



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, 8th March 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

International Women's Day

Today marks International Women's Day which is a day where groups and individuals worldwide unify to celebrate and support women's advancement. This year's campaign theme is 'Inspire Inclusion.' We will be celebrating this important day in an assembly on Monday and through a special book display linked to related themes. If you would like to find out more about this day and this year's theme, please [click here](#) for a link to the official website for International Women's Day.

Charity Week

Our highly anticipated Charity Week got off to a bright and colourful start today with two events: students and staff wore red for a whole school non-uniform day, and the Sixth Form House Captains organised a lunchtime bake sale. Proceeds from both events will be donated to Comic Relief. The House Captains have been busy visiting tutor groups and assemblies this week promoting all the activities taking place next week.

Tickets for the events in the hall next week (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes) can be purchased via ParentPay at a cost of £2 per event. Students in receipt of the 16-19 Bursary or eligible for Pupil Premium funding should visit the school bank where they can book a place for these ParentPay events. The sponge the teacher event will not be advertised on ParentPay and therefore pupils will need to bring a small amount of money into school. All events are taking place at lunchtime and the full programme can be found below.

CHARITY WEEK PROGRAMME OF EVENTS



Friday 8 th March	Monday 11 th March	Tuesday 12 th March	Wednesday 13 th March	Thursday 14 th March
Comic Relief Bake Sale (Art/Tech block) Pay at event Non-Uniform Day (bring £2 in)	Sponge the Teacher (Outside PE dept) £1 for 3 sponges Pay at event	Spill/Fill your Guts Challenge (Hall) (Tickets £2 on ParentPay)	Family Feud (Hall) (Tickets £2 on ParentPay)	Talent Show (Hall) (Tickets £2 on ParentPay)



- Tickets for **Spill/Fill your Guts**, **Family Feud** and **Talent Show** on **ParentPay** from Monday 4th March. £2 per event
- **Non Uniform Day Friday 8th March** – wear **RED** for Comic Relief – bring £2 into school House Captains will collect during reg time



- **Comic relief Bake Sale Friday 8th March** Lunchtime Art/Tech block – you will need to bring money into school for this



Charity week is always met with great enthusiasm from our pupils, and we are very much looking forward to a fun-packed week full of community spirit, raising money for these worthwhile causes.

SHSG Reading Strategy - Yoto Carnegie Shadowing Scheme

The Yoto Carnegies are the UK's longest running and best-loved children's book awards, recognising outstanding reading experiences created through writing and illustration in books for children and young people. The Yoto Carnegie Medal is awarded by librarians for an outstanding book written for children and young people. A national reading for pleasure initiative, the *Yoto Carnegie Shadowing Scheme* engages thousands of young people in reading the books on the shortlist via reading groups in schools with educational reading resources to support each shortlist. Each year young people who take part in the scheme are invited to vote for their favourite books to win the Shadowers' Choice Awards. The Medals are awarded annually by **CILIP, the library and information association** and the Youth Libraries Group with longlists announced in February, shortlists in March and the winners announced at a ceremony in June.

We are very excited that SHSG has signed up to be part of the programme for this year's awards. Our Year 10 Reading Mentors will be running book groups for students in Years 7,8,9 and 10 as part of the shadowing scheme. Students in these year groups who are interested in joining a Carnegie book group should send an email including their name and tutor group to library@shsg.org by Friday 15th March. Places are limited to 10 students per group, and names will be chosen at random if we receive a large number of requests. More information can be found on the Yoto Carnegie website [The Yoto Carnegies](https://www.yotocarnegies.co.uk).



World Book Day Festivities

Following on from our Year 7 trips to Waterstones last week, we continued to celebrate reading for World Book Day. We have a very popular book fair at break and lunch on Monday and Tuesday, in addition to a reading scavenger hunt around the school at lunchtime on Thursday. We have also had some fantastic entries for the House Bookmark competition, and winners will be announced in House Assemblies this half term. After that, the new SHSG official house bookmarks will be printed up and available in the library. Thank you to Mrs Skinner, our school librarian, and the student librarians for running such popular activities.

Year 12 Visit to West Leigh Primary School

On Tuesday this week, seven of our English Literature students in Year 12 visited West Leigh Primary school to support their creative writing projects, as part of a programme of outreach running this term. The students worked with Year 5 students to develop their creative writing skills and support them with their work. Our colleagues from West Leigh said "Thank you so much for bringing your lovely students on Tuesday. The West Leigh children really loved the opportunity and were so excited to work with them - they are already looking forward to the next

session.” As usual, our students were amazing ambassadors for the school and worked wonderfully with the younger children. Thank you to Mr Andrews, Mr Peugniez and the students involved.



