



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

Year 11 News – Ms Marshall

We kicked off the spring term with students and staff reviewing mock results from their December examinations. These are used for sixth form/ college applications, informs teaching for the remainder of the term and provides students with an invaluable insight into their current position. Are they working hard enough? Is their revision focused sharply enough? What are they proud of? What is the area of focus? These were all questions we supported students to explore through pastoral activities.

The recent IEAP Day saw students attend either Level 2 or Level 3 course guidance sessions, before the majority attended a sixth form interview at the Academy. For many, the event served as a 'reality check' since the day's activities was personalised and wholly dependent on each student's mock results, and attendance, punctuality and behaviour profile.

The next key event is the second set of mocks - which commence a week after we return from the February half term break. Before we break we will also be launching the effort scheme to incentivise outstanding effort and commitment to their courses from now until the final examinations.

If you are a Year 11 parent, you will receive more detailed information about much of this, in the coming weeks. In the meantime please continue to support your child's studies and use the MCAS app to monitor and ensure that your child has excellent attendance, punctuality and conduct.

Year 9 Cooking – Mr Smith

The Year 9 class - 09BEN - returned to the kitchen this week and prepared and made small vegetable frittatas - small omelette style savoury snacks cooked in muffin cases. Ideal for snacks or a pre-made breakfast.

They worked incredibly hard dividing the tasks up between themselves and then making sure the kitchen was clean and ready for the next class to come in straight after.

We have one more week of cooking and food nutrition before moving onto a graphic focused project looking at self-projection and propaganda before students make their own collage promoting themselves.





Thought for the Week – Leadership

“The sign of a good leader is not how many followers you have, but how many leaders you create.” – Mahatma Gandhi

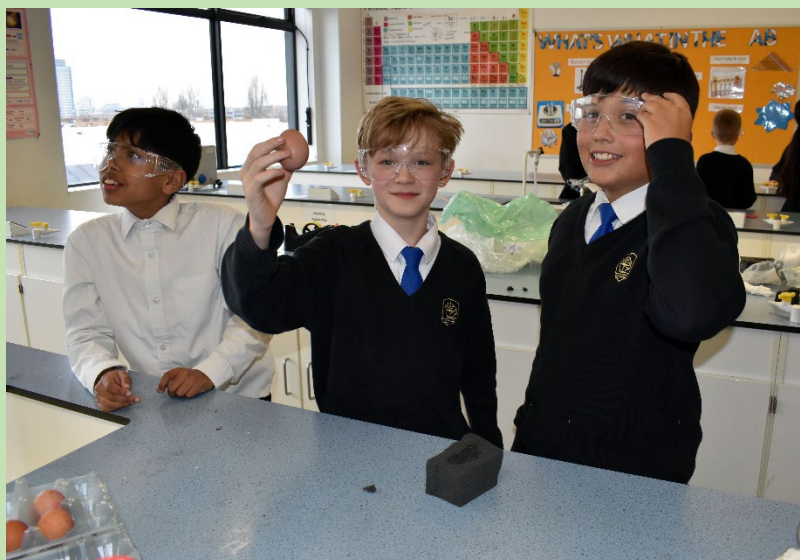


Science Club – Mr Abdirahman

This week, we put eggs to the test! By adding a protective covering, we experimented to see just how strong these fragile shells really are—some cracked under pressure, while others held firm!

Next week, we're taking it a step further. After soaking eggs in vinegar, we'll test their strength again to see how the shell breakdown affects their durability. Will they hold up or turn to *scramble*?

Don't miss this *egg-speriment*—it's going to be *shell-shocking*!



Gaobie (Farewell) to our Taiwanese Visitors

This week we said goodbye to the thirty students and three adults from Taiwan who had been hosted by the Academy for the past two weeks. During their time here, the students were fully assimilated into Academy life, attending the full range of lessons.

The group celebrated Chinese New Year while on their visit and shared some gifts and edible treats with staff and the buddies of the students at the Academy.

Feedback from the group was overwhelmingly positive, particularly about the food they tried while here! All of the students said they had enjoyed their taste of life at a British school and had made firm friendships while here, as well as improving their skills in written and spoken English.



Jack Petchey “Speak Out” Challenge – Ms O’Neill

On IEAP Day all Year 10 students took part in the ‘Jack Petchey “Speak Out” Challenge. The workshops were led by Speakers Trust trainers who are experts in their field. The workshop leaders shared with our students their expert knowledge in areas such as overcoming nerves and learning how to listen and work together to give positive and constructive feedback to each other. All Year 10 students did an amazing job and the team of trainers were blown away by the insightful speeches and the students’ commitment to developing their public speaking skills. At the end of the school day, every student had the chance to present a speech on a topic of their choice, focusing on delivering a message with a positive impact regardless of the subject.

Well done to our finalists and runners up who will now have the opportunity to take part in the Southfields Academy Final, whereby we will be faced with the difficult task of choosing just two finalists to represent our school at the Wandsworth Regional Final on the 6th March.

All Year 10 students should be extremely proud of themselves, demonstrating fantastic confidence. Well done, Year 10!

Group	Winners
10BZI	1. Simon 2. Daisy
10CSG	1. Sahara 2. Nayfeer
10ATY	1. Amar 2. Eva
10WWD	1. Eljay 2. Shaeyla
10NYR	1. Sumeyo 2. Kavaya
10GLH	1. Nana-Osei 2. Phillip
10SMH	1. Sherianne 2. Jackson



Creative Writing – English Department

Year 10 have been studying a range of topical issues in English recently - from the benefits and costs of space travel, to the deficiencies of the modern prison system. Here's a brilliant article by Nana-Osei Yeboah (10GLH) on the "disease" of fast fashion.

Cure yourself from the disease of fast-fashion

Just think. Imagine you being born in a country where all you can do is work. As a child you work. As an adult you work. And your kids and their kids all go through the same as you; they work. Well, some children at the ripe age of just seven live in this harsh and dangerous reality. And most don't even get to see their kids work, or their kids' kids' work. Fast fashion is a disease that's taking over the world as we know it, and soon, those sparkly trends, those designer clothes, our very identities and reputation will all crumble and corrode into a mush of camera flashes and instagram comments. It's not too late to stop the infection, but there needs to be a change.

Although firstly, there is something that most of us probably need to get off our chest. Something that annoys all of us - trendsetters. Well, I'll be the first to tell you, it is much worse than you think. On average, the amount of designer clothes that turn into landfill the same year they are sold (particularly clothes which are trending that same year) is 5000 tonnes in the UK alone. Just imagine, 5000