



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 November 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 8th November, 5:45pm to 8pm

We warmly invite all the families of students in Year 11 to attend our Sixth Form Open Evening next week on Wednesday 8th November. This is an excellent opportunity for students and their families to speak with Heads of Department about the nature of the courses on offer at A Level, as well as speak to student ambassadors for each subject.

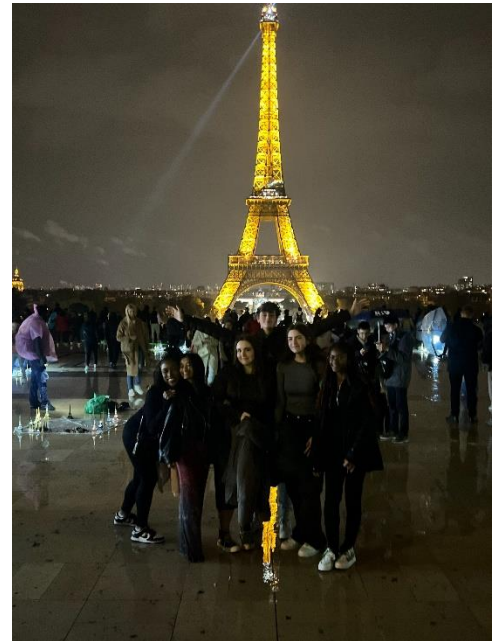
In addition, we would like to invite all our Year 11 students and their families to a special Headteacher's talk to begin the evening, which will contain information specifically for our SHSG Year 11 students, at **5:45pm in the main hall**. After this, you can either have a guided tour of the subjects of your choice with a current Year 12 student, or make your own way around the Open Evening. There will be subsequent talks open to all prospective students and families at 6:30pm and 7:30pm, which, due to the capacity of the hall, will have seats allocated on a first come first served basis.

Year 10 and 13 French Trip to Paris

Mr Smith and a team of staff (Mrs Bowman, Mr Andrews, Mrs Smith and Mr Carey) took forty-seven students to Paris during half term. Mr Smith led the group through key Parisian landmarks on walking tours covering 14k on some days! The group enjoyed visiting sites such as Montmartre, the Sacré-Cœur, the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, shopping and walking along the Avenue des Champs-Élysées between the Place de la Concorde and the Place Charles de Gaulle, including a stop at the Arc de Triomphe, enjoying the best view of Paris from the Montparnasse Tower, visiting Montparnasse Cemetery and the graves of Jean-Paul Sartre and Serge Gainsbourg, and finishing off with a Seine river boat cruise. We mustn't forget the emergency Macdonalds lunch as well for Le Big Mac!. And so much more! Thank you Mr Smith – and Tony the coach driver.



Nous nous sommes intégrés dans la culture française et la langue et nous avons utilisé nos connaissances de la langue pour communiquer avec les Parisiens. Nous n'avons pas seulement apprécié Paris en tant que touristes, mais ce voyage nous a permis de vivre comme des Parisiens pendant quelques jours ce qui était incroyable. Nous voudrions remercier tous les professeurs qui nous ont accompagnés et surtout M. Smith pour avoir organisé cette opportunité pour nous.



Year 10-13 Music Guys and Dolls trip

On Thursday, the Music Department took GCSE and A Level groups to the Bridge Theatre in London to see the critically acclaimed revival of *Guys and Dolls*. This is an immersive theatre production in which the audience can move around and get up close to the action, as the story unravels around different stages which rise up within the central arena. Characters merged through the crowd and came to life in the story while set changes took place around you. The students and staff enjoyed the high jinks and modern take on the classic musical and dance numbers - with some buying trilby hats and getting squirted with water in the Havana scene. This is a deservedly celebrated piece of theatre and we recommend you go: for the comedy, for the romantic charm, and for the spectacular stagecraft.



Year 9 Geography Trip to Colchester Zoo

Year 9 students have had a brilliant day at Colchester Zoo learning about Tropical Rainforest animal adaptations. They each experienced an informative talk on adaptations by a zoo specialist and even had a chance to dress up! The students had time to walk around the zoo independently in small groups to complete their booklets and the zoo staff were very impressed by their behaviour and participation throughout the day. An excellent day was had by all. Thank you to all the accompanying staff as well for helping to run the day smoothly.

Rights Respecting School Bronze Award!

I am pleased to announce that we have achieved Unicef Rights Respecting School bronze level- Rights committed. **The Rights Respecting Schools Award puts children's rights at the heart of school life in the UK.**

The UK Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK) works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. Our Rights Respecting Schools Award recognises that we embed these values in daily school life and give our students the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.

We are now working towards the silver level by embedding the ethos and language of respecting children's rights throughout the school.



Christmas Card Design Competition

We would like to encourage all students to take part in the annual Christmas card competition. It should be an A5 colourful design (no pastel colours). The deadline for entries is Monday 13th November 2023 and your work should be given to Mrs Stewart in the Art Department. The winning card is printed and sent out to the wider school community. I have attached the poster with instructions to the end of this letter. Good luck and we look forward to seeing your designs.

Christmas Dinner

This year's SHSG Christmas Dinner will be held on Thursday 14th December 2023 at 12.00pm. Tickets are £6.50 and are available now on Parent Pay. Please indicate whether your child requires a traditional or a vegan lunch. There are limited places available so we encourage you to purchase your tickets as early as possible since the canteen will not be serving any other food on this day.

Once purchased, tickets will be available for collection from the School Bank nearer the time. I have attached the flyer at the end of this letter.

SHSG Parents' Association Winter Concert Raffles

The SHSG Parents' Association will be holding a raffle each evening of the Winter Concerts which are due to be held on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December.

First, second and third prizes are winter hampers provided by Year 7 students.

Tickets cost £2 each and can be purchased on ParentPay until Monday 4th December 2023. Once purchased tickets will automatically be entered into the relevant evening raffle. All donations support the school.

Do not worry if you miss the cut-off date; raffle tickets (and additional raffle prizes) will be available on the night. Thank you for your continued support.

Whole School Photograph – final reminder

A final reminder that our Whole School Photograph is available to view and order via the following weblink:

<https://htmp.st/230257-176WSG>

The three-week free delivery to school option has now closed. If you still wish to order, we recommend that you select direct delivery to your home address (P&P applies). For assistance, please call Tempest directly on 01736 752411 – Select option 3 to place an order or, option 5 for customer services.

Satchel One

Satchel One, our homework platform, has recently sent an email to all registered parents/carers who are using the service stating they need to verify their email address. This is in order for Satchel One to comply with GDPR regulations.

For those who did not see this email or did not complete the verification process, Satchel One has removed you from the platform and you will no longer be able to see your child's homework.

To rectify this, please follow the steps outlined in the article below so that you are aware how to locate your Parent Code and regain access to your account.

[Logging in as a Parent / Guardian](#)

Whilst the school has had no control over this process, we apologise for any inconvenience.

Lost Property

All lost property collected in the last half term will be displayed in the foyer the week commencing 6th November any items remaining at the end of the week will be thoughtfully disposed of.

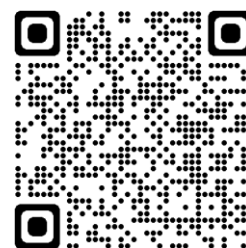
Careers information

Ms Casson would like to share the various careers information/opportunities below.

Unifrog

SHSG subscribes all our students to the excellent Unifrog platform to support our careers delivery. Students in Years 8-13 have dedicated time in their registration time and Lifeskills lessons to engage with the content. As an online platform we would encourage students to login and pursue the resources and interactions at home with the support of their parents/guardians.

Please see the following link or the QR code for some of the exciting upcoming opportunities [Events for UK students \(unifrog.org\)](#)



Careers newsletter

[Careers@SHSG newsletter \(padlet.com\)](mailto:Careers@SHSG)

Have a lovely weekend!

Yours faithfully,

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

Jason Carey
Headteacher



Christmas Card Design Competition



Open to all Year groups

- The design has to be A5 and the colours must be bold – no pastel tones.
- It should be submitted on cartridge paper but the design can be in any medium.
- There should be NO lettering or words.
- It can be traditional, religious, a winter scene, contemporary – anything related to Christmas but there must also be a SHSG reference.
- Surround your design with a border.

The winning design will be printed and sent out by the school as our official Christmas Card! There will be an Art Badge for the winner and there are prizes for the winner & two runners up. Go get creative & good luck!

**Deadline for submissions:
Monday 13th November**



SHSG Christmas Lunch

Thursday 14th December 2023

Main

Traditional Roast Turkey

Pigs in Blankets, Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce

Or

Vegan Wellington

Flaky Pastry Filled with Sweet potato and mushroom, Flavoured With Rosemary

**TICKETS
£6.50**

Both Served With

Roast Potatoes, Roast Parsnips,
Brussels & Carrots

To Finish

A choice of:

Christmas Pudding, Mince Pie,
Yule Log or Fruit Salad

Free drink of squash &
a Christmas Cracker!

PAYMENT
via Parent Pay
Tickets are limited so put
your request in quickly!

PLEASE NOTE
the Canteen will not be
providing any other food
on 14th December



Our Christmas Dinner will be served at 12.00pm.

It must be ordered and paid for in advance **NO LATER** than Monday 4th December – the cost is £6.50

TICKETS ARE LIMITED, SO PUT YOUR REQUEST IN QUICKLY!

Tickets will be issued by the School Bank on receipt of payment.

Our preferred method of payment is Parent Pay, and you will need to choose whether you would like a Traditional or a Vegetarian meal in the information box on Parent Pay before purchasing your ticket.

This is a separate option on ParentPay and cannot be debited from your dinner money account.

**PLEASE NOTE THE CANTEEN WILL NOT
BE PROVIDING ANY OTHER FOOD ON 14TH DECEMBER**