



# 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, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

## **Start of Spring Term - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

The Spring Term will start on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Students will be expected in school at the normal start time of 8:30am. It is important to note that we will be returning on a **week A** and therefore students need to be prepared for their week A lessons.

## **Year 11 & 13 PPEs**

Year 11 and 13 students will take their PPE assessments at the start of next term.

Year 13 students' PPEs start on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January and end on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January (with the exception of Art students who have their PPE from Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>-Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January). Year 13 students are on study leave for their PPEs, meaning they do not have to be in school unless they have a PPE assessment.

Year 11 students' PPEs start on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January and end on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. Year 11 students will attend school as usual during this time. If they are not in an examination, they will follow their usual timetable of lessons, but will be able to use this time to revise. Students must ensure they have paper-based resources to revise from.

Examination timetables have been sent to students and parents/carers and are also attached to this letter for information.

We wish Year 11 and 13 students the best of luck in these assessments.

## **Use of changing rooms during PPEs**

As Year 11 and 13 students are taking their PPEs after the Christmas break, students in other year groups will have no access to the changing rooms, the sports hall, and the fitness suite. On the days that students have a PE lesson or an extra-curricular club, students should attend school in their PE kit. At the start of lessons (or clubs) students should go to the gym, where they will be registered and taken to their learning area. Students will be outside in all weather and should dress accordingly. There will also be changes to the extracurricular timetable, which will be communicated through MS Teams pages to students.

Form tutors will have the PE lesson timetable and clubs' timetable and will therefore know when their students should be in PE kits. Normal changing arrangements will resume on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> January. Should your child have any questions, please ask them to see a member of the PE department.



### **Winter Fayre**

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, the Middle School Prefect Team held the SHSG Christmas Fayre. This is an entirely student organised and led event and took a huge amount of time and effort to pull off, all whilst maintaining their other roles, studies, and preparations for their PPEs. I am incredibly proud of the Middle School Prefect Team, and I am very pleased to say that the event was a huge success. There were numerous stalls, including a candy cane delivery service, festive table pong, and 'guess the teacher' from baby photographs to name a few. The event raised an impressive £340.85, all of which will go towards HARP and the Women's Refuge. I would like to thank Francesca Halling and Meave Dillon for coordinating and supporting their team in continuing what is a seemingly becoming a new SHSG tradition. I would also like to thank all of the prefects that have committed their time and energy to making sure the event was as fun and successful as it was. Francesca (Head Prefect for Middle School) also had this to say:

*"Thank you to the whole prefect team for their continuous hard work and effort that went into the Xmas fayre! The amount of decorations we received from the forms was phenomenal so thank you to all of the forms who contributed. A massive thanks as well to Maeve who spent her nights making 100 labels for the candy canes. Thanks also to all of those who provided an extra pair of hands on the day (Chloe, Maisie, Emma). I am overjoyed by the numbers we had on Monday and hope everyone enjoyed!"*

I would like to wish all of Year 11, and their families, a very merry Christmas."

### **Literary Review 2023**

The launch event for this year's *Literary Review* was held this week and each student who contributed to the review was presented with their own printed copy. The *Literary Review* is an annual publication which showcases the best writing produced in English and features some fantastic artwork by our students. I would like to congratulate all the students and staff involved in its publication and invite you read it [here](#)'.



### **Mental Health & Wellbeing at SHSG**

If you need support or information about how to cope with your emotions, you can visit the school website and look at [Mental Health & Wellbeing - Southend High School for Girls \(shsg.org\)](https://www.shsg.org).

There, you will find some articles, videos, and useful links. The school has also put together a Padlet for Lower and Middle School and one for Sixth Form for you to browse. Please find the links below:

[Lower and Middle school SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](#)

[SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](#)

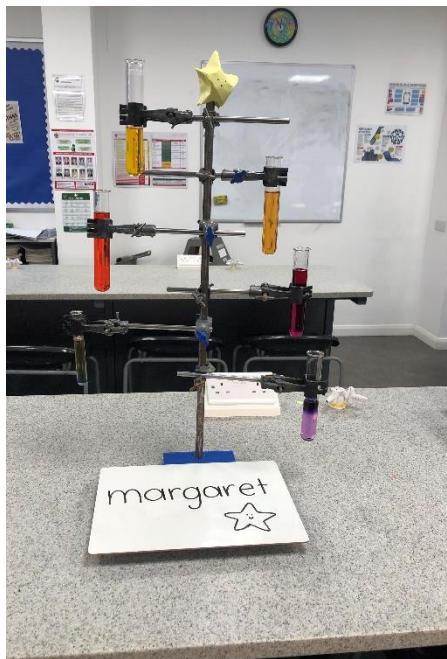
### **Geography Bauble Competition WINNERS!**

