



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 13th November 2023



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

Academy Awards 2023

On Thursday 9th November we held our annual Academy Awards prize evening.

This ceremony takes place to recognise and celebrate the achievement of students in Years 8 – 13 for the previous academic year and to recognise those Year 7s who have achieved most in their first half term with us. This was a lovely ceremony, hosted brilliantly by Scarlett Spencer and Oliver Varns, with three wonderful musical interludes from musicians Scarlett, Oliver, Alisha, Angelina, Ruxy, Donya and Daniel ably assisted by Mr Gumble from the Academy music department.

In front of their peers and parents, a large number of students were presented with awards for their achievements by Mr Whitfield, the Heads of Year and our special guest, Reda Elazouar, actor and alumni of Southfields.

Reda is an actor, writer and voice-over artist based in London. He is best known for playing Beau in Season 4 of Netflix's hit show, *Sex Education*. On the film side, Reda played the lead role of Kidda in Reggie Yates' *Pirates*, which earned him a spot on BIFA's Best Newcomer Longlist.

His previous credits include the critically acclaimed Channel 4 series *Baghdad Central* and BBC's *The Little Drummer Girl* directed by Park Chan-wook.

Reda is a good friend to the Expressive Arts department at the Academy and often visits to lead workshops!

It was a lovely award ceremony, the Academy was delighted and pleased that Reda, along with so many parents and carers could join us to celebrate our students' achievements.

Special Awards were received by:

Sofia Joa Romero

- David Edwards Creative Writing Award

Yara Sobh

- Bryan Jagdeo Award for Outstanding Progress

Ajla Vukalic

- Oliver Builders Award for Design Technology

Qanta Faheem

- Humanities Award

Angelina Gil

- Lab Studio Achievement in Music Award

Enzo Tejero

- Marta Stroczyńska Award for Mathematics

Kyla Nicholas

- Robin Reeves Award for Overcoming Adversity

Skye Wainwright

- James Murray Award for Determination

Nathan Lodge

- Trustees' Award for Most Improved Boy

Summer-Rose Deleslie

- Trustees' Award for Most Improved Girl

Yasmin Abdulkadir

- Principal's Award for Attainment – Girl

Aleksander Bakardzhiev

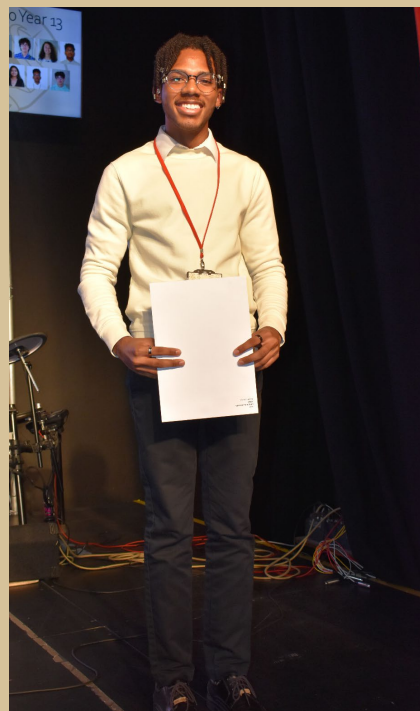
- Principal's Award for Attainment - Boy





Thought for the Week

"Much unhappiness has come into the world because of bewilderment and things left unsaid." — Fyodor Dostoevsky



BHM Competition Winners

Thank you to everyone across KS3 who entered the BHM competition this year – we loved looking through all the amazing posters about the history of an African or Caribbean country and learnt a lot!

Highly commended in **Year 7**: Jasmine (7SWN), Henrique, Nikolai (7CRO), Borys, Harlem, Isobel, Alicia, Evan, Nahmiah (7MLY) and Ruby, Ellie, Devin, Sagal and Mia (7STE)

