



# 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, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

### **Year 11 and 13 Exam Timetables and Contingency Date**

Year 11 and 13 students, as well as Year 10 Statistics students, have received their personalised GCSE or A Level examination timetable this week. We are aware that there are some sessions where two or more examinations are taking place, referred to as 'exam clashes'. The Exams Team are making contact with students by email to notify them of the arrangements if this is the case. The examination timetable is decided by the examination boards, and we have no control over this. We will be working to make the experience as smooth as possible for the students and if they have any questions, please ask them to speak to the Exams Team, Mr Morgan or Mrs Bowman (Year 10 and 11) or Mr O'Brien or Miss Riebold (Year 13).

Further information will follow early next half term about the students' last day, study leave, examination arrangements and results days. I would like to advise you at this stage that the examination boards have designated **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024** as the 'contingency day' for GCSE and A Level examinations. If there is national or significant local disruption to examinations or assessments, they could be rescheduled to this date. It is, therefore, advised that all students are available up to and including Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June, even if their final examination is before this date. In addition, the afternoons of **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024** and **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June** have been designated as the 'contingency afternoons' and again, could have disrupted examinations rescheduled to this time. It is advised that all students keep these afternoons available.

### **Year 9 Options Evening and Parents' Evening**

Following a successful Year 9 Options Evening this week, we would like to ask parents / carers for feedback. Please complete the online form '[here](#)' should you wish to do this.

In addition, we would like to remind Year 9 parents that the Year 9 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March from 4.00pm-7.00pm. Further information will follow today.

### **Year 11 and 13 Full reports**

A reminder that the Year 11 and 13 reports will be published to parents on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March via the SIMS Parent App. These reports will include the recent PPE results as well as final predicted grades. Students of these year groups will receive their results in a 'mock results morning' on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February.

### **SHSG Piano Competition**

Last week, Music Captains, Ewan and Julia hosted a whole school piano competition in the main hall. Students entered the competition in three classes: Grades 1-3; 4-6 and 7-8+. Guest judges Mrs Stewart, Mr James and Miss Cowper joined the panel for the first round and selected two performers from each class to go through to the final. We were thrilled by the range of styles, high level of performances and support from the audience. The final saw competitors play a contrasting piece with exceptional levels of musicianship and technique. The winners were: Gia M, Madison B and Sarah O. Well done to all the students who entered this event.



## Careers

Ms Casson would like to share the below link which is an excellent website to search for apprenticeships. I have also attached a useful poster with information regarding our forthcoming careers events.

### [Jobs - Success at School](#)

## **Data Checking**

To help keep your child safe while in school, it is very important that we hold accurate and up to date information about our students. We, therefore, need to confirm that parent contact details are accurate and that medical conditions are up to date. If you have not already done so please would you log on to the SIMS Parent App to check and confirm that the data we hold for your child / children is correct. Parents and Carers of all year groups have recently been sent an email with instructions of how to do this.

We will send further communications when your child's year group have a live form for you to review. If you have not yet registered with the SIMS Parent app then we will resend an invitation link via email and instructions on how to sign in. We really encourage parents to register as this is a useful communication channel and also where we upload school reports.

## **GCSE Rock Climbing**

Last week our Year 10 GCSE PE students enjoyed two days at Rock Hub in Basildon. The students had to work incredibly hard both physically and mentally to complete the Rock-Climbing syllabus and assessment in this time. They were truly pushed out of their comfort zones, but they rose to the challenge and achieved some fantastic assessment grades as well as having a great time. Well done to them all and thank you to the instructors at Rock Hub for doing such a great job.



## **Year 12 Formula One in School Competition**

On Thursday, three teams of Year 12 students travelled to the regional finals for the F1 in Schools competition. This international STEM competition requires students to research, design and manufacture a model F1 car to race. They have to consider the aerodynamics, weight, aesthetics, sponsorship and branding of their designs. Our students have spent the last five months preparing for the regional finals and their vehicles have gone through multiple iterations as they made slight changes to the shape of the wings and body. Team Aquila and

Team Crown Joules were awarded the Verbal Presentation Award and the Judges Choice Award. Pink Diesels were nominated for the Branding award. Many of these students are considering engineering in the future so this was a perfect opportunity for them to build relevant skills and gain practical experience. I'd like to congratulate all teams on the hard work they put into the competition, as well as Mr Cannon for all his hard work with the groups over several months. We hope to enter an additional two Year 10 teams next year.



### **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 \(padlet.com\)](https://www.padlet.com)

[SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](https://www.padlet.com)

### **Clubs**

The school has a range of activities and clubs to offer. The latest list of clubs and activities for this term can be found on our website ['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](#).

Wishing you all a restful half term!

Yours faithfully,

Jason Carey  
Headteacher



# FORTHCOMING CAREERS EVENTS

**16th Feb** **BBC Apprenticeship workshop**  
Old girl Bonnie - Media studio lunchtime



**4th Mar** **March National Careers week**  
Alumnae destinations

**11th Mar** **Barclays registration talk**



**14th Mar** **Year 10 CVs submitted to Unifrog**

**17th Apr** **Year 10 interview experience**



**21st May** **Year 9 Careers morning**

**24th Jun** **Year 10 Essex University Campus Visit**



**3rd Jul** **Year 8 Careers Carousel**

