



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 18th July 2022



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

Year 13 Leavers' Ceremony 2022

On Thursday 7th July we held our annual Prom for the Year 13's. This year we were able to invite the parents/carers again to our event. It was a great celebration, the evening with was filled with incredible talented musical performances from some of the students, awards, laughter and dancing.

Thank you to everyone for making such a memorable event.







Thought for the Week

Initiative is to success what a lighted match is to a candle. - Orlando Aloysius Battista



International Group Achievement Celebration 2022

The bold IG silver balloons indicated the End of Year Celebration for 2022. It was a special occasion to celebrate the achievements of the International Group and to wish the young people moving on good luck for the future. Ms Kousi led the opening welcome to the event. Followed by Ms Valin who expressed congratulatory tributes to the IG. It was met with a loud applause.

Here are some memorable highlights of a showcase of talents - a soloist, a student and teacher jamming with electric guitars. Energetic, rhythmic and comical dance pieces. A powerful spoken word poet. A poignant reflection by two friends. And a thought-provoking, hard hitting video presentation compiled by the IG students, a small glimpse through the windows of their personal challenges.

For many it was a first time experience to be invited on stage to collect a certificate and they managed it well. Special IG trophies were presented by Ms Hilary and Ms Kousi amidst inspirational and praise-worthy comments. Ms Golinska presented The Head-teacher's Award- in recognition for academic progress, resilience and contribution as an inspirational person to others. Two lucky students were awarded with £50 Amazon voucher for their consistency in the Effort Grades.

It was a cheerful ending for many. They socialised over burgers and pizza. Instagram posing moments with friends and teachers. Congratulatory gestures between friends. Laughter and smiles, shrieking voices and dancing to popular world music.

We wish the IG all the best.





International Group continued...





Gardening Club Bounty – Mr Millard



Gardening club has been busy growing vegetables this summer term and this week we have harvested the potatoes we planted back in April.

The gardening club students have been carefully tending to them and watering through the dry weather. Their hard work has paid off and each student took home a bag of fresh potatoes!



Weevils Matter - Mr Kruppa

Recently our school pond became infested with a plant called Azolla (also known as Water Fern). Azolla floats on the surface of the water and is one of the fastest growing plants in the world. It can quickly cover a pond which reduces the light and oxygen reaching other plants and animals that live there. In order to tackle this invasive species we decided to try natural biological control. The school purchased a small population of a type of weevil. Weevils are plant eating beetles with a distinctive long snout. This particular species has a ferocious appetite for Azolla.

On Tuesday 7th July students from the gardening club helped release the weevils into the pond. We now hope that the weevils get to work and munch their way through the Azolla over the summer break.



Sporting Success this week



Sports Leaders Y10/11

A massive well done to our Y10 sports leaders who supported with Riversdale primary school last Thursday. All the staff and pupils had a lovely day and it was lovely to see some of our Y11s coming back to support as well.

Sports Leaders Trip to Stamford Bridge - Y9/10

After all the hard work the Y9s and 10s have put in this year with running events and supporting the PE department some lucky students had the opportunity to take a tour round Stamford Bridge home of Chelsea FC.

The students walked through the tunnel where some of their idols once stood, sat in the managers' seats, saw some lovely views of the ground and even received some official blue and white Chelsea merchandise. The students were amazing through the day. Well done to you all. A massive thank you to Mr Philpott for supporting on the day.

Ms Clark

#BETHEBESTYOU CAN BE





'Southfields students are Fantastic!' **by Saffron Williams, Hearing Support Centre** **(report on the Primary-Secondary Transition Day for Deaf Year 6 students)**



Year 6 students with hearing loss from schools across Wandsworth visited Southfields Academy on Wednesday 22nd June as part of a Taster Day to experience life in a busy, secondary school. The group were all deaf students who are about to go on to Secondary School and this was a great opportunity to gain some insights on what life is really like in a top Wandsworth School before they get to know us a little more in September.

On arrival they were greeted by a friendly Teacher of the Deaf who had some fun ice-breaker activities for them. This gave the students a real opportunity to get to know each other better and to make some new friends. It also gave us a chance to get to know them better. Many said they were very nervous about coming to secondary school but within a short time they were all laughing and smiling and playing games together! They also enjoyed eating some great snacks and tucking in to Penguin bars whilst they discussed where in the world they would like to go if given a free ticket...some wanted to go to Antarctica to pick up a few more penguins!