The winner from year 7 is Perle 7CRO

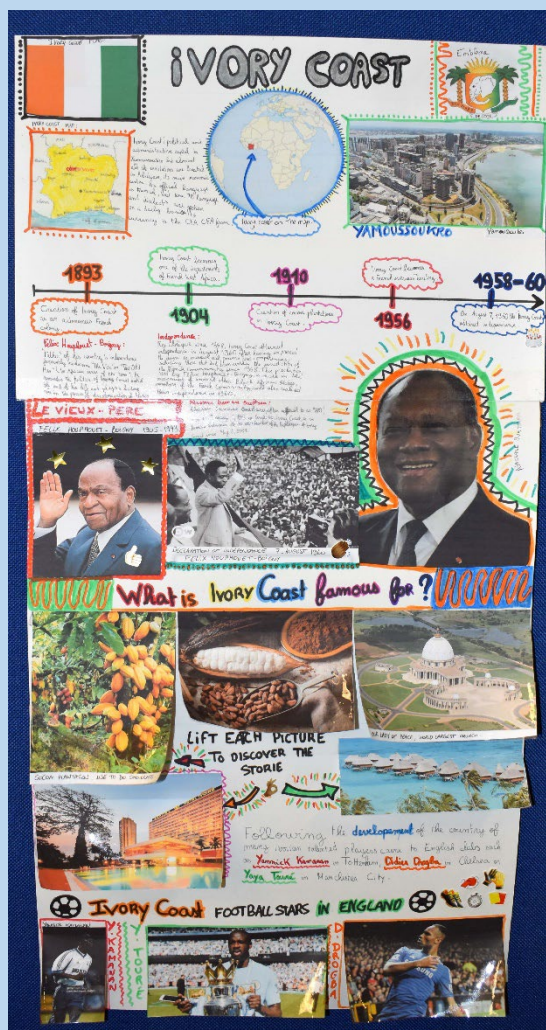
Highly commended in **Year 8**: Tayden, Asmir, Safa, Dabeer, Angelina, Jaden and Bartek (8CRT)

The winner from Year 8 is Sofia 8CRT

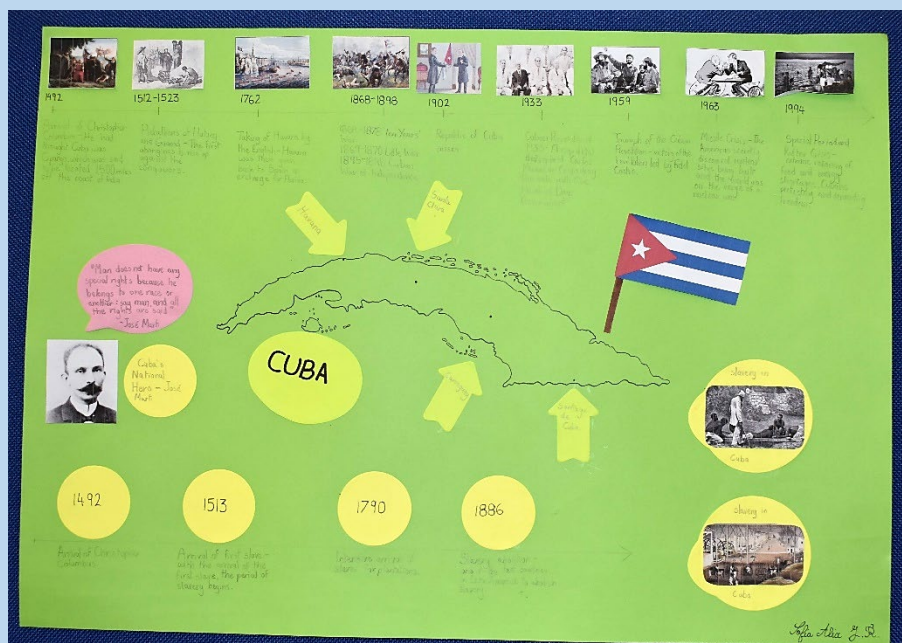
Year 9 winner: Bogdan 9GRH

Congratulations to you all!

