Competition. In previous years we have succeeded in sending many finalists to the Poetry by Heart National Finals at the Globe Theatre.

Taking part in Poetry by Heart is all about developing confidence with poetry in an enjoyable, accessible and engaging way. Studies undertaken jointly by Cambridge University and *Poetry by Heart*, reveal that reciting poetry gives the brain and memory skills a fantastic workout. But more than this, learning a poem 'by heart' means having that poem as a friend for life.

Message from the Parents' Association - SHSG 200 Club

Congratulations to our January 200 Club draw winners

1st prize £80.50 - C. Finnigan

2nd prize £48.30 - L. Farrell

3rd prize £32.20 - A. Behn

Winners will be notified by email shortly.

A reminder of our December 200 Club draw winners:

1st prize £78.75 - T. Lancaster

2nd prize £47.25 - L. Jackson

3rd prize £31.50 - L. Farrell

Congratulations to our December Christmas draw winners:

1st prize £78.75 - C. Pieper

2nd prize £47.25 - S. Boxall

3rd prize £31.50 - N. Thomas

To date over £1890 of cash prizes for 2022 to 2023.

Additional draw numbers can be purchased by parents, family, and friends.

Please email <mailto:shsg200club@yahoo.com> for details.

Thank you for your support

200 Club

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](#).

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey
Headteacher