



# 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 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

## **Year 12 A Level Computer Science talk**

On Monday, a computer science class had a talk with a Solutions Architect from Amazon Web Services. She spoke to the class about her current role and the path that she took to get there as a woman of colour. It was interesting to learn about her journey from a business career to one in technology, as well as how the work she does at Amazon differs from our initial expectations. Particularly, it was fascinating to find out about how she uses a range of skills from delivering presentations to organising a team – students learnt that the skills needed in computing were not only limited to programming. Students were able to ask questions they had about the industry and gain insightful knowledge for future prospects.



## **Parent Surveys for school assessment, reporting and recording systems**

We are currently reviewing our reporting and assessment systems and would welcome your feedback to help inform our policies and practice. A strong home/school partnership is integral to our students feeling 'safe, happy and successful.' Indeed, any feedback you can give us with regard to how we can further improve our communication with you on key aspects of your child's education at Southend High School for Girls is always welcomed. The following parental survey on our reporting and assessment systems should help us to ensure that you receive useful information about your child's progress.

We would be grateful if you could spare five minutes to complete the survey by clicking on the link relevant to your child's current Key Stage below. We thank you in advance.

[KS3 \(Years 7-9\)](#)

[KS4 \(Years 10-11\)](#)

[KS5 \(Years 12-13\)](#)

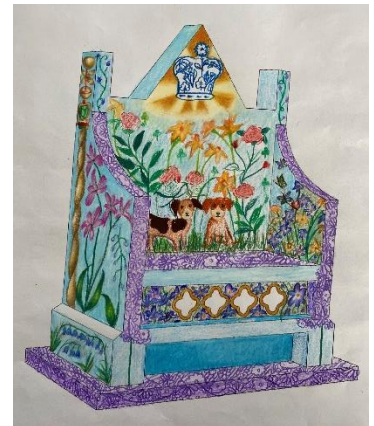


### **Congratulations to Year 11 media studies students**

Congratulations to Year 11 GCSE media studies students who have completed their NEAs, 30% of their GCSE mark. There will be an exhibition of their completed work in the foyer next week. Students of media in Year 10 and those considering taking media as an option should take the time to have a look at the work for inspiration.

### **Coronation Throne bench design competition**

A group of Year 9 art students took part in a *Coronation Throne Bench* design competition. Our entry to the competition was an amalgamation of ideas put together for a design for a bench for the King's Coronation. The competition for schools is part of the celebrations due to take place in June. From over 1,500 design entries that were submitted, our students' design was selected as one of 50 shortlisted entries! This is an incredible achievement; we are extremely proud for our students to have taken part. The dogs pictured are Bluebell and Beth, the Duchess of Cornwall's rescue dogs.



Click '[here](#)' to find out more about the competition and to catch a glimpse of our school's design.

### **Safeguarding Update**

Please see the attached flyer raising awareness about 'cannabis edibles' which we have been asked to share with parents via the Southend Safeguarding Partnership and Essex Police.

### **Year 11 school photograph registration reminder**

A reminder that Carmel Jane Photography will be visiting our school on Monday 17th of April 2023 to take the Year 11 Individual and Tutor Group photographs. All Parents are requested to pre-register before the photography date to enable access to your child's photographs. Please visit [www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk](http://www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk) and enter the below code:

**JRF XU3R**

You will then be asked to pre-register with your child's full school register name (legal name). Once registered, and as soon as the photos are available, you will receive an automatic email notification to inform you that your child's photos are ready to be viewed and purchased. Don't miss out, pre-register today!

### **Battle of the Bands 2023**

Last week, SHSG Music Department held a battle of the bands gig on the main stage in the hall. Two student bands from Years 10-12 performed short but lively sets of rock songs, ranging from Arctic Monkeys to Avril Lavigne. The younger band *Delta* went first, with strong rhythm section and punk vocal chants, followed by the senior band *They Might Be After Us*, who had an energetic set combined with powerful lead vocals.

The 200-strong audience had acquired 'limited edition' tickets for the event and enjoyed the show, complete with glow sticks and colourful lighting by the student technical team. *They Might Be After Us* were crowned the 2023 winners after a vote by scream-o-meter and will be awarded the inaugural *Battle of the Bands Golden Drumstick*. Well done the students for all their hard work and preparation for this successful event.

### **House Music Competition**

Over the course of the past week, SHSG students from across Years 7-11 took part in the annual House Music Competition in which each form nominates a musician to perform a solo in front of a lunchtime audience including a panel of judges from the Music Department. This year, we saw an impressive range of musical talent, from classical pianists, to violin, trumpet, flute, clarinet, saxophone, drums, bass guitar and singing performances in a variety of popular styles.

We were impressed by the standard of music-making and there were many enjoyable performances through the week. In the final on Tuesday, Ms Boyson joined as guest adjudicator and we heard excellent performances from Amelia, Isobel, Lana, Freya, Anna and Janelle S. Congratulations to Freya, from 7 Hera, for winning this year's competition with an excellent vocal performance of *Out Here On My Own*, from the musical *Fame*. This wowed the audience and was chosen as the winner in a very strong field. Freya was presented with the House Music Cup, now bedecked in yellow ribbons. Well done to all of the students who took part.

### **Unmanned email inbox**

Just a polite reminder that the email address this letter is sent from is a non-reply email box. The inbox is not manned as it is an electronic system, therefore any messages sent here may not be received and will not be responded to. All general email enquiries should be sent to [office@shsg.org](mailto:office@shsg.org) to ensure that they are forwarded to the appropriate member of staff.

### **SHSG Parents' Association Easter Raffle 2023 - reminder**

SHSG PA are holding an Easter raffle to be drawn on Wednesday 29th March. The prizes are:

- 1st prize – Anne Klein ladies' watch
- 2nd prize – Kew garden tools and bulbs
- 3rd prize – Katie Loxton pouch
- 4th prize – Lindt gold chocolate bunny



Tickets cost £2 each and are available on ParentPay to be collected by students from the school bank.

Tickets are available to purchase from Friday 3rd March with ticket sales closing on 29th March.

All contributions support the 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](#).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Carey".

Jason Carey  
Headteacher