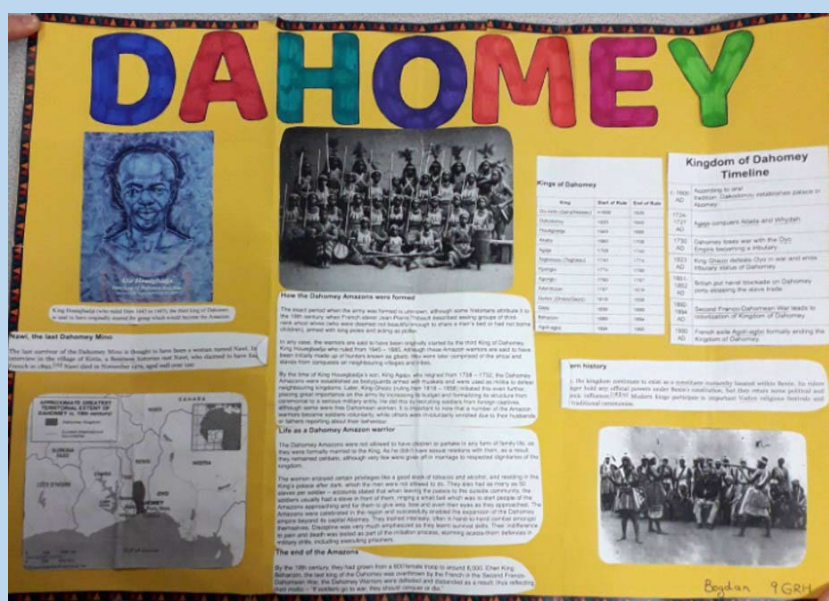
The three winners each received a special book as a prize. We hope you enjoy reading them.



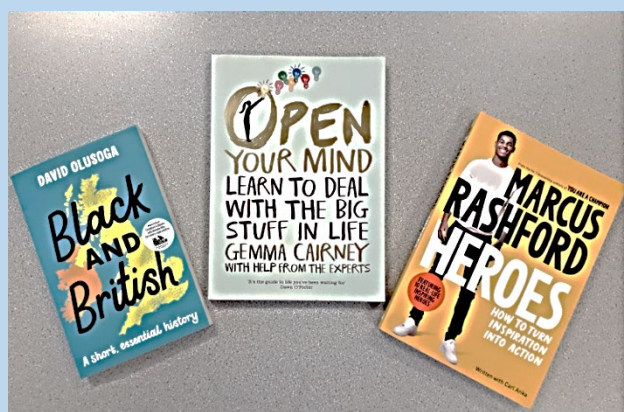
Year 7 winner - Perle



Year 8 winner - Sofia



Year 9 winner - Bogdan



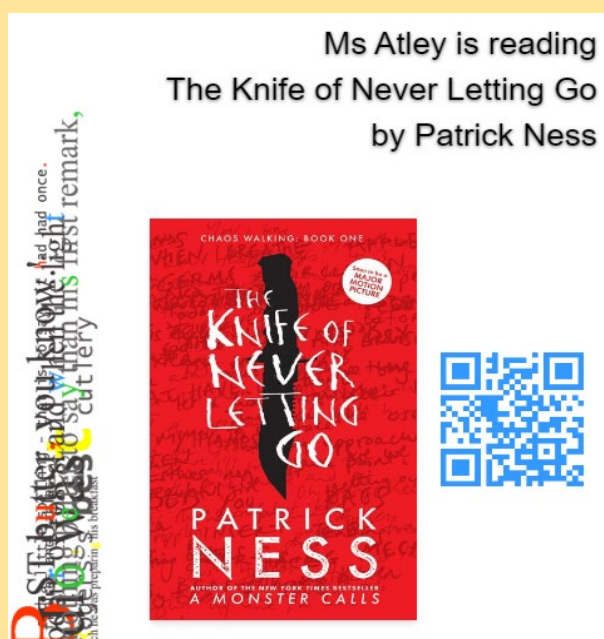
Winners' books

Book Recommendations – Ms Sulliman

Every week, an adult in our community recommends a book to the students via assemblies. These recorded recommendations are played to students in Y7-13 as studies show that recommendations from those known to us are more likely to get us reading! Each week, the recommended read will also be shared in the Parents' Newsletter and on Instagram, with a QR code that you can scan for more information about the book.

This week, **Ms Atley** is recommending **'The Knife of Never Letting Go' by Patrick Ness**. Ms Atley told the students about how she borrowed this novel from her daughter and was gripped by it! The sci-fi tale comes with a twist when a young boy realises he has been lied to his whole life. He lives in a dystopian future where he has been told that all women have died and where all the men can hear each other's thoughts. He discovers all is not what it seems when he meets a woman!

