



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 25th March 2024



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

Author Visit – Ms Reynolds

The author of 'The Declaration' trilogy visited Southfields Academy on Friday, 15th March.

Thank you to @gemma_malley_author for visiting Southfields Academy. Our students loved hearing about your journey to writing dystopian fiction- and some have already taken your top tips on board for their own writing projects! We hope you will visit us again some time soon.

Southfields Academy would also like to thank @bookclubsinschools for helping us set up this exciting event.

If you haven't read Gemma Malley's bestseller yet - be sure to borrow from the school library.

Best World Book celebrations EVER!



Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 27th March 2024 – Year 12 L3 Parents' Evening

Thursday 28th March 2024 – End of Spring Term

Monday 15th April 2024 – Summer Term starts

Monday 15th April 2024 – INSET Day

Thursday 18th April 2024 – Year 11 Parents' Evening

Monday 6th May 2024 – Bank Holiday

Thursday 28th March – Mufti Day

On Thursday 28th March the Academy is having a mufti day for the students to raise funds for local charities. Students can wear their own clothes to the Academy, if they wish to, for the donation of £1.



Thought for the Week

"Life is too complicated not to be orderly." Martha Stewart



Jack Petchey Finalists – Ms O'Neill

On Wednesday 13th March our Jack Petchey Finalists took to the stage to compete in the Assembly Finals. All students presented an outstanding speech that totally captivated their teachers and peers alike, leaving our judges with a very difficult decision to make. Nevertheless, the decision was made and we would like to congratulate Mehreen Choudhury (10AMD) and Issa Bamba (10CRL) who will be going forward as our Southfields Academy representatives, as well as Kyrie Hutchinson Mathurin (10CRL) who will be Southfields Academy reserve for the Wandsworth Regional Final on Tuesday the 19th of March.

A massive well done to all three of you for this incredible achievement! We can't wait to see what is in store for the next round of the competition.



MPs Visit Southfields Academy

Southfields Academy hosted two MPs last week - one from Putney and Southfields, and the other from Ukraine. Fleur Anderson MP partnered with her Ukrainian counterpart, Nataliya Pipa, the People's Deputy of Ukraine, and accompanied her on a fact-finding mission focusing on education. Ms Pipa was particularly interested in Academy systems and support relating to attendance and mental health. She said in Ukraine there are many challenges in education because of the war and they are facing many mental health issues amongst children related to the conflict.

Ms Pipa was pleased to meet some of the students from Ukraine who attend the Academy, some of whom arrived in March 2022 right at the start of the war. She saw they have settled well into school life here and are doing very well with their studies, particularly English, which they are now fluent in and confident to speak. Ms Pipa was grateful to the Academy staff and community for giving such a warm welcome to the students and was very impressed with the work that the Academy does.



Geography Trip – Mr Bradbury

Last week Geography A-Level students from both Year 12 and Year 13 joined forces and headed up to The Peak District National Park for a 3 day adventure! Suitcases full of walking boots, waterproof clothes and tubs of pringles, the students were ready for what promised to be a few days out of their comfort zone.

Day 1 involved the 4 hour drive up to The Peak District where students stopped off in the picturesque town of Bakewell (home of the Bakewell Tart) where they conducted human fieldwork and a treasure hunt around the town! We eventually disembarked at the Youth Hostel where a hot dinner awaited us and an evening of fun and games.

Day 2 started with a cooked breakfast in preparation for some river fieldwork and then a challenging 8 mile walk over the local dales. Students had to combat the local wildlife, a lot of mud and a bit of rain but again they met the challenge head on and won the day! Another superb hot dinner accompanied by hot waffles and chocolate sauce set the students up for a night walk through the local woods and another evening of games.

Day 3 was based around breakfast, the Peak District Awards Ceremony and then navigating the notorious Friday afternoon traffic on the M25. Back to Southfields Academy at 5pm!

