Ethos statement: We believe that through individual commitment, self discipline, integrity and respect for others, we inspire everyone to learn.

Year 10 News – Ms Gavin

We have only been back for two weeks and have already had some amazing comments from staff about how dedicated our Year 10 students are towards their studies. We have had feedback from:

Maths – Year 10 girls have done excellently in their last maths assessment and also helped others to prepare for their assessment.

Drama (Mr Whitfield) – Students in my class have been making significant effort to improve their assessment grade and are also working towards a performance that will take place in February.

Science (MS Newton) - Since coming back after the winter break, both 10W1 and 10B have been really lovely to teach. We have made some excellent progress with our tricky physics topic, and some really hard work is going on in both classes!
Special shout out to Sophie Dobson for smashing her exam - a 5+ is incredible!

Health and Social Care (Ms Goulbourne) - I just wanted to commend the Health and Social Care students for their maturity and focus during their 2hr mock exam yesterday. Even the external invigilators commented on how focused they were.

All Southfields Academy students use Hegarty Maths to support their learning in maths; Congratulations to Rose PEA, Jostin MMA, Sherri CRL and Faaduma CLK for making it to the top of the leader board.

The Year 10 students have their core exams in 4 weeks and their foundation subject assessments in 5 weeks. There is a half term break before the start of the exam/assessment period, therefore it is vital for the students to revise. All students will participate in a revision session beforehand where they will be taught different methods of revision. Please continue to support and encourage your child during this time.

Year 9 Football v Saint Cecilia’s – Mr Munro

On Tuesday 22nd January, Southfields Academy hosted Saint Cecilia's for a Year 9, nine a side, game of football. The game started off with Southfields dominating the possession. The first goal came after five first half minutes. Carlos Francisco released Ismael Toko, who beat the offside trap, and thundered the ball past the Saint Cecilia's goalkeeper, who had no chance. 1-0 Southfields. The game then balanced itself out, with both teams having equal amounts of possession. For the next ten minutes, the game was a stalemate, both teams cancelling each other out. With 25 minutes played, Saint Cecilia's got the equaliser. They broke down the left wing and put a teasing cross into the box, which Sharjeel Nir handled, penalty awarded. The Saint Cecilia's striker stepped up and scored, 1-1.

Saint Cecilia's then began to dominate the game, and their reward came two minutes before half time. A long ball from the goalkeeper was not cleared by the Southfields midfield, which allowed the Saint Cecilia's striker to out-muscle Ajub Ibrahim, and slot the ball past Aidan Parsons to make it 2-1. The half time whistle blew, the Southfields players left the pitch looking dejected.

After an inspiring team-talk by Malik Adeniyi, Southfields entered the pitch for the start of the second half. This team-talk seemed to have worked. Francisco and Corey Toissaint now having control of the ball and creating chances, but the Saint Cecilia's 'keeper was equal to them. This dominance continued for the majority of the half. With two minutes remaining, Toko made a weaving run from the left wing, cut inside and whipped a shot, which was destined for the top corner. However, the Saint Cecilia's 'keeper made a fingertip save and put it behind for a corner. From the resulting corner, Saint Cecilia's won the ball and went on the counter attack and made it 3-1

The final whistle blew on this competitive game. Some of the Southfields’ players were blaming the rain and snow that they had to play in. But, I disagree with them, and B*Witched who said “Blame it on the Weatherman”.
Thought for the Week
When teachers doubt your potential, show them how wrong they truly are.
Ace Antonio Hall

GCSE Masterclass – Mr Reis

In the February half term Mr Reis will be running an art masterclass aimed at GCSE students. In this masterclass Mr Reis will adopt his artist in residence hat to work with pupils from the Academy and wider community to develop the GCSE students’ portfolio of work by encouraging personalised responses to stimuli.