As with all recommendations, Ms Atley has encouraged students to seek her out to discuss 'The Knife of Never Letting Go', if they choose to read it!



Green Careers Week – Ms Shah

The Green Careers Week (6th Nov - 10th Nov 2023) is an initiative to inspire students to explore all the opportunities out there to pursue a variety of careers with saving the planet at its core. The number of green jobs tripled in the UK last year and opportunities are expected to grow in the coming years. Students have been encouraged this week to explore the career options.

Please see the display boards set up in the foyer and go to the link below to get lots of information and inspiration:

<https://greencareersweek.com/organisations-2023/#:~:text=Green%20Careers%20Week%20is%20a,n,careers%20and%20develop%20green%20skills.>



Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 14th November 2023 – IEAP Day
Tuesday 14th November 2023 – Chess Tournament
Friday 24th November 2023 – Year 12 Skills London Trip
Monday 27th November 2023 – INSET Day
Thursday 30th November 2023 – Year 10 Parents' Evening

Year 7 News – Mr Munro

Hello once again, Year 7 parents!

We're delighted to share some exciting updates about Year 7 since our last communication via the newsletter:

Year 7 students have successfully completed their first half term with us, and their growth has been truly impressive. They've transitioned from the shy individuals who joined us in September to confident students who are now letting their personalities shine. Their ability to navigate the school site has been commendable and their willingness to help each other is heart-warming. We've also welcomed new students who joined us later in the school year and our Year 7 students have stepped up as buddies, assisting these newcomers in finding their way around the school from lesson to lesson.

International Hello:

During our assemblies, we kick off with an "International Hello" where I greet the students in various languages, and they respond in kind. I've invited students to suggest languages, and I've been overwhelmed with requests, enough to keep us going for the next month. It's fascinating to learn why students choose these languages, whether it's their home language or because of their family heritage. Regardless of the reason, it's a wonderful opportunity to get to know our students on a deeper level.

Star of the Week:

In our assemblies, we also have a "Star of the Week" segment, where a member of our academy selects a standout Year 7 student. This recognition isn't solely based on academic achievements; it also considers qualities like integrity. The number of suggestions I've received highlights the strong sense of integrity displayed by our Year 7 students throughout the academy.

Accelerated Reader

At our academy, we have implemented the Accelerated Reader program to enhance our students' reading skills. This program is designed to help improve their reading ages. All students have now received their login credentials, completed the initial Star Reader test, and have determined their reading age (you can ask your child about their reading age). Our goal moving forward is to have students read books that align with their reading age, all of which are readily available in our school library. After reading a book, students will be required to take a 10-question quiz about the book, contributing to the gradual improvement of their reading age.

We encourage you to motivate your child to read their chosen book and promptly take the quiz upon finishing it. Reading holds a significant place in our educational approach at Southfields, and we are dedicated to making a positive impact on your child's reading journey. The next Star Reader test is scheduled for April, providing ample time for students to read several books and complete the quizzes. We appreciate your support in fostering a love for reading in our students.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

At Southfields Academy, we offer a diverse range of extra-curricular clubs that we encourage our students to join, including sports, chess, science and more. It's remarkable that since the beginning of the academic year, more than 100 Year 7 students have participated in at least one of these clubs. This is an impressive figure considering our year group consists of just over 150 students. However, around 50 students have yet to attend an extra-curricular club this year. We're extending a challenge to parents and carers to encourage their child to attend at least one extra-curricular club between now and our next update after Christmas.

Football Success:

Continuing with the theme of extra-curricular activities, our Year 7 football teams have achieved some notable successes. Our Year 7 girls faced off against Graveney in a London Cup match and emerged victorious with a 3-1 win. Two weeks later, our Year 7 boys took on Graveney with three teams competing simultaneously, and Team 1 secured a 1-0 win. Furthermore, another positive result came when Southfields Team 2 earned a well-deserved 1-1 draw with Ashcroft.

IEAP Day:

A friendly reminder that IEAP Day is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2023. This is an excellent opportunity for you to visit the school with your child, discuss their progress and set goals for the future. Your child will also be delivering a short presentation on "The Life Skills They Consider Important for Success in School and Beyond." Please check with your child to confirm the time of their appointment with their tutor.