Well done to all involved; Ms Hoy and Ms Hambidge who worked tirelessly to make the trip happen and the students for their 'can do' attitude and sense of fun.



Pi Day 2024 Results – Mathematics Department

The following students were the finalists for the 2024 Pi Day Competition. This is where students try to remember as many decimal places of Pi as possible.

The 5 finalists were:

Bashar Alr Shedat Abazed (IGSTE)

Sofia Alix Joa Romero (8CRT)

Isla Antilli (7RCD)

Oliver Varns (10HUN)

Koshik Rubamoorthy (13HOY)

And the top 3 were:

Koshik (winner) 240 DP

Sofia 147 DP

Bashar 146 DP



Well done to all the students in the Academy who entered and remembered at least 10 decimal places of Pi winning themselves an apple pie. Congratulations to Koshik for remembering an amazing 240 decimal places.



Y13 psychology – Ms Swann

The Y13 psychology students have been busy preparing for their A-level exams. They have dissected lamb brains (with the help of Mr Norris) to deepen their understanding of biopsychology. Today, the students attended the Tutor2u Grade Booster session at Westfield to help them prepare for their mock exams.

They engaged in all the sessions throughout the day. Several of the students answered questions in front of everyone there and as a group they answered more questions than any other school. Very impressive.



Science Club – Ms El Maadi

Excitement bubbled over in the Science Club as members delved into the fiery world of volcanoes! This month, our budding scientists embarked on an explosive experiment. After creating their very own volcanoes last week, it was finally time to erupt. We used hydrogen peroxide and washing up liquid with some red food colouring added, to match the colour of lava. Then finally, we added a catalyst and watched the mini eruptions.

Through hands-on exploration, our students not only learned about the geological processes behind volcanic activity but also honed their critical thinking and teamwork skills. Stay tuned for more captivating experiments and discoveries from our Science Club!



Science Club continued...



Year 9 Students Shine at Chelsea FC in Counter-Extremism Initiative – Ms Hussain

We are thrilled to announce the success of our Year 9 students who took part in a unique counter-extremism initiative today. This program provided a valuable platform for them to showcase their research and solutions to a panel of experts at Chelsea Football Club's Stamford Bridge stadium.

The students presented meticulously researched projects aimed at tackling extremist views. Their thoughtful and detailed approaches were met with high praise from the counter-terrorism team present, a testament to the calibre of their work.

Beyond presenting their projects, this programme offered an exceptional learning opportunity. Students had the chance to engage with specialists in the field, fostering a deeper understanding of this critical issue. They returned to school motivated and inspired to continue their positive impact on the world.

We are incredibly proud of the dedication, critical thinking, and communication skills demonstrated by our Year 9 students. This initiative exemplifies our commitment to fostering well-rounded individuals equipped to address real-world challenges.



Year 8 News – Mrs Frost

This week it was our turn to host parents' evening and the school was buzzing with all the teachers, tutors, SLT, parents and students of Year 8. The turnout was fantastic with teachers commenting on how many parents and carers they had got to talk to in detail about their child's progress and well-being in school. There were lots of happy faces and impressive reports along with important opportunities to discuss the individual challenges faced by some.

Our thanks, as usual, to all the fantastic teaching and support staff that make these events possible and to you parents for being so supportive. As a team we work tirelessly to ensure the full potential of our children is met.

On Wednesday 6th March the whole year group were invited to participate in a Meet the Employer Carousel in our assembly hall. The attendees included an art Director involved in film making, a fundraiser from the charity sector, employees of St Georges construction, the recruitment director from Dexters estate agents, health and medical practitioners from Nuffield Health Parkside hospital and members of the Metropolitan police force.

The students listened with interest, moved around the carousel respectfully and quietly and asked lots of questions. Thank you to the careers team for organising it and we look forward to many similar events to come.