Soloists' concert

On Monday evening, Year 10 and 12 students performed in the Soloists' Concert - an annual spotlight on our up-and-coming musicians, which allows GCSE and A Level students to test out pieces that they will later perform as part of their courses. The concert was recorded as part of their PPE assessment, but above all it serves as an enrichment opportunity for the development of performance and presentation skills, including handling performance anxiety and awareness of musical communication in front of a live audience. Highlights included Hannah C.'s opening *Allegro* by F. Kuhlau, followed by Willow L.'s light-hearted trumpet performance of *Bragtime* by J. Firth. Year 10 student, Emily A. performed a striking rendition of *Nothing Compares to You*, including an expressive and sensitive interpretation of Sinéad O'Connor's vocal dexterity. Alongside many piano works, we heard music for violin, flute, clarinet and drum kit too. The evening culminated in Ewan S. performing Rachmaninov's *Prelude in C# Minor* which was given a suitably dark and fiery Romantic spirit: an inspiring ending to the evening. The concert was attended by several parents, friends and staff members, who praised the students' musicianship as well as the array of styles and genres on display. Thank you to all who supported this event.

Descriptive Writing Competition

English captain Alexa S has launched a writing competition that is open to all years. Students have to write a story or a poem based on a picture. Students should email their entries to Alexa by Friday, 19th March. I have attached a poster to the end of this letter.

SHSG PA Easter Raffle

SHSG PA are holding an Easter raffle to be drawn on Wednesday 27th March. The prizes are:

- 1st prize – a Revelation wine crate
- 2nd prize – a bee marble cheese board
- 3rd prize – a scarf by Powder
- 4th prize – a Thorntons chocolate egg



Tickets cost £2 each and are available on ParentPay. Once purchased, raffle tickets will be automatically entered into the draw.

Tickets are available to purchase from Friday 1st March with ticket sales closing on the morning of Wednesday 27th March. The winning raffle tickets will be drawn the afternoon of 27th March. All contributions support SHSG Parents' Association. Thank you for your continued support.

National Careers Week

This week has been National Careers week. We marked the occasion by focusing on the variety of destinations our alumni take.

Each department area shared the wide variety of opportunities their subjects can offer for the future. Many also shared successes of past students with our current cohorts to inspire them. The students found it really fascinating and were surprised by the wide variety of careers SHSG's alumni are engaged in.

Department presentations can be found [here](#) on the Careers newsletter.

Year 7, 8 and 9 had assemblies on the impact AI will have on future careers.

All year groups had the opportunity to explore the definition of a career and their own career aspirations in registration time.

What are the different types of careers?

1 To me, a career means climbing the ladder – you start off in a low paid job and then get promoted.

What type of career would you suggest?

a) Single track career

Choosing an industry, starting at the bottom and working your way up.

b) Serial career

Moving from job to job at different companies or organisations.

c) Portfolio career

Doing two or more different jobs or freelance contracts at the same time.

d) Lifestyle career

A career built around work/life balance. This might be based on a hobby.

We are always keen to hear from parents and friends of the school to share their career journeys and to support us in our careers events.

If you would like to give a talk or a workshop or are able to help interview our Year 10 students in their forthcoming mock interview experience on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th April please email our KS3 and 4 Careers Coordinator, Ms Casson at vcasson@shsg.org.



Southend High School for Girls

National Careers Week 4th March 2024

Where can Media Studies take you?



Careers



Grace Ewing · 1st
Mobile Marketing Intern
Hockley
Experience: ConsultMyApp - Mobile Marketing Experts, Cancer Research...
1 mutual connection



Emily Moreton-Smith (She/Her)
Senior Product Manager at The Stepstone Group

Sam Goldring · 2nd
Social Media at Barclays | Side-hustling at happystride

Apprenticeships



Johnny Jenkins · 2nd
LBC Producer, Nick Ferrari at Breakfast London
Experience: Global, Gateway 97.8, and 13 more



Chiana Pettitt · 1st
Dentsu Creative, Experiential United Kingdom
Experience: Dentsu Creative, ROCKAMILLY LTD, and 1 more
2 mutual connections



Bonnie Grieve · 1st
BBC TV Marketing Executive (BBC 1,2,3 and 4)
Featured on The Podcast Interview

Undergraduate degrees

- Orla- Loughborough- Media and Communication
- Zoe-Cambridge-Law
- Molly-Liverpool-Communication and Media with Spanish.
- Grace- Exeter English and Communication
- Finn- Manchester- Maths and Computer Science
- Aimee-Insurance Apprenticeship
- Ella-Loughborough- Biology
- Katie-Exeter-Geography

• Safe

• Happy

• Successful



Lots of SHSG RS students go on to study Theology and Philosophy at university. This year, Ife in Year 13 is going to study Theology next year. She has offers from Oxford, Durham, Reading and Royal Holloway.

- JOBS**
- Advice worker
 - Archivist
 - Charity Fundraiser
 - Counsellor
 - Civil Service Administrator
 - Community Development Worker
 - Editorial Assistant
 - Newspaper Journalist
 - Police Officer
 - Youth Worker
 - Social Worker



"Studying religion has helped teach me to challenge all my presuppositions. I enjoy thinking through arguments and evaluating them – these are skills I can use in lots of jobs when I graduate!"

• Safe • Happy • Successful

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 \(shsg.org\)](http://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 \(padlet.com\)](http://padlet.com)
- [SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](http://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 a restful weekend!

Yours faithfully,

Jason Carey
Headteacher

Writing Competition



Write a story or poem in response to this picture!

Open to all year groups

Be creative!



Entries and any questions must be emailed to 18-asum@shsg.org by 19th March 2024 :)