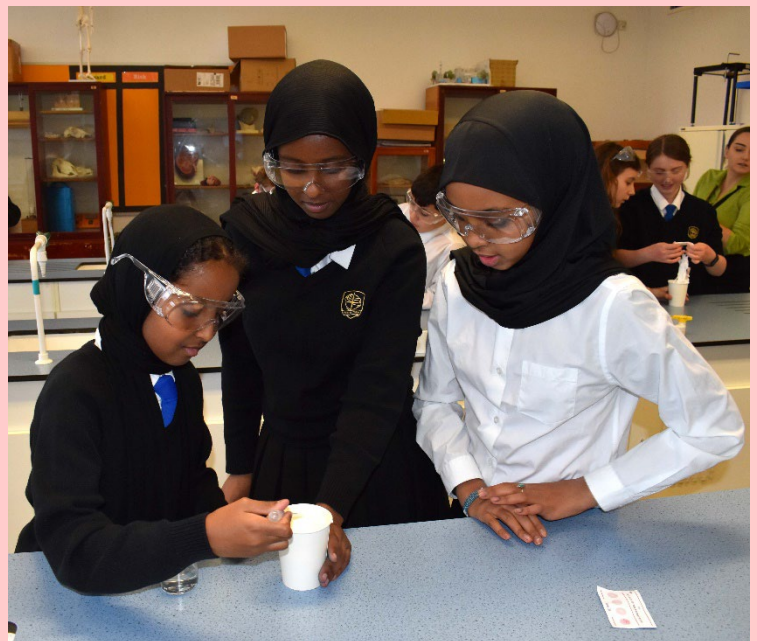
We look forward to seeing many of you on that day.

Science Club – Ms El Maadi

Slime

This week students were making slime in science club. It is very easy to make and can be done at home! All you need is PVA glue and some eye contact solution (borax). Mix together until you get the slime consistency you want.

Students added shaving foam (which makes fluffy slime), glitter and food colouring. The students had a great time and now know how to make slime at home.



Elliott Wood dial in to discuss Sustainable Drainage in Geography – Ms Hoy

Elliott Wood, an award-winning civil and structural engineering practice, dialled in to our Year 13 geography lesson on Tuesday to discuss Sustainable urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) and the important role they play in the built environment.

Students learned about the different techniques engineers use to manage surface water from permeable paving to blue roofs. Students were then given the opportunity to quiz our speaker on his pathway to becoming a civil engineer.

During the next lesson, we recreated a real-life boardroom where students became Environmental Scientists, Finance Managers, Civil Engineers and Project Managers. They were provided with a brief, a budget, and the SuDS manual, with the task to create a sustainable drainage strategy for a new housing development.

Some fantastic ideas from our students!



Odd Socks Day, on Monday! – Mr Samuels

Odd Socks Day is an annual event that celebrates diversity and promotes inclusion. It's a fun way to show that it's okay to be different and that everyone is special in their own way.

To participate in Odd Socks Day, all you need to do is wear two different socks to school. Any kind of sock will do, as long as they don't match!

This year, Odd Socks Day is taking place as part of Anti-Bullying Week and will happen on **Monday 13th November**. Bullying is a serious problem, and it can have a devastating impact on children's lives. Odd Socks Day is a way to show that we stand together against bullying and that we celebrate everyone's individuality.

We encourage all of our students to participate in Odd Socks Day. It's a great way to have fun, show your support for diversity and inclusion and stand up against bullying.



Chess Tournament

Tuesday 14th November

IEAP day

09:00-12:00 Canteen 6th form area



Please sign up on the sheets outside Mr. Spencer's classroom – A222.
Please arrange your IEAP day interviews before 9am or after 12.



Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

“I Wish I Looked Like Them” Helping Teens Navigate Body Image Issues

Body image issues are increasingly a challenge for many teenagers and young people.

This workshop talks about our current understanding of body image issues, ideas for supporting your teen and resources for you and your teen.

NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Education
Wellbeing
Service

DATE / TIME

Thursday 16th November 7.30-8.30 pm

Friday 17th November 12-1 pm

LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to this event for free on Eventbrite (and check out our others!) by scanning the QR Code or following the link below:

[CLICK HERE](#) to book



wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk