



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 6th December 2021



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



Switching on the Christmas Lights



Finally, after a gap of nearly two years, Southfields Academy Musical Collective was performing in public again!

On Wednesday night, Southfields celebrated turning on their Christmas lights by closing Replingham Road so local shops could join in the celebrations and show the community what they have to offer. Anne Keothavong MBE, former British tennis player, switched on the lights accompanied by Councillor Richard Field, Mayor of Wandsworth.

To add to the festivities Riversdale, SingWell choir and Southfields Academy performed songs on the night. A large crowd gathered in spite of the cold weather and the atmosphere was brilliant, largely due to the ecstatic reception from the number of students and staff who came to watch.

The Academy did a sterling job - our students sang for 3 hours! Around 20 students from all year groups sang about 40 songs, and gathered quite an audience who were very complimentary about their musical abilities. Whilst singing some traditional songs, the Collective also thrilled with a smorgasbord of popular classics.

Many thanks to our wonderful music department for all their hard work to support, play instruments and make this a brilliant event that our students thoroughly enjoyed.





Thought for the Week

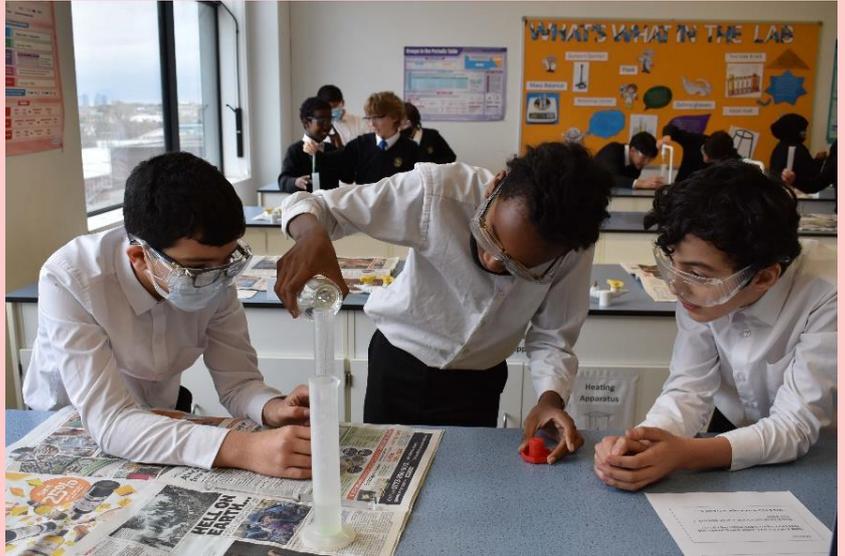
"It's important to make sure that we're talking with each other in a way that heals, not in a way that wounds." Barack Obama



Science Club – Mr Clarke

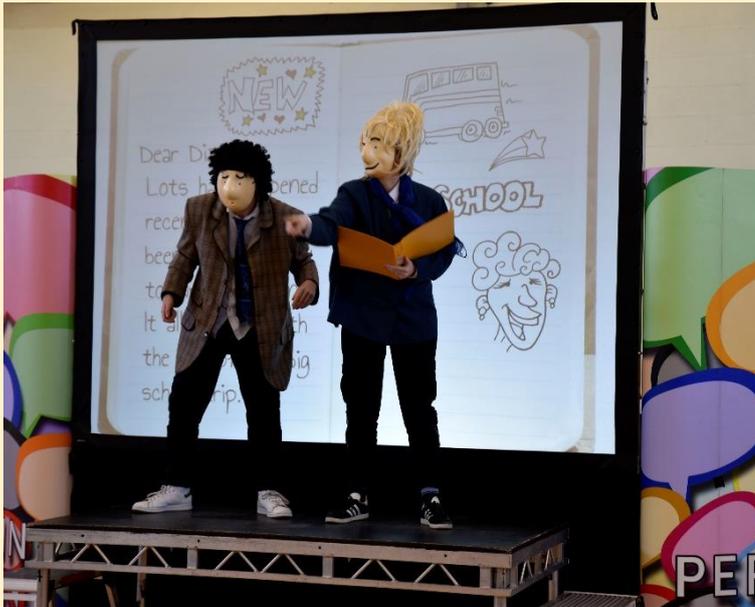
In this week's science club, students made volcanos through the intense reaction between bicarbonate of soda and vinegar - or, as it's known in scientific circles, acetic acid. It was a lava-ly treat for them, with the added bonus of making the whole department smell like a chippy! Although dangerously red food colouring was used, parents will be happy to know that no shirts were harmed in the making of these volcanos.