Mr Reis (www.nunoreis.com) is currently exhibiting work in Saint Martin’s Lane, Central London with his graffiti and urban inspired pieces. His knowledge of the new developments in the art industry and use of varied techniques has had a huge impact on the young artists at Southfields Academy, seen in the first ever masterclass in October. This was a roaring success as pupils experimented with tools and techniques resulting in innovative drawings that students could include in their course work. Students created an enormous body of work seen in the pictures above.

As a result of the outcomes from this masterclass the academy began to investigate the reason for its success, and decided that the nature of these classes – learning directly from an artist- supported students developing a personalized body of work. The students became artists in their own right, focussing on an artistic process of experimentation and risk taking rather than being students following exam board structure alone. With this in mind the art department will be drawing on the expertise of well established artists to inspire the pupils.

The next artist delivering a session in May will be Laura Benetton (www.laurabenetton.co.uk) and it will be aimed at level 3 students. Nuno Reis’s and Laura Benetton’s collections can be viewed on their websites.

Laura Benetton is an Italian London based visual artist. She studied painting in Venice at the Fine Art Academy. She has worked between Venice, Istanbul, Pesaro, Florence and London and exhibits all over Europe.
She says of her art “It’s the dialogue between me and my artwork that make the final result. It is never me”.

Nuno, Head of Art at the Academy, is an artist originally from Portugal. He uses as inspiration for his art work the experience of having lived in different cities at different stages of his life. His artwork showcases a juxtaposition of the different perspectives of these urban experiences.
It was in 1972 when I first attended Southfields Comprehensive School as a young twelve-year-old 1st year student, joining my sister who was in the year above me. I was always an average student who was gifted in sports because it came natural to me, especially athletics, cricket, football and basketball and I represented Southfields in many competitions within the London Borough of Wandsworth. Academically, I wasn’t too bad. I started at Southfields in the B stream and then in my 3rd year moved upwards to the A Stream until I left in 1977 with O’ Levels and CSE exams. I never really got into trouble at school nor was I bullied. The simple reason might have been that I was friends with everyone and I was too busy with sports.

I have many fond memories of Southfields and had many good friends from all the different year groups. I was in Hampden House, which was the colour green and back then was headed up by the lovely Miss Eileen Nottage who was my mentor. She always looked out for me and gave very sound advice, which was to put everything into what you do in life and it will pay off, in the end and I’ve always kept that thought until this day. It was Miss Nottage who found me my first Job as a Cabinetmaker & French Polisher working for a large department store in Kingston, from where I then went on to take a 4-year apprenticeship as a carpenter & joiner with a leading building contractor HWA, a part of John Laing services. I have had many changes within my career since then, but always stayed in the same industry. I’m now working as a Business Development Manager for a City based interiors company, pursuing multi-million-pound fit-outs and refurbishment contracts on a day to day basis.

During my time away from Southfields, I have always managed to keep in touch with the school through some of the teachers who are still teaching or through my younger siblings who were still attending the school at the time.

Like so many of our ex-students and teachers, I’ve never forgotten my school experiences and I wanted to share that with others who had the privilege to attend Southfields. This is why I choose to host a few school reunions to bring back our ex-students and teachers to where it all began for us. The reunions that were held at Southfields have all been successful because those who attended this great school all share that same passion and love for the school and the community. It has always been my intention to give back something to the school, which taught me so much and inspired me to be the person that I am today.
On Friday 18th January year 7 and 8 students spent the day learning about and celebrating 70 years of the NHS. The day started with an exciting performance exploring the plethora of incredible roles available in the NHS and by the end of the interactive performance, it was clear the students had been entertained and informed.

The excited students then made their way to a series of workshops around the school, exploring all aspects of the NHS: practically applying skills of patience and resilience as part of an energy response team in drama; discovering how world citizens have contributed to the NHS in drama; running experiments about infectious diseases in science; team work in PSHE and discovering the history of medicine in humanities.

The day culminated in students giving back by way of saying thank you. The final poems, letters and cards they created were articulate, creative and deeply touching.