This term the Year 8s have been taking part in gymnastics and dance and have created some incredible routines. In the lessons we have been focusing on rolls, balances, headstands, handstands, cartwheels, individual balances and group balances. The team spirit and teamwork has been the best I've seen in their lessons and they have given lots of encouragement and praise to one another.

Each student has improved their confidence and resilience and performed with fluency.



Poster Design Competition – KS3 – Ms Wu

We are thrilled to announce the **Poster Design Competition** hosted by Parkside Hospital exclusively for Southfields Academy students. The students have already started to work on their designs. This competition offers a unique opportunity for you to showcase your creativity and contribute positively to our community.

Key Competition Details:

- **Submission Deadline:** **Wednesday, 27th March 2024**
- **Special Session:** Join us for a special session after school on Wednesdays from 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM in B036 with Ms Wu in the Art Club on the **20th and 27th of March**. Various materials and paper will be provided. Feel free to bring along any additional materials you prefer. Biscuits will also be provided.

Competition Brief:

Students are tasked with designing a fun, child-friendly poster to brighten the journey of younger patients visiting Parkside Hospital. The theme should focus on creating a welcoming and calming environment, akin to a "home away from home." You have the creative freedom to use any design medium, such as colouring, painting, or computer design. Remember to incorporate key elements like relaxation, safety, and homeliness. Designs can be created on either A3 or A4 paper, as Parkside Hospital will resize them accordingly for poster display.

Target Audience:

The poster should appeal to children and teenagers within the age range of 3 to 18. Emphasize feelings of safety, friendliness, and relaxation through soothing colours and imagery like birds, flowers, the sky, the sun, and friendly faces.



**POSTER DESIGN
COMPETITION**

hosted by
Parkside Hospital

For Southfields Academy students only

Submission Deadline:
Wednesday 27th March 2024

Prizes:

The winning designs will be transformed into actual posters displayed at Parkside Hospital.

The top three winners will each receive an Amazon Voucher for £25, £15, and £10

See Ms.Wu at B036 for more info.

The International Evening

Last year marked the return of the International Evening to the school calendar. As we returned to post pandemic levels, the event was scaled down and noticeably smaller but equally culturally exciting. Admittedly, it was not quite how many remember the international Evenings from before the pandemic.

Having said this, this year things will be different. With all hands in IG on deck, preparations for this much awaited event have already begun. Auditions are due to start next week and many students have joined a dance group representing their country or a mixed heritage Khazak dance troupe ... yes a Khazak dance troupe!

With no more spoilers; the event is due to take place on 1st May 2024. Please watch this space for more information on this exciting evening. As a team, we would love to hear from your child if they are interested in getting involved. Our offices are along the A-corridor en route to the humanities department.



Place2Be at Southfields Academy – Ms Nearn



On March 1st, Place2Be joined our mental health provision at Southfields Academy. Their aim is to help young people to explore their emotions and feel better about themselves. Students can be referred to our Place2Be counsellor to express themselves by talking, making art, and more.

"When I feel worried, it's like I'm in a maze and the people in Place2Be are coming with a torch and showing me the way" – Student

"My daughter had become such a different person – one we didn't recognise – but since counselling we see signs of our old loving daughter coming back." – Parent

When is Place2Be useful?

Sometimes young people can feel particularly anxious, low, confused, or angry. Maybe something difficult happened at home, like losing a family member or parents separating. Or perhaps they're struggling with something at school, like bullying. This can make them behave differently, lose confidence in themselves, or find it difficult to concentrate in class.

Place2Be is there to help young people find ways to cope so their worries don't get in the way of their friendships, their learning, or how they feel about themselves.

What does Place2Be do?

Place2Be's professionals work with young people one-to-one or in small groups, giving regular support for pupils who need it. They also provide support and advice for parents and carers, as well as teachers and school staff.

Any questions?

Laura Serrani is our Place2Be staff member. She works on Fridays. Get in touch (laura.serrani@southfieldsacademy.com) to arrange a meeting or phone call to learn more, or visit place2be.org.uk