



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, 24th May 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Please find below information and updates from this week.

Year 10 Parents' Evening - Thursday 6th June

A reminder that the Year 10 Parents' Evening will be taking place remotely on the first Thursday after half term. Communication has been sent out this week with details of how to make appointments for this evening.

Middle School Prefects

This week we have had the enjoyable job of selecting the Middle School Prefect Team and within that the Middle School Head and Deputy Prefects. The standard of applications was extremely high which is a testament to how wonderful the year group is. With over 100 applications this meant that it was a matter of very fine margins when it came to determining who would be in the final team. We would like to say a very big well done and thank you to everyone who took the time to apply and we would like to congratulate, in particular, Priyanka P who was successful in securing the Head Middle School Prefect position and her two deputies, Willow L and Moyinoluwa A.

InnerDrive

On Thursday of this week, we welcomed in the team from InnerDrive to work with our Year 10 students in a series of workshops which are designed to support the students post PPEs and help them get 'match fit' for Year 11, their final GCSE year. The students engaged in 3 workshops, focussed on how to handle performance under pressure, how to develop a mastery mindset and how to study effectively. Sessions were interactive, yet also challenged the students. Everyone found the experience very useful.

Can you host a Year 12 student for Work Experience Week?

We are pleased to be able to offer Year 12 students the opportunity to take part in a Work Experience Week beginning Monday 24th June 2024. This invaluable opportunity allows students to gain real-world career insights and develop essential work skills. If you are an employer, sole-trader, or employee who would be in a position to host a Year 12 student for a work experience placement for all or part of the week beginning Monday 24th June 2024, please let us know by completing this form: <https://forms.office.com/e/QuVi4dv7tW>

Your involvement could make a significant difference in the future careers of our students. Furthermore, your company could gain from the extraordinary talents and utilise all the unique skills that our outstanding students can offer. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

SHSG Green Dagger 2024

The English Department would like to announce the winner and runner up in the Green Dagger 2024 as being Sitara S and Leya S respectively. Well done to Sitara and Leya for their fantastic work and congratulations also to the rest of the entrants for their stories. They can all be read [here](#) on the English Blog.

SHSG Annual Poetry Prize 2024

The SHSG Annual Poetry Prize is now open for 2024. Students from all years are invited to submit poems on a theme of their choosing and of any length. Entries should be submitted to the English office or emailed to Mr McGarvey by the 17th June 2024.



Jack Petchey

Last week, the annual Jack Petchey Achievement and Leader Awards Presentation Event for Southend Schools & Clubs, held at the Palace Theatre, took place. It was a fantastic evening celebrating the achievements of local young people and youth leaders. It was with considerable pride that we got to see so many students from Southend High School for Girls receiving the prestigious Jack Petchey Award (Image attached - top: Lacey-Louise D, bottom left to right: Favour O, Maddison M, Francesca H and Chloe G). Not only were there students receiving awards put forward by the school, but there were also Southend High School for Girls students (Olivia R, Olivia W, Janny T, and Freya J) receiving awards from external clubs and associations in recognition of their endeavours in the wider community. All students were very deserving recipients, and I would like to congratulate every one of them for their success. All these students embody the Jack Petchey mantra of "if you think you can, you can" and we are immensely proud to have such exceptional young people be a part of the Southend High School for Girls school community.



Year 10 Art Trip to Cornwall

Year 10 Art students had a really purposeful and inspiring few days in St Ives in Cornwall. We visited many Art galleries and sculpture gardens as well as taking a sketching tour and creating beach sculptures with a local artist. It was really pleasing that the behaviour and engagement of the students was noticed and admired wherever we went, including an email from one of the organisers praising our students.



Year 12 Media Studies

Congratulations to Year 12 Media Studies students Safa and Isobel who have been selected as finalists in the prestigious Media Magazine Production competition. You may remember that Safa and Isobel won places on a BFI run film course earlier in the year. They have put the skills they learned there and in their Media and Drama lessons to good use and devised and wrote a short film which won them their place in the final.

Safa, Isobel and their families will join other talented students from around the country to see their productions on the big screen at the final which will be held at the BFI on the Southbank in London. We are very proud as this is the 9th year running that SHSG Media students have been placed as finalists. Well done and 'good luck' Safa and Isobel!

[MediaMag Production Competition Shortlist 2024: Being Seen | English & Media Centre \(englishandmedia.co.uk\)](#)

MediaMag Production Competition Shortlist 2024: Being Seen

Massive thanks and congratulations to everyone who entered the competition this year – you have given us judges our hardest job yet. Across all your 130+ entries the overall technical quality was consistently higher than ever before; there were so many productions worthy of awards we've really struggled to create a manageable shortlist and had to make some really difficult decisions. You are an exceptionally talented and creative bunch and deserve to congratulate yourselves.

Year 9 Careers Event

As part of their ongoing Careers provision, Year 9 had an interesting morning learning about careers in financial services. We welcomed speakers from SS&C a global financial services company with 42 offices around the world. Lisa and Nicola gave Year 9s a brief summary of what the world of finance involves, how stocks and shares work and how it is important for companies to attract investment. Students put this knowledge to good use as they took part in an 'Apprentice' style build a company activity. Year 9s were given a structure to devise a business plan for a restaurant, theme park, zoo or cinema complex. Lisa and Nicola were very impressed with the enthusiasm and professional delivery of their ideas. The best teams were rewarded with mock cheques for £100,000 and £50,000. Thank you to SS&C for visiting us and well done to Year 9 for being such promising entrepreneurs!

SS&C have kindly agreed to offer a follow-up lunchtime workshop for any Year 9 or Year 10 students who would like to learn more about pathways into Careers in Financial Services. Please use the QR code to sign up by the 4th June.

Careers - Financial Services and SS&C

What roles are available within Financial Services?

Roles - Financial Services:	Roles – SS&C:	Routes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">InsuranceBrokerageActuarial (Analysis)Wealth ManagementLife and PensionsRetail and Commercial Banking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Client ServicesDealing AdministrationRegulation and ComplianceClient Business ManagementIT and Systems BuildProject ManagementHR and PersonnelFinanceSales	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ApprenticeshipsDegree apprenticeshipsInternshipsGraduate schemes

What **skills** do you think are **required** for a career in financial services?

Please use the **QR code** to provide **feedback** on **today's** session.

16 May 2024

SS&C Careers event

Work Experience opportunities!

Please find below a link with work experience opportunities for students 14+. Any students taking part in these, please remember to upload to Unifrog.

[South East Student Flyer \(canva.com\)](#)

Reading Update

Year 7 Millionaire Readers

Congratulations to our latest Year 7 Millionaire Readers! We have beaten last year's record and now have a total of 45 pupils in Year 7 who have read over one million words since starting SHSG in September. Well done to Noelle, Adeyemo, Sasmeya, Faith, Reeham, Caitlin, Pranabi and Alicja who reached the millionaire milestone this week and were presented with their certificates and blazer badges in assembly. We finish this half term with several Year 7 pupils who are extremely close to reaching their target of one million words – please do encourage your child to continue taking part in the Accelerated Reader Quizzes online (the link to the website is below). We are looking forward to hearing from some of our Year 7 pupils who will be sharing their experiences of the reading programme at our Open Evening in July.

[Welcome \(renaissance-go.com\)](https://www.renaissance-go.com)

Reading Mentors Book Groups

The Year 10 Reading Mentors continue to run their weekly book clubs for pupils in Years 7-11. These book clubs are proving very popular, with sessions taking place every lunchtime. The group follow the Yoto Carnegie Shadowing Scheme, with pupils reading titles shortlisted for the Carnegie medal for writing. After half term the groups will be submitting their votes for their favourite books to win the Shadowers' Choice Awards, which are announced alongside the Medal winners at the annual winners' ceremony.



Clean Air Project Survey

Thank you to all the parents who have already completed the Clean Air Project survey. We would appreciate more parents taking part, it is anonymous and does not collect any personal data. The form is below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6qk6Ua8AIEehgWeNc3h43kRXNFSIm7dCjgUMXESW-E1UOFY1T1NYM0NRV0g1SzRYTjg1SU9HM05UNyQIQCN0PWcu>

[School survey for parents](#)

SHSG PE kits

Please could parents/carers and students kindly check at home for missing athletics vests, and any other SHSG team kit. It is essential to return school kit immediately after attending a fixture, to ensure we have enough to kit a whole team when representing the school. If you would like to purchase your own athletics vest, then please email Mrs Buscombe or Miss Dawkins.

Mental Health & Wellbeing at SHSG

In SHSG, we often talk about how to look after our health in lessons and in tutor time. We have recently explored the field of Positive Psychology and we found out that research has shown that being kind, generous with our time, spending time and money on experiences rather than material things are strong predictors of our future wellbeing. However, we also acknowledge that life can get pretty tough sometimes.

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 \(padlet.com\)](#)

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](#).

Have a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 3rd June. We return on a Week A timetable.

Yours faithfully,



Jason Carey
Headteacher



Southend High School for Girls



Are you a poet?
(...and you didn't even know it?)

SHSG's Annual Poetry Prize

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from all years to enter the
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for 2024.**

Entries can be on any topic
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**OPEN TO
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Poems should be submitted either to the
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