Week 6 (07/12/21)	Bouncy Balls
Week 7 (14/12/21)	Bath Bombs (Christmas Presents!)





Streetwise, Road Safety – Performance in Education



In many cases when students move to secondary school it is the first time they have travelled to school independently and in some cases the journey from home to school has also increased.

On Thursday 25th, Performance in Education visited the Academy to give a lively, topical and entertaining show to our Year 7 students on road safety. 'Streetwise' teaches students that the road needs their full attention at all times. Using theatre, to provide them with an engaging learning experience, it highlighted the consequences of their actions on the roads, but managed to use humour to emphasise their serious message.

Career Interviews

On Monday 22nd November 2021 over 27 high-ranking professionals from industry visited the Academy to support our Year 12 students and help them prepare for their futures.

All students were given the opportunity to have a mock job interview with a professional. In order to make the experience as real as possible, students were given a choice of jobs to 'apply for' and spent some time preparing for the interview in advance, with their form tutors. The Sixth Form team set up a reception and waiting room where students nervously waited to be called for interview. After the interview, students had a discussion with the interviewer about what went well and what could have been improved. They also received valuable written feedback from the interviewer. Although many students were understandably nervous, all left with a smile and positive comments about their experience.

We were lucky to have support from high calibre professionals from a variety of workplaces, including Getty Images, Sir Robert McAlpine, The Civil Service and the Cabinet Office, Rhubarb Catering, Multiplex, Wandsworth Workmatch and JRL Group. Many thanks to them for supporting the Academy with this.





Year 11 News – Mr Millington



In October Year 11 were given their first full report, which included their target grades. These were based upon teachers' expectations and assessments. These reports enable students to set targets to improve their performance. Year 11 then had a virtual parents' evening that was attended by 72% of all parents. Parents who could not get appointments were seen by the Head of Year.

Year 11 are about to sit their mock GCSE exams. These are the first important exams that these students will have sat in two years. Tutors and subject teachers have prepared them well with revision skills and targeted content.

On Wednesday 17th November to prepare parents for the mock exams, we held a virtual evening. This included presentations by the Heads of English, maths and science. Key tips on how to support your child's revision hopefully empowered parents to support their child.

We want all students to aim for the highest level of educational attainment. On Monday 22nd November, we took the whole year group to Roehampton University. All students had to make their own way there. This gave them the opportunity to independently travel to an unfamiliar location. This is a key life skill and all the students found their own way there safely and back home. At the university, Southfields students were guided by university ambassadors who were undergraduates at the university. They delivered sessions on student life and how university is different to school.

Education Hub – Southfields Academy & AFC Wimbledon

Having worked closely together for the last 6 years as the education provider for the AFC Scholars and U18 football teams, and having advocated for the club's return to their historic home on Plough Lane; Southfields Academy have developed their relationship with AFC Wimbledon to the next stage and are excited to open an Education Hub at The Cherry Red Records Stadium, Plough Lane. Classrooms will be created within our new home - aimed primarily at students who may have struggled within the traditional school system but would feel motivated to study within our brand new football stadium.

The Hub will open for the next academic year, starting in September 2022, and we can now reveal the first courses that will be on offer - including a **BTEC Level 2 Certificate in Esports**.

