



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, 10th July 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Reminder: Arrangements for last day of term Friday 17th July 2026

Students will finish for the summer holiday at 12.25pm on Friday 17th July. Please note the following arrangements:

- Food will be available to purchase at morning break.
- The canteen will not be serving lunch.
- Students entitled to Free School Meals may request a packed lunch by completing the online form.
- Students travelling on Stephenson's buses may remain in school until their bus departs at 3.30pm if alternative arrangements cannot be made.
- Ami Coaches and Maymist services will collect students at 12.30pm.

Students remaining in school until later buses arrive will be supervised throughout the afternoon and should bring a packed lunch unless they have requested a Free School Meals packed lunch. Please complete the online form '[here](#)' by Monday 13th July 2026 only if your child needs to remain in school until the later bus departure.

SHSG Crowned National Champions!

Last Saturday, our Junior Girls' Athletics team competed in the English Schools' Athletics Association Track and Field National Cup Final at Melbourne Park Stadium, Chelmsford. We are absolutely delighted to announce that, after a long and emotional day of competition, during which every member of the team achieved at least one personal best, our girls were crowned **National Champions!**

Captain Katie W praised the efforts of every member of the squad following the victory:

"It felt such a relief to win after such an amazing day of athletics! It was perfect conditions all day, with plenty of personal bests and incredible results. We dominated on the track and went into the field events with a healthy lead. Once again, fantastic results in the afternoon and, to finish the day off, we smashed the relay and claimed victory, making us National Champions!"

Winning this prestigious national title is a fitting end to a fantastic season for the Junior Girls. Their teamwork, determination and exceptional individual performances have combined to achieve one of the greatest sporting successes in the school's history.

Congratulations to Blessing, Ciara, Fleur, Eliza, Jemimah, Eunice, Chidimma, Isabella, Anna, Clara, Katie, Victoria and Joannabel on this outstanding achievement. We would also like to thank their families for their unwavering encouragement and support throughout the season and on the day of the competition.

As the academic year draws to a close, we would also like to recognise the achievements of all our talented students across the many sporting activities they have represented the school in this year. Your commitment, enthusiasm and success have made this another exceptional year for sport at SHSG. We look forward to celebrating these achievements together at our annual Sports Awards Evening in October.

SHSG Awards Evening 2026 - An Evening of Celebration and Achievement



On Thursday 9th July, we were delighted to welcome students, families, staff and governors to the Palace Theatre in Westcliff on Sea for our annual SHSG Awards Evening.

The evening was a fantastic celebration of the many achievements, talents and successes of our students over the past year. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise not only outstanding academic achievement, but also the commitment, leadership and creativity that our students demonstrate every day.

We were honoured to welcome Charlotte Meller, a PhD researcher at the University of Oxford and Diamond Light Source, as our guest speaker. Charlotte shared her inspiring journey from discovering a love of science to carrying out pioneering research, encouraging students to be curious, embrace opportunities and never underestimate where hard work and determination can take them. Her message was both motivating and thought-provoking, and a fitting addition to an evening celebrating aspiration and achievement.

The ceremony also featured wonderful spoken word and musical performances from Sara M, Zara A, Kacy L, Freya B and Layla Z, showcasing just some of the exceptional talent within our school. The evening concluded with a rousing rendition of our school hymn Jerusalem. Kacy led the singing with Layla playing the piano, bringing everyone together for a memorable end to the celebrations.

Congratulations to Year 13 student Poppy, who was presented with the Headteacher's Award in recognition of her exceptional contribution to school life, outstanding academic achievement and exemplary leadership.

Congratulations as well to all of our award winners and performers. Thank you also to our staff, governors, parents and families for their continued encouragement and support. It was a wonderful evening celebrating everything that makes SHSG such a special community, and we look forward to building on these successes in the year ahead.



Year 11 Prom

On Monday 8th July, our Year 11 students marked the end of their GCSEs, and their Key Stage 4 journey, with a memorable Prom at Hylands House in Chelmsford. It was a truly special evening, filled with celebration, friendship, and joy, as students danced the night away, dressed in their finest attire and enjoying every moment.

The event was planned and delivered by our Year 11 Prom Committee led by Elicia R who deserve sincere thanks and congratulations for organising such a successful and polished celebration. Thanks also go to Mrs Croysdill, Miss Salih and Mr Dowsett for their help setting up. Thank you to the students who were excellent ambassadors for the school, and to the staff who stayed late to help make the evening so memorable.

The Year 11 Prom was a dazzling and joyful finale to an unforgettable chapter.

Big Band and Summer Fayre



What better way to celebrate a warm summer's evening than with our **Big Band Summer Fayre**?