After some competitive voting we had a close call on our winner for this year's sustainable Christmas bauble. There were lots of brilliant and creative decorations submitted. A huge well done to Madison B in Year 7 for winning with her entry of a snowman created from old socks, odd buttons and excellent sewing skills! Madison will receive a Geography badge and Geography colours for her fantastic entry! We also have two additional Key Stage winners who produced excellent decorations and came very close in the overall vote. Well done to Mia K in Year 10 for her entry of an origami tree made from an old map and Mia S in Year 12 for her entry of Holland the Hedgehog made from several recycled materials. In addition to our winners, I would also like to award Lolo R in Year 9 Geography colours for her excellent effort in submitting 6 very creative entries to this competition. If students would like to keep their decorations, please collect them from the Geography office. Thank you to Mrs Patel for organising this activity.



### **The annual Chemistree competition**

Students in Year 12 and 13 have the chance as a team to create the best *Chemistree*. All students were provided with exactly the same amount of reagents and equipment and given a set amount of time. Students and staff then had the opportunity to vote for their best tree with the winning team taking the prestigious title '*Chemistree inventor extraordinaire*'. A few of the entries can be viewed below.



### **Tub collections**

Ms Spilstead has asked me to share the following poster. Students that return a minimum of three tubs will receive an achievement point.

**Throughout January**  
please bring clean tubs to the Geography Office.

**Min of 3**  
clean plastic tubs per student to get an achievement point.

Simply leave your name and form when you drop off your tubs.

Confectionery tubs  
Biscuit tubs  
Cracker tubs

All tubs will be collected and taken to a plastic reprocessing centre where they're shredded, before being sold onto plastic manufacturers to use in place of virgin plastics. All money raised from the sale of Tub2Pub plastics will be given directly to Macmillan Cancer Support.

### **Careers information**

Ms Casson would like to share the following careers information.

#### Insight to Nestle - Careers in Engineering in York:

- Thursday 18th January 2024, 5pm - 7:30pm
- Link to apply: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T5W6JNR>

#### Insight to Nestle - Careers in Engineering in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire:

- Thursday 25th January 2024, 5pm - 7:30pm
- Link to apply: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T5BBNBP>

#### Insight to Nestle - Careers in Engineering in Buxton, Derbyshire:

- Wednesday 31st January 2024, 5pm - 7:30pm
- Link to apply: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8S2GTF9>

#### Insight to Nestle - Careers in Engineering in Staverton, Trowbridge:

- Thursday 1st February 2024, 5pm - 7:30pm
- Link to apply: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MK28PGS>

Nestle are a £85 billion company and are ranked among the 50th largest companies in the world. They are headquartered in Switzerland and employ over 62,000 people across the world. Home to some of the most famous food brands on the planet such as KitKat, Nespresso, Purina, Quality Streets and many more, this is their in-person golden ticket to this incredible company.

In a very rare opportunity, Nestle are opening up their doors to students from across the region to come and see what it is like working for one of the world's largest food and consumer goods companies. With a particular focus on Engineering, Nestle will be showcasing what it is like to be an engineer in their fast paced environment ensuring that their goods are produced and shipped off all around the globe successfully.

**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](#).

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

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

# Buzzacott



## Discover Audit and Accounting Apprenticeships with Buzzacott

We are a leading accountancy firm based in the City of London and are hosting an event to provide insight into the apprenticeships we offer school-leavers in audit and accounting.

This is a unique opportunity for students and their parents/guardians to understand the fantastic potential apprenticeships can offer.

During the event, you will:

- Meet Buzzacott Partners and learn about their roles.
- Hear from school-leaver trainees about their Buzzacott experiences.
- Have your questions answered by our team.

Register for the event by scanning the QR code below.

We look forward to welcoming you.



**When: 11 January 2024,  
arrive from 5:30pm for a 6pm start**

**Where: Buzzacott, 130 Wood Street, London,  
EC2V 6DL**