Aimed at helping students develop their knowledge and understanding of Esports games, teams and tournaments, the course will give an insight into how to set up an Esports organisation and the basics of streaming for Esports games. Once completed, the course can lead to an apprenticeship - or open doors in similar sectors like events management and digital marketing.

Alternatively, students excited at the prospect of a sports-based course can enrol for **Level 2 Cambridge Technical Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity**. This covers subjects like anatomy and physiology, fitness induction and testing, and the use of fitness equipment. Modern and relevant, the course has been developed in conjunction with employers and industry specialists, and aims to prepare students for further study, apprenticeships or even the workplace.

Students with a keener interest in how business works should consider **Level 2 OCR Cambridge Technical in Business**. This covers the skills required in industry and gives students an insight into the business sector so they can acquire knowledge and practical skills in business administration, retail and customer service. They will also be able to develop their communication and team work prowess - as well as improve IT and literacy skills.

Finally, we will also be offering more traditional English and Maths courses, which will be required for students who do not have a GCSE at grade 4 or above. Students must take a minimum of two courses but have the option to take all three. It must also be highlighted that there are no entry requirements to enrol on any of the courses.





PE HIGHLIGHTS THIS WEEK



- **U15's Football.** On Thursday 25th the U15 girls team hosted Little Ilford school in a friendly competition East London vs West London. The girls gave an outstanding performance and showed excellent team work, dedication, leadership and sportsmanship. With a comfortable win into double figures. **Lady of the match was Lily Waters**
- **U13's London Cup game.** After a nail-biting first half the girls dug deep to get some shots but the Riverside keeper made some wonderful saves. Sadly the girls were knocked out on this round with a 2-0 loss. However, they have improved massively and have shown excellent determination and resilience in training. Last game for the U13's next week against Graveney at home. **Lady of the match was Mia Halley-Mead**
- **Year 9 Sports Leaders.** On Wednesday 1st December the Year 9/10 sports leaders had the opportunity to show off their leadership qualities and hosted a Pentathlon event for all the schools in the borough. They have done themselves, Y9 and myself proud. You are all superstars and the staff at the event were very impressed with their hard work and enthusiasm. Well done to our future Southfields PE Sports leaders. **Outstanding Sports leader of the day Kyjean Wood and Arnav Singh**



#BETHEBESTYOU CAN BE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

FREE INTRODUCTION TO DIGITAL SKILLS SESSION AT SOUTHFIELDS ACADEMY - THURSDAY 9TH DECEMBER 9AM



POWER TO CONNECT ARE RUNNING SESSIONS FOR PARENTS WHO WOULD LIKE TO LEARN DIGITAL SKILLS

THESE ARE BEGINNER SESSIONS AND INCLUDE LEARNING ONLINE SAFETY, PRIVACY SETTINGS AND KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

- SESSIONS ARE FREE
- SESSIONS ARE 90 MINUTES LONG
- SESSIONS ARE DELIVERED BY POWER TO CONNECT VOLUNTEERS

***ACCESS TO LAPTOPS IS NEEDED FOR THE SESSION (BY THE SCHOOL OR PARENTS OWN)



PLEASE SPEAK TO YOUR CHILD'S TUTOR OR HEAD OF YEAR TO SIGN UP!

SUPPORTED BY





**Do you know someone
going through a hard
time or know someone
who deserves a treat?**

**Would you like
someone to receive a
hamper
of Christmas goodies
and treats?**

**Contact the 'Loving Henry Prince
Estate' Project
with the name and address of the
person you want to nominate.**

Email: lovinghenryprinceestate@gmail.com

Phone/leave a message: 020 8874 2837

All nominations by 6th December!

Project Partners:

***St John the Divine Church Anchor Church
Nicholas Stewart Project Christ Revelation Faith Ministries***

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 6th December 2021 – INSET Day

Wednesday 15th December 2021 – UCAS Application Deadline

Friday 17th December 2021 – Academy Breaks for Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 4th January 2022 – Academy Resumes – INSET Day

Wednesday 5th January 2021 – Students Resume