



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing Monday 30th September



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

Year 9 News – Mr Lamboi

OUR VISION

“Every Y9 student is in a position to thrive at KS4”

OUR CORE VALUES & VIRTUES

1. Kindness
2. Hard work
3. Responsibility
4. Resilience

Returning from a long summer holiday can sometimes pose a problem for students in terms of getting back into the routine and expectations of school life. As their new Head of Year, I can genuinely comment that the overwhelming majority of Year 9 have settled relatively well into their final year at KS3. Despite the six-week break, Year 9 continue to demonstrate an unassailable commitment to their learning.

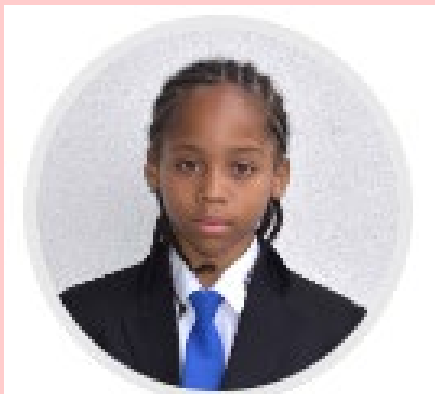
That is to say, they are:

1. Showing resilience when adversity rears its head
2. Working- hard
3. Making no excuses and accepting personal responsibility.

Throughout the week I have had the privilege of visiting lessons. Without exception, the lessons are calm and purposeful with teachers delivering high quality teaching and high levels of student engagement. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to every one of our Year 9s (and their respective form tutors) who have consistently chosen to come to school and give their very best so far this year - keep it up! It is you who makes your tutor group, the year group, and the school shine.

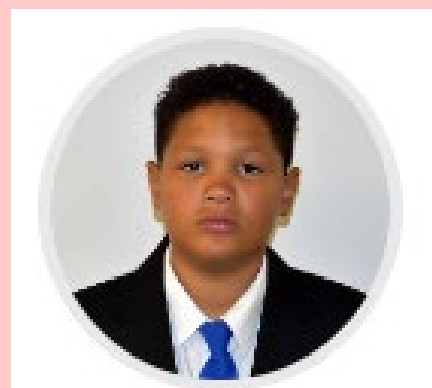
For our Year 9s to have a successful year and achieve their potential at KS4, it will take above all else, a strong partnership between parents/carers and the school. I want to thank you in advance for your support in making sure your child meets our shared expectations of attending school (on time), completing their homework, working hard inside and outside of lessons, and following school rules.

Year Team Stars of the Week



Riley

A positive and determined start to the academic year. He has really turned things around this year and is deciding to work-hard.



Reon

For making a big effort to do the right thing this week and amassing an amazing number of positives in one day- 10 to be exact, which is a record breaking amount.

Upcoming key events and dates

- **Career's Day** on Wednesday 23rd October 2024
- **Work Shadow Day** on Wednesday 20th November 2024



Thought for the Week

“Always be a little kinder than necessary.” — James M. Barrie



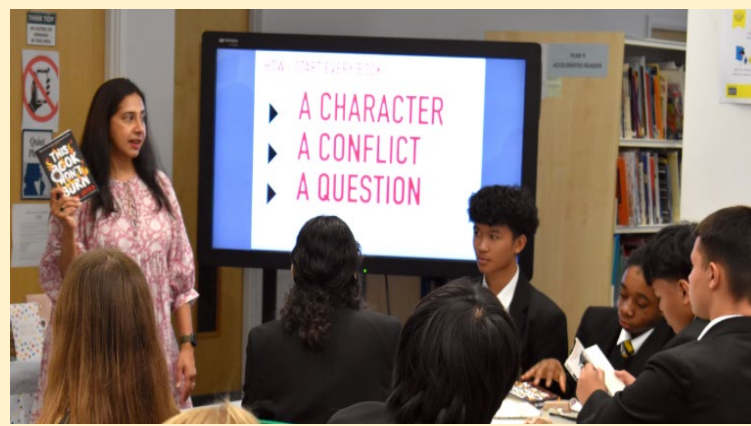
Author visit to Southfields - Samira Ahmed – Mr Sawbridge

On Tuesday 24 September, the celebrated author, Samira Ahmed, visited Southfields Academy to deliver a creative writing workshop to 25 lucky Year 10 students.

Samira Ahmed is the author of the New York Times best selling novels *Love, Hate & Other Filters*, and *Internment*, as well as a series of *Ms Marvel* comics.

She shared the inspiration for some of her writing, and gave our Year 10 students some top tips to improve their own creative writing, before helping them write the first line of their own novel. Based on the quality of the students' opening lines, it's clear we have some talented writers (and potentially budding authors?) in Year 10.

A massive thank you to our very own Ms Reynolds, Director of Wimbledon BookFest Fiona Razvi and Book Clubs in Schools for organising the event, and for providing free copies of Samira Ahmed's books to each student.



Year 7 Meet the Tutors – Ms Gbolonyo

I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all parents, carers and siblings that attended Year 7 Meet the Tutor last week Thursday. What an evening! It was a wonderful opportunity to connect, share insights, and the academy vision on how we can work together to support your child's learning journey.

Your engagement and enthusiasm truly make a difference in our school community. We hope you found the experience informative and enjoyable, and that you gained valuable insights into our pastoral program, extra curricular activities, vision for developing independent learners and our academy routines.

Thank you to everyone that completed the survey and shared your child's highlights so far. Here a few of student highlights shared by Year 7 below:

"I really love the new environment, clubs and activities"

"I am enjoying making new friends"

"I like the various clubs to choose from"

If you have any further questions or feedback, please don't hesitate to contact the year team. If you Meet the Tutor Survey in this link: <https://forms.gle/o7oNGHejKPTqdGNR7>

Friendship Workshop

On Tuesday 17th September 2024, Year 7 had the pleasure of hosting guest speakers from the NHS to talk to students about 'Friendships'. During this interactive session, students engaged in activities that promote integrity, teamwork, communication, and understanding about boundaries. Our goal is to foster a supportive environment where friendships can flourish.

We encourage you to discuss this workshop with your child and highlight the importance of friendship and connection during these formative years. I am excited to share that this theme will continue in students PSHE lessons.

Investment Banking – Mr Herz

Last week John Lomax, the Head of Emerging Market Strategy at HSBC came in to talk to our Year 12 Economics and Business students about careers in investment banking and other opportunities in finance.

The students also learned a lot about what employers look for and how they can make themselves stand out from their peers.

The students were a credit to the Academy and showed their interest and enthusiasm by asking many questions



Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 3rd October 2024 – Open morning

Thursday 3rd October 2024 – Year 12 Meet the Tutor Event

Thursday 3rd October 2024 – Year 13 C4C Parents' Evening

Tuesday 8th October 2024 – Open morning

Thursday 10th October 2024 – Open Evening

Friday 11th October 2024 – INSET Day, No Students on Site.

Tuesday 15th October 2024 – Open morning.