This year marked the first time we combined our annual Big Band event with a summer fayre, and what a fantastic success it was! Visitors enjoyed a wonderful range of attractions, including magnificent shire horses, a bouncy castle assault course, glitter tattoos, and a variety of stalls and activities for all ages.

The Parents' Association and our staff did a fantastic job running the Pimm's tent and raffle, while Nourish catered for almost 250 guests with a delicious selection of food. Throughout the evening, Rossi's Ice Cream was also on hand, proving to be a popular treat in the summer sunshine.

Music filled the school grounds all evening. Equalizer opened the event with an energetic set featuring classics from Blondie to The Beatles. Our own Big Band delivered a series of exceptional performances throughout the evening, showcasing the incredible talent and dedication of our students.

One of the evening's biggest surprises was a special staff performance. Led by Freya, Mr Carey and fellow staff members delighted the audience with a memorable performance that was thoroughly enjoyed by all. **'Bonnar and the Beats'** brought true summer vibes with an outstanding set featuring music from KT Tunstall to Elvis Presley.

A particular highlight was welcoming students from Southend High School for Boys to perform alongside us. It was a privilege to share the stage with such talented young musicians, and the evening concluded with a spectacular joint Big Band performance, a fitting finale to a truly special event.

It is a genuine privilege to work alongside such talented, committed and inspiring students. Thank you to everyone who performed, volunteered, supported and attended. Your enthusiasm and generosity made the inaugural Big Band Summer Fayre an unforgettable evening, and we are already looking forward to next year!

Parallel by Simon Singh – Outstanding Commitment



As this academic year comes to an end, we are delighted to recognise the exceptional dedication of students who have completed the **Parallel by Simon Singh** weekly mathematical challenge every single week since September.

Parallel Maths is a national problem-solving initiative designed to encourage students to think creatively, reason logically and develop resilience through engaging mathematical puzzles. Completing the challenges consistently over an entire academic year is a remarkable achievement, requiring perseverance, curiosity and determination.

We congratulate these students on their outstanding commitment and hope their success inspires others to embrace the challenge of mathematical problem solving. Their achievements have been recognised with a special certificate and badge from the Mathematics Department, please see the image below.

Well done to Sivatarunia, Shivani, Saranya, Kayla and Elettra.

For those of you who haven't yet got involved please visit the following website: parallel.org.uk

It is completely free so students should create an account and enter my teacher code: **GOPX-8SWA** when prompted as well as your year group. This will then add you to my dashboard so I can keep a record of your achievements. Each week you will be emailed a new Parallelogram to complete by Sunday evening. I will then be able to see your results.

You will receive 3 achievement points for every one you complete and get over 50%.

There is no obligation to get involved, but I think this is a great opportunity for keen maths students to stretch themselves and explore mathematical concepts beyond the classroom. This is also ideal for students who want to go on to study maths, science or engineering.

Miss Graham

Lockdown Drill

This week, students completed their first lockdown drill following a series of assemblies in which we explained the purpose of these exercises. The key message to students was that, just like our regular fire drills, we practise lockdown procedures so that everyone knows what to do in the unlikely event that they are ever needed. Students were reminded to remain calm and follow the instructions of the nearest member of staff.

The feedback from form tutors and staff was overwhelmingly positive. Students responded calmly, sensibly and maturely throughout the drill, following instructions effectively and demonstrating a commendable level of responsibility.

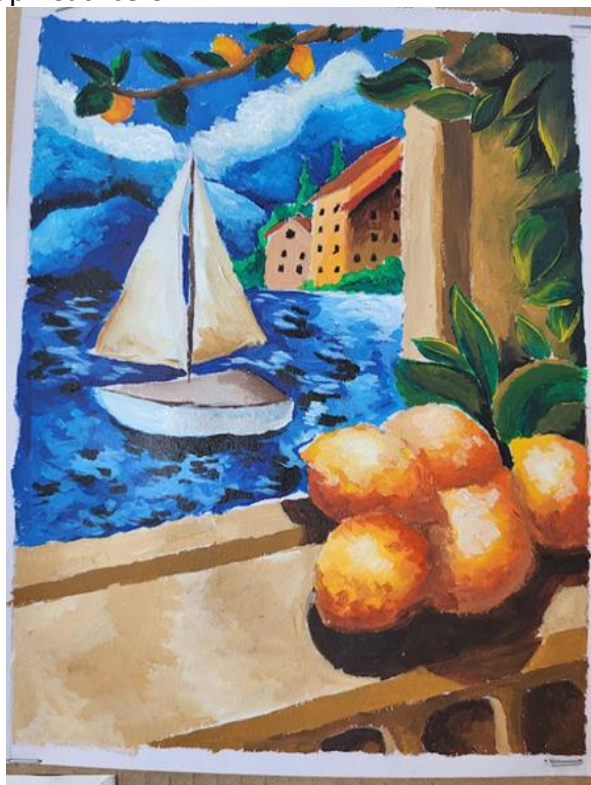
As with our fire evacuation procedures, lockdown drills will now take place termly to ensure that all students remain familiar with the process and confident in the actions required to help keep our school community safe.

LAMDA Acting and Public Speaking

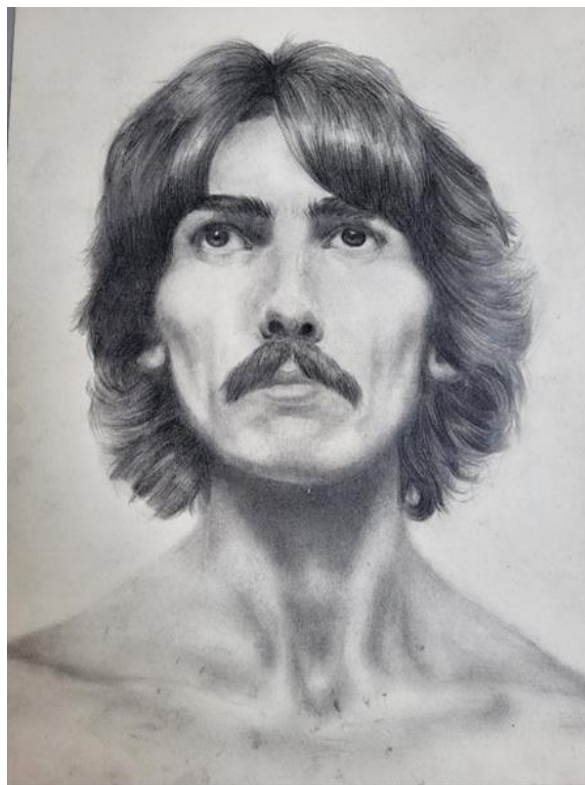
Please find attached to this letter some information regarding the LAMBDA Acting and Public Speaking sessions that take place at SHSG.

Leigh Art Trail

Our students' artwork was once again a highlight of this year's Leigh Art Trail. The exhibition, organised by Ms Trevena, showcased an exceptional range of creative work, and it was wonderful to see so many members of the public taking the time to visit. We received many positive comments about the quality of the artwork, with visitors praising both the students' talent and the opportunity to see their work displayed in a public exhibition. Congratulations to all the students who exhibited their work, and especially to our award winners: Year 7 winner Isabelle R, Year 8 runner-up Priyanshi B and Year 10 runner-up Beatrice C.



Year 8 runner-up Priyanshi B



Year 10 runner-up Beatrice C



Year 7 winner Isabelle R

Bank of England – Economics in Practice

On Wednesday 8th July, we were delighted to welcome Sienna Holcombe, Senior Supervisor at the Bank of England, who visited our Year 12 Economics students to deliver the Economics in Practice talk.

The session provided students with a fascinating insight into the work of the Bank of England and the vital role economics plays in everyday life, from managing inflation and interest rates to maintaining financial stability and supporting the UK economy. It was an excellent opportunity for students to see how the concepts they study in the classroom are applied in the real world, bringing the curriculum to life through real examples and experiences. Students were highly engaged throughout the session and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to learn from an industry professional.

Sienna also shared her inspiring personal journey, describing how she progressed from leaving school to completing a degree apprenticeship in Governance, Compliance and Risk before going on to achieve a Master's in Global Central Banking. Her story demonstrated that there are many successful pathways beyond school and encouraged students to think confidently about the exciting opportunities available to them, whether through apprenticeships, higher education or other routes.

“This lecture really caught my interest because I learnt about the wide range of career opportunities available at the Bank of England.” – **Valerija**

“I found the talk very informative. Sienna was interactive, using quizzes and questions to keep us engaged. We learnt about how the Bank of England helps shape our economy and discovered lots of interesting facts about the organisation. She also gave us a great insight into how economics can be applied in the real world.” – **Mishri**

Mr Herbert
Head of Economics

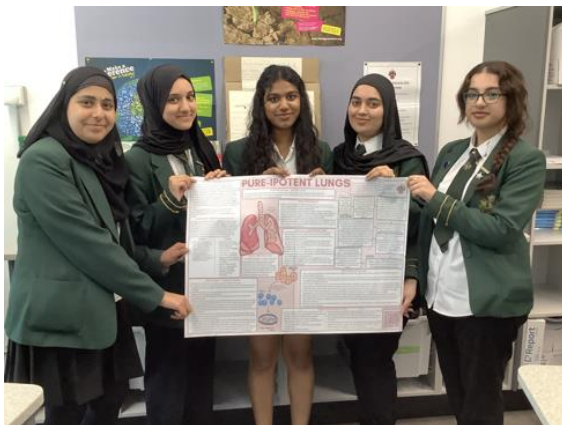
Girls in Green at Greenways!



Well done to our Junior Science Captains, Yo'Elle E-O (10HRM), Amelia M (10AUR), Andrea S (10AUR), Hoorab S (10ART) and Kaylieghem Z (10HER) who participated in an outreach event at Greenways Primary School, where they worked with Year 5 pupils to introduce them to the world of microscopy. During the session, the pupils had the opportunity to observe a variety of prepared slides, sparking curiosity and encouraging thoughtful discussion about what they could see. Our Junior Science Captains supported and guided the younger students throughout, helping them adjust the microscopes, focus on specimens, and interpret their observations.

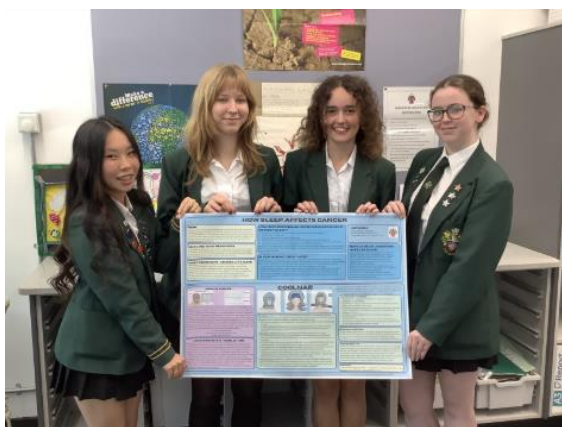
The Year 5 pupils showed great enthusiasm and a keen interest in science. The event was a valuable opportunity not only for the younger pupils, but also for our Junior Science Captains, who demonstrated excellent leadership, communication, and mentoring skills.

Imperial College London University - Science in Medicine School Teams Prize



We are delighted to celebrate the achievements of our Year 12 students who recently took part in Imperial College London's Science in Medicine School Teams Prize competition.

The competition challenged students to extend their learning beyond the classroom by exploring innovative research and real-world applications across science, medicine and engineering. Working in teams, students investigated cutting-edge ideas and presented their findings through professionally designed research posters.



Entries were assessed on a range of criteria, including scientific and technological innovation, originality, feasibility, insight into testing and effectiveness, as well as consideration of affordability and accessibility.

Ella Y (12KJA), Emily A (12KMI), Sasha H (12JRN) and Lily W (12JRN) designed a poster that focused on "How sleep affects cancer" while Emaan H (12STF), Maliha Q (12STF), Karoleena K(12PJS), Aliza I (12KMI), Wania F (12ALS) and Iqra Razaq (12STF) created a poster focused on how pluripotent cells could be used in the treatment of

tuberculosis.

We would like to congratulate all students involved for their enthusiasm, creativity and dedication. The standard of work produced was outstanding, and the posters demonstrated both impressive scientific understanding and excellent presentation skills. Well done to everyone who took part in this exciting opportunity.

Reminder – Online Safety Webinar for Parents

A reminder that our Online Safety Webinar for Parents takes place on Thursday 16th July at 8.00pm via Zoom. A letter with full details has already been sent to all parents and carers. The webinar will be delivered by The 2 Johns, nationally recognised online safety experts, and will provide practical advice on social media, online risks and how parents can support their children to stay safe online. Join from Zoom Workplace app - Zoom There is no need to book – simply join using the link below a few minutes before the webinar begins. We hope you will be able to join us.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86948212413>

PE Fixtures Week beginning July 13th

These fixtures may be subject to change, and all details are posted on the respective PE extra-curricular Microsoft Teams page. If your child has not been added to their year group page, and needs to be, please ask them to speak to member of the PE department. Thank you.

- Monday 13th July: Sports Day sprint heats for year 7-12 and field events for year 10
- Tuesday 14th July: Year 7-10 Borough Rounders tournament at WHSG
- Wednesday 15th July: Sports day field events for year 7-9 and track finals

Please be aware that for safeguarding reasons we cannot accommodate spectators on site for matches. Many schools apply this policy so please check with the opposing school directly.

Mental Health & Wellbeing at SHSG

At SHSG, we often talk about how to look after our health in lessons and in tutor time. 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:

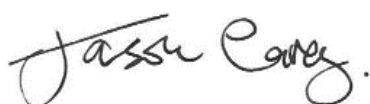
[Lower and Middle school SHSG Mental Health Board \(padlet.com\)](https://www.padlet.com)

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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