A highlight of the day was when I had a chance to meet them and to tell them a bit more about secondary schools and how they work. They were flabbergasted with how friendly and welcoming all of our students seemed to be. Later on I gave a short presentation on the typical school day and what to expect when starting at secondary school. We then took them on a tour around the school and they asked some really good questions. At the end of the day, the Year 6 students were given the chance to guess what might be in a typical school bag and a prize was given to the student who guessed the most items correctly.

Students were clearly less worried about coming to secondary school by the end of the day and were very excited about many of the new opportunities they will experience. In the words of one of the Year 6 pupils the best thing about the morning was 'looking up to someone who has gone through Year 7'.

I really enjoyed getting to know the students who were really lovely and listened extremely well. I also hope they all have a wonderful time at secondary school and I'm looking forward to seeing some of them again very soon.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 18th July 2022 – Year 10 & 12 Work Experience Debrief
Wednesday 20th July 2022 – End of Term for Students
Friday 22nd July 2022 – End of Term for Staff

Games Day 2022 – Mr Hillman

On Tuesday this week the dedicated members of the Southfields Wargames Club were given a reward day off timetable to play a full-scale battle of Warhammer 40,000. The game is set in the far future where the heroes of mankind battle against inscrutable alien forces and the whims of the diabolical gods of chaos! Our battle saw two teams, one representing mankind and the other the minions of chaos, battle over the ruins of a war-torn world. A close and exciting game ensued with the soldiers of mankind emerging victorious!

Southfields Wargames Club runs every week and attracts students from Year 7 to the 6th form. The game is incredibly creative; students collect, build and paint their own armies; many build narratives around their armies – naming their units and recording their exploits on the battlefield. The game also encourages literacy and numeracy – the rule set is fairly complex and players must read and comprehend a great deal to succeed. The game itself is based around numeracy with victory often going to the players with the greater understanding of probability.

Finally the game strongly encourages both fair play and leadership, with a number of students enjoying coaching newer players through the rules of the game.

If any students are interested in joining the club, please contact Mr Hillman in the history department.



Santander Bank Trip – Ms Frost

Year 10 business students were invited to the offices of Santander bank today to hear about careers in banking and finance. They were asked, in groups, how they would use £1000.

It was fascinating to hear their investment (and spending) ideas! On a tour of the trading floors they heard about life as a trader in the financial markets and discovered that university is only one of several routes into banking.





Science Club – Mr Clarke



In the last week of science club for this academic year, students made helicopters! Getting outside for some much needed fresh air as soon as possible, students quickly followed a template and then tested how long their helicopters remained airborne on the science balcony. Panting and trying to remain in the shade, students then varied a factor such as the length of the wing or added weight and recorded how this affected their flight.



Y9 Maths Inspiration Show – Ms McCarthy

This week a group of Y9s went to the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre in Guildford to see a show put on by Maths Inspiration called “Playing for real – how maths can help you win!”. This was an interactive show where the students played a series of intriguing games, some with prizes, and it culminated with a lottery where everyone in the audience was in with a chance of winning.

We had six of the 24 winners in our group – Marwaan, Paapa, Alfie, Ye, Muhammad and Ms Ahmad! All students were a joy to be around and contributed enthusiastically. Thank you for a wonderful day out!



Year 13 Art and Design Exhibition – Mr Smith

To celebrate the hard work and creative exploits of this year's Year 13 students, a curated and selective exhibition was presented for them to reflect on during their well-earned prom and celebration. The show presented the work from all students who studied the Graphics, Art and Three-Dimensional courses, with most students working across two or more specialisms. Their projects included a diverse mix of design and art briefs including an architecture, jewellery and theatre set design for 3D, album illustration, media logo and branding guidelines and a poster for a public service advertisement within the graphics course. For art the students developed sculptural work, an abstract paintings arts brief as well as more traditional painting and drawing units.

Many of our students are leaving to study a diverse mix of art and design courses across specialist and reputable art and design Universities across London and the UK, including Greenwich, Westminster, Central St Martins and Loughborough, following successful interviews where they presented and discussed their portfolio of work. We wish them the very best and success for the future. In spite of lack of access to workshops and specialist equipment, they have completed the course with work to be proud of.







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This summer is all about making the move, to move.



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