



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, 14th July 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Year 12 trip to The Houses of Parliament

Year 12 had a fantastic day at The Houses of Parliament this week. It was PMQs an hour after the tour, so students saw the chambers buzzing with people and press, which was very exciting for them. SHSG students took part in a lively debate and gained an excellent insight into how laws are made. They also visited the Supreme Court as well as visiting the museum. A few students were fortunate to hear cases in the public gallery. The tour guides commented on how knowledgeable they all were. We were very proud of them and glad that they came away feeling inspired and enriched by the history and workings of the most powerful institutions in the United Kingdom.



Queen's College, Oxford: MFL Competition - Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators

During the spring term, students in Years 7-10 MFL lessons were given the opportunity to experience the process of creative translation through specially selected poems, fiction and non-fiction texts from the Translation Exchange, Queen's College, Oxford, in preparation for the competition launch. The competition is inspired by the life and work of the great translator Anthea Bell, who is famous for translating the French Asterix comics into English. Students learnt that literal translation is the process of taking words from one language and changing them to words in another language. This method cannot be used with all types of text, particularly with poems, jokes, slang and idioms as it is impossible to translate these directly without losing the meaning. Creative translation, however, factors this in and adjusts the texts so that the newly translated document keeps all the emotions, tone and feeling of the original.

Well done to all the students who participated in the competition. Over 15,000 students took part across the UK and schools submitted the top 5 entries in each level. A team of 36 judges assessed the 3,500 entries and winners were recently announced. Huge congratulations to Emma M in Year 10 whose translation won a commendation!



Summer concert

On Monday evening, the Music Department presented their long-awaited Summer Concert: a culmination of two terms of rehearsals, featuring the whole range of ensembles in a joyful celebration of music-making. Music Captain, Angela hosted the event which opened with the Wind Band performing a medley of Dr Who and an arrangement of songs from the show *Wicked*. After the subtitled 'Tempo di Timelord', more traditional music entered the fray: highlights included the Chamber Choir's performance of *Set Me As A Seal*, wildly contrasted with the Andrews Sisters' Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy; later, a Baroque-inspired set by the newly formed *Ensemble Antique* included a beautiful aria sung by Chan H. which naturally led to a Jazz Waltz, including flute solo performed by Imogen C. and harpsichord played by Isobel W. There were smaller instrumental ensembles between, including the Flute Ensemble directed by Joely L. and String Ensemble playing Handel. To finish, SHSG Orchestra performed the exuberant Polovstian Dances from Borodin's Prince Igor. The stand-out finale was the final movement, a well-known Rondo, from Mozart's Horn Concerto No.4, with French Horn solo performed brilliantly by Gabriella C. Following this, Mr Carey presented Gabriella with the Concerto Shield, engraved with all the previous winners of this trophy dating back to 2014. Well done to all students who took part in this concert.

Year 10 Taster Day

On Monday our Year 10 students threw themselves into A Level study, with a suite of Taster Lessons in A Level Courses. They chose five subjects and will have a second opportunity for a taster session in Year 11 to help inform their A level choices. Students looked at topics from oligopolies in economics, to the legacy of Henry VIII in history, and are pictured below completing some A level chemistry and physics practicals. Ella L said 'the day was really helpful to give me an insight into what I want to study, and to feel what A level lessons will be like at SHSG. I really enjoyed English Language; I could see how it links to my future career goals'. Poppy N said 'classics was so interesting, it gave me a clear insight into the A Level and I loved discussing Greek mythology and its comparisons to Christianity.



Leigh Art Trail competition

For those of you who have yet to enjoy our local Leigh Art Trail you still have the opportunity to go and see pieces by several of our Key Stage 3 students who entered and were shortlisted for the 'View Through a Window' competition. The outstanding quality of the work submitted made the judging process extremely challenging but very worthwhile. You will be able to view and vote at Leigh Road Baptist Church on Saturday and Sunday from 10am-4pm. Each group winner will receive a £50 voucher. The secondary schools' competition is co-ordinated and run by our very own Miss Trevena, herself a notable figure in the local art community. You will find her most recent collection of mixed media paintings on display at location 43- Leigh Drinks Company. We are also proud to have Ms Holbrook, another SHSG staff member, exhibiting her current collection of prints, ceramics and other delights at location 4- Boni-Vee. Our school has long been a centre of excellence in art and this is reflected in our place at the heart of the Leigh Art Trail.



Design Technology projects

Students in Key Stage 3 have seen their efforts in design technology come to fruition over the recent days. Look forward to a lovely footstool, desk organiser or lamp making its home with your child before the end of term. The workshop and sewing room are open every lunch if they have not-quite finished in class. You can see some stand out pieces from Years 7, 8 and 9 below.



Year 6 Transition Day

Our new Year 7s who will be starting in September enjoyed their transition day on Friday. Spending time with the tutor groups, they also had time in lessons, completed a treasure hunt with prefects to find their way around school, and learnt our school song, *Jerusalem*, with Mrs Symes singing, accompanied by Mr Peugniez on the piano.

Lost property

Lost property accumulated over the last half term will be displayed in the reception area next week for students to collect. At the end of the school year all items unclaimed will be donated to a local charity shop.

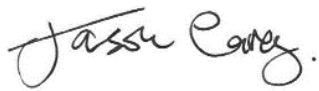
Year 5 school tours

We are holding additional school tours throughout next week for prospective Year 5 students and their parents. Should you wish to book a tour, you can do so on our booking system [here](#).

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". The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

Jason Carey
Headteacher