



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 29th April 2024



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

Year 13 News – Mr Browne

Understanding university student finance in England

Last year, the way student loan repayments were calculated changed - the repayment threshold fell and the repayment period increased.

Most education experts think these changes will make low to middle income graduates significantly worse off.

Any student starting on an undergraduate university course on or after 1 August 2023, will be subject to the new 'repayment plan 5'. This means students will pay 9% of their income over the new lower repayment threshold of £25,000 a year. This means students will start paying their loan back at a lower level and monthly payments will be higher at every level. (The previous threshold was £27,295.)

The length of the repayment period is also changing from "until the loan is cleared" or "30 years" (whichever comes first), to "until the loan is cleared" or "40 years" (whichever comes first). As many graduates are unlikely to pay off their loans, that means that most students will effectively pay a lifetime "graduate tax" (on top of income tax, national insurance etc.).

The new schemes does reduce the interest payable on loans to just the rate of RPI (Retail Price Index) inflation (it was RPI inflation plus 3%). Overall, however, students (especially those who are eligible for full maintenance loans) can expect to pay back more money over the course of their lifetime.

To help our Year 13 students understand these changes, we have run assemblies, provided resources and have hosted guest speakers from the universities of Westminster and Roehampton.

Science Club – Ms El Maadi

Calling all ice cream enthusiasts!

The Science Club dished up a delightful demonstration of chemistry this past week. We whipped up ice cream from scratch, but with a scientific twist!

Students learned how:

- Salt lowers the freezing point (no freezers needed!)
- Mixing creates a cool (literally) reaction
- Different ingredients affect texture and taste

This was a hands-on activity, so everyone got a little messy but most students made some ice cream and got to eat it for their lunch.





Thought for the Week

Real change in society must start from individual initiative. - Dalai Lama



EXTRA CURRICULAR / STUDY SUPPORT – Summer Term 2024

Day	Subject	Support/activity	Venue	Teacher	Year information
Monday	PE	Cricket	Astro	My Boyce/Philpott	Years 7 - 10
	PE	Rounders	Astro	Ms Lanning/Nilsson	Years 7 - 8
	PE	Girls Fitness Suite	Fitness Suite	Ms Lenton/Saysell	Girls only
	PE	Muay Thai	Dance Studio	Mr Hillman/Robertson	
4.30-6pm	PE	AFC Foundation – 6 th Form	Astro	AFC Coaches	Selected
	English	Reading Titans (Break 1)	D284	Mr Sawbridge	Year 8
	English	Reading Titans (Break 2)	D282	Ms Reynolds	Year 7
Tuesday	PE	Softball	Astro	Mr Sia/Ms Nearn	Years 7 & 8
	PE	Rounders	Astro	Ms Lenton/Nilsson	Years 9 & 10
	PE	Dance	Dance Studio	Ms Lanning	All Years
	PE	Strength and conditioning	Fitness suite	Ms Fox/Ms Naylor	Years 9-10 & 6th Form
	ADT	Homework Club	B147	Mr Smith	All Years
	English	Reading titans (Break 2)	D287	Ms Lowther	Years 9 (Break 2)
	English	KS4 Book Club (Break 2)	D287	Ms O'Neill	Key Stage 4 (Break 2)
	English	KS3 Film Club	D285	Mr Carroll	Key Stage 3 (Break 2)
	PSHE	Drop in for a Chat / support	D389	Ms Molloy	All Years (Break 2)
	Wellbeing	Board & card games Club	D180	Ms Nearn	Years 7 - 9 (Break 2)
Wednesday	PE	Basketball	Sports hall	Mr Mombrikotb	Year 9 & 10
	PE	Weights & Fitness	Fitness suite	Mr Boyce	Years 9 - 10
	PE	Year 11 GCSE Booster	D080	Mr Sia	Year 11
	ADT	Art Club	B036	Ms Wu	KS 3 students
	History	Warhammer	A123	Mr Hillman	Years 8 and above
	PSHE	Drop in for a Chat / support	D389	Ms Molloy	All Years (Break 2)
	Science	Science Club	Labs	Ms El Maadi	Years 7 & 8 (Break 2)
Thursday	PE	Softball	Astro	Mr Mombrikotb	Years 9 & 10
	PE	Strength & Conditioning	Fitness suite	Mr Sia	6 th Form only
	PE	Muay Thai	Dance Studio	Mr Robertson	All Years
	4.30-6pm	U15 & U16 player development	Astro	AFC Coaches	Sign up required
	ADT	Photography Club	B156	Ms Darby	Key Stage 3 students
	English	Debate club (Break 2)	D289	Mr Carmo	Key Stage 3 Students
	Pride	Pride Club	A131	Ms Hoy	All Years (Break 2)
	Wellbeing	Board & card games club	D180	Ms Nearn	Years 7 - 9 (Break 2)
Friday	PE	Basketball	Sports hall	Mr Munro	Years 7 & 8
4.30-6pm	PE	AFC Wimbledon Foundation	Astro	AFC Coaches	Selected students
	English	Film Club	C278	Mr Carroll	Key Stage 3 (Break 1)

The Library is Open Mon-Fri. 7.30 – 3.30pm.

International Group Homework club – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday P6.

HIU Homework support – HIU department – every day, break 1.

Sociology – Individual drop in and break time revision sessions when required – Years 12 & 13.

No students should be on site unsupervised.



Junior Maths Challenge – Ms Lunt

Nearly 100 pupils from Year 7 and 8 competed in the **Junior Maths Challenge (JMC)** this Thursday. The JMC is a 60-minute, multiple-choice challenge which encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency. The questions are designed to make pupils think and apply the skills from their lessons in different and interesting ways. It was great to see the students so focussed – you could almost see the cogs turning as they tried to tackle the problems.

To get an idea of the types of problems the students are trying to get to grips with, a few examples from this year's challenge are below:

1. Which of the following could have a capacity of 10 litres?
A An aeroplane B A bucket C A cup D A dustpan E An egg
2. In Fred's field there are some humans and some horses.
There are 25 heads in total and 60 legs in total.
What is the difference between the number of humans and the number of horses?
A 3 B 7 C 9 D 11 E 15
3. Forty furry ferrets weigh the same as fifty fit ferrets. Forty-five fit ferrets weigh the same as fifty-four friendly ferrets. How many friendly ferrets weigh the same as fifty furry ferrets?
A 40 B 55 C 60 D 75 E 80

Students are aiming to achieve Bronze, Silver or Gold awards, but all those that participated will be given a certificate to recognise their efforts. I look forward to sharing the results in a couple of weeks.

Answers (1B, 2E, 3D)

St George's Hospital Visit – Ms Naylor

I accompanied 7 Year 12 students to St George's hospital last week. We were learning about healthcare and biological science courses at the university and attending talks with current lecturers and students.

This was a great opportunity for students to see where their A-levels can take them after Southfields.





Southfields
Academy

Welcome to the

International Evening

Part of the
Wandsworth London Borough of Culture
Celebrations

1st May



**DOORS WILL OPEN FOR INTERNATIONAL FOOD AT 4:30.
NO ENTRY BEYOND 5:00.
PLEASE COME DRESSED IN NATIONAL COSTUMES.**

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 1st May 2024 – International Evening
Monday 6th May 2024 – Bank Holiday
Monday 27th May 2024 – Half Term Holiday Starts
Monday 3rd June 2024 – Academy Resumes
Tuesday 25th June 2024 – Year 13 Prom
Wednesday 26th June 2024 – IEAP Day
Thursday 27th June 2025 – Year 11 Prom
Friday 28th June 2024 – INSET Day
Tuesday 2nd July 2024 – Year 6 Induction Day
Thursday 4th July 2024 – International Group Prom

Upcoming Events For Parents & Carers Spring/Summer Term 2024

**24TH
OR 25TH
APRIL**

Managing Exam & Assignment Stress

For parents/ carers of Young People in Years 7-10

Supporting Your Teenager With Emotional
Difficulties & Self Harm
For all secondary & college parents/ carers

**14TH
OR 16TH
MAY**

We also provide free
support with anxiety

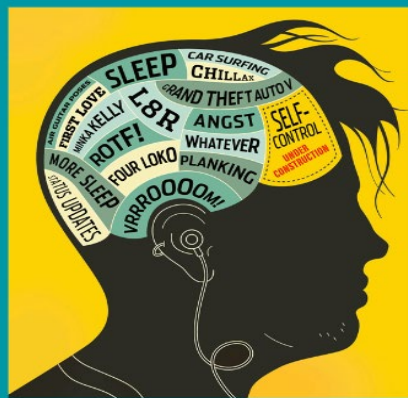
To view further event details and
descriptions, and to book on to any of
the webinars, please scan the QR Code
or follow the link to our Eventbrite
collection.

[Click here](#)



Who is this stranger?

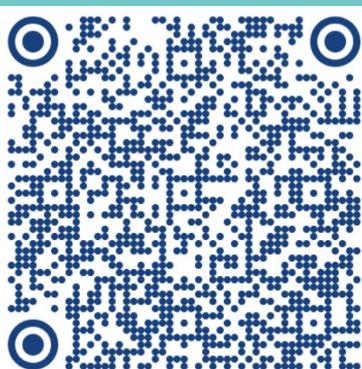
Understanding
teenage
development
through the lens of
neuroscience



Has your child begun spending more time in their room alone? Are they becoming secretive? Are they trying out different personal styles - clothing, hair, makeup, mannerisms, etc.? Are they pushing boundaries and experimenting with risky behaviour? We'd like to blame "hormones", but it's more complicated than that. In fact, it all starts in the brain.

Join our free webinar to learn what's happening in your child's brain, how it affects them, and how you can help.
There are two dates and times to choose from:

- **Tuesday April 30th, 9:30-10:30 am**
- **Thursday May 2nd, 4:00-5:00 pm**



The webinar will take place on Google Meets.

If you have any questions, please contact

tricia.nearn@southfieldsacademy.com or scan the QR code to Sign up!