



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 20th March 2023



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

Stand Together Competition, Chelsea FC – Ms Ahmad

On Friday 10th March, Attila, Khwaja and Anthony participated in the 'Stand Together' competition at Chelsea FC. These students first won the heat at Southfields a couple of weeks ago, leaving the organisers speechless with their excellent presentation.

The students prepared a presentation on gender inequality and delivered their pitch with passion and confidence. The judges and organisers were so impressed with their pitch and were amazed at how confident the students were, stating that their public speaking skills were excellent for students their age. The students won the final and will receive match day tickets at Chelsea FC. They are a real credit to the school!



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge – Ms O'Neill

On Tuesday 21st February, the students of 10R-EN1 took part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out! Workshop.

All students took part in a range of exciting activities that saw them develop communication skills and expand beyond their comfort zones. With support from the workshop leader, the students then built and performed their own speeches from scratch. There was a brilliant variety of speeches, all with the objective of presenting a positive message. From this, five students were chosen to take part in the Assembly Finals.

Well done to Angelina Gil, Saishaan Shunmugalingam, Abigail Bishton-Down, Maida Eman and Safia Omar! Everyone gave an outstanding speech, making the judges' job very difficult.

Nevertheless, our winner Safia, was selected to represent Southfields Academy at the Regional Finals where she gave a passionate and veracious speech on 'Prejudice in Contemporary Society'. Safia was an absolute credit to Southfields Academy. Her hard work and determination, as well as her enthusiasm for public speaking shone through. Well done Safia!





Thought for the Week

"It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan." – Eleanor Roosevelt



Stafford Hotel Visit – Ms Hodgson

On the 10th of March, 23 Year 12 Travel and Tourism students visited the Stafford Hotel - a 5* hotel in central London. They were greeted with fresh homemade shortbread biscuits and then had talks from different departments including the marketing team, the concierge, housekeeping, kitchen, reservations and private dining.

They had a delicious lunch and a tour of the hotel where they saw the restaurant, bar and different room types.

All students had a fantastic day and are keen to further explore the hospitality industry!



Year 12 News – Ms Hess

Work Experience week

The Level 3 students were required to find their own work experience placement and spend a week in a workplace. This was a great opportunity to maximise their chances of finding future employment, improve communication and optimise their CVs.

Our students applied to a variety of placements that included Primary schools, TFL, Libraries, Embassy of Paraguay, Home Office, Chemists, Barclays Bank, Pharmacies and GP practices, etc.

The employers were quite impressed with some of our students.

“Just a quick note that it was our pleasure to host your 2 students this week.

Their attitude, demonstrated insights and delivered quality are impressive.” **Harmen Kievit | Technical Director | Rail | Arcadis**

“We were very happy with his approach – he was exposed to various tasks – like sorting our sample finishes – while I was talking to him about our standard and special finishes – after a while he was able to recognise even the hardly recognisable finish differences (polished chrome /polished nickel plated – they almost look the same) ,we discussed few design elements when we developing a new design range, he was participating in a seminar about a new electronic locking mechanism – introduced by german companies’ UK representative, he was helping accounts with some document scanning, helping the project team for unpacking/checking quality/quantity/finish prior packing and preparing everything for shipping to the customer, I asked him to prepare some sketches for a product range (as drawing sketching is pretty much what the first year students at an architecture school do...so it is important to have some understanding of various different types of drawings... He mentioned that he would like to study architecture and we mentioned that he would be welcome for further summer work – in his free time.I think we were lucky and happy – considering his approach was very positive and helpful.” **Bernadett Kaszas, Chief Design Officer, Izé**

The students that were unable to find a placement attended our Virtual Work Experience Insight Week, complete with workshops from Pfizer Biopharmaceuticals Group, Future Careers talk with an Economist, qualified accountant, entrepreneur and inventor and a creative Industries talk with a graphic designer. They also visited different workplaces like the Royal Marines, Jackson Estate Agents, Nuffield Health, Wimbledon Fire Station, Foster and Partners, The Pines Nursing Home, Lookers VW Battersea and Jimmy Garcia Catering giving them a broad experience into the daily routine of these employees.

IGD Employability Skills webinar

Our Level 2 Year 12 students took part in a webinar on Friday 10th March. The virtual workshop helped our students develop their employability skills and met Gatsby Benchmark 4.

The session was interactive with professionals from the food and consumer goods industry like Pepsico, to feel excited about the opportunities available within this industry, to engage with the world of work and to discuss the key employability skills.

The students were asked to complete a post-session questionnaire and a significant number of students showed interest in searching for more information about this industry.

Head Student

Our students had the opportunity to apply for the Head Student position last term and we have had a tough time choosing only one student. We decided to appoint 2 students and are looking forward to working with them. Watch this space...

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 22nd March 2023 – Year 8 Parents’ Evening

Thursday 30th March 2023 – Year 11 Parents’ Evening

Friday 31st March 2023 – Academy Breaks for Easter Holiday

Monday 17th April 2023 – Academy Resumes

National Careers Week – Ms Skelley

Southfields Academy continues to provide first class in-person career insights for our students. This is an important element of the educational experience in helping to equip our students to be the employees of tomorrow and select the right employment and training for each one of them.

As part of National Careers Week, the Academy was host to thirteen different employers and professionals from different industries. Students from Years 8 and 9, plus the class representatives from Year 7, were given the opportunity to explore the types of careers, work, and benefits that very different employers can offer.

Some 300 students were inspired by face-to-face conversations with employers and industry representatives, exploring what working life can look and feel like, what skills and qualifications might be needed and what an exciting journey a career path can be. Usually such events accommodate Year 10 and above students, but enabling our lower school students to get some idea of careers at an earlier stage provokes thinking and may positively influence their subject optional choices.

The range of experiences covered:

Theatre (Theatre Technology);
Banking (Metrobank);
Media (Creative Media); (Graphic Design); (Journalism)
Third Sector (Campaign and Charity);
Civil Service (Home Office); (Ministry of Justice)
Medical (NHS);
General Management (Human Resources);
Trade (UN International Maritime Organisation);
Corporate Banking (Computer Science);
Transportation (Network Rail Telecommunications)



We are very pleased to have been able to host such a diverse range of career opportunities and remain grateful to our guests for their continued support of the Academy. As well as freelance individuals, employees from Morgan Stanley, TheX4Group, Network Rail, Metrobank and Mascot and several Civil Service representatives, joined us.

With so many varied and compelling opportunities to look at, we aspire that our students can see that the world of work is an exciting one that can bring a great sense of self-worth, achievement, wellbeing, and reward.



Year 9 Parent's Option Evening – Ms Gbolonyo

I would like to thank all parents/carers and students that attended the Year 9 Parent's Options Evening last week Wednesday.

Staff and parents have shared positive feedback from the evening about the meaningful discussions held.

If you did not have an opportunity to attend last week and you would like to arrange a meeting with me, Ms Boothe (Deputy Head of Year 9), your child's tutor or subject teacher, please do not hesitate to get in contact with the school.

If you would like to share any further feedback regarding the evening, please do email me at stella.gbolonyo@southfieldsacademy.com

Year 9 Loudmouth Workshop- "Working for Marcus"

On Friday 10th March 2023, a company called Loudmouth who provide education and training through theatre attended Southfields Academy and delivered a programme on child sexual exploitation, county lines, extremism, consent, knife crime and substance abuse to the entire Year 9 cohort.

Ella and Ross (from Loudmouth) engaged all students using well-researched drama with relevant content to bring the issues mentioned above to life. Throughout the day each tutor group then took part in a workshop, which allowed for students to respectfully share their opinions, develop their learning and know where to get support.

Students were very engaged and asked thought provoking questions. The facilitators were very impressed, as was I!

A student voice survey was completed and below are a few things students have shared that they learnt from the day:

"I learned what county lines were"

"I learnt about the different types of exploitation"

"I learnt that grooming is extremely hard to spot without the right information of how to avoid/stop and if you're vulnerable"

If you would like more information or your child would like to follow up on how to access support please see the loudmouth websites: <https://www.loudmouth.co.uk/programmes/programme/working-for-marcus>



PE Round-up - Ms Lenton

Year 8 netball

The Year 8 netball team played against Notre Dame in a fixture last week! Both teams played really well and it was a close game. However, Southfields managed to win by two goals.

It was a great team effort, but a special mention goes to our GA for getting player of the match, nominated by Notre Dame.



Year 9 & 10 London Youth Games Rowing Event

Four of our Year 9 & 10 students represented Wandsworth in the London Youth Games Indoor Rowing event on 3rd March at The Copper Box Arena. They all competed in an individual race and a team relay! All students performed extremely well and they are a credit to Southfields Academy and Wandsworth.

We managed to bring home 2 medals, well done to Luke Stringer for coming 1st in his race and receiving a gold medal and well done to Tayah Douglas Scarlett for coming 3rd and receiving a bronze medal. A great performance and effort from all students, they did Wandsworth and Southfields Academy proud!!



International Women's Day and #letgirlsplay football event

International Women's Day 2023. We want girls to have equal opportunities to play football in schools, therefore for International Women's Day we got involved in the #letgirlsplay campaign and all girls played futsal in their PE lessons.



We also had some girls brave the rain at break time and take part in a football tournament. It was great to see so many girls enjoying playing football; we have some very talented female footballers.



MFL Cooking Competition – Ms Ratkevicius

The winners of the cooking competition have finally been revealed! Winner: Mithun Sathish Kumar. Runner-up: Angelia Ivanova. Y7 Special mentions: Yusha Ali, Antonio Silva Praes, Ksenia Borisova and Alisa Korobova. They all did such an amazing job, congratulations to all of them!



Pi Day – Ms Ahmad

The Pi Day competition was back at Southfields Academy this week!

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th around the world. Pi (Greek letter “ π ”) is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159.

Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point. As an irrational and transcendental number, it will continue infinitely without repetition or pattern. While only a handful of digits are needed for typical calculations, Pi's infinite nature makes it a fun challenge to memorize, and to computationally calculate more and more digits.

Every year the Academy holds a Pi Day challenge at break-time with courageous students lining up to see who can remember the longest string of numbers. This year the entrants were phenomenal, setting very high records for the Academy and showing amazing feats of memory!

This year the competition ran from Thursday 9th March to Tuesday 14th March. We were also swamped with people trying to earn their apple pie by knowing 10 decimal places of Pi. Around 150 students from all year groups participated in the competition this year!

The results are:

1st Koshik Rubamoorthy 11CRT with 235 decimal places

2nd place was Bashar Alr Shedat Abazed IGTON with 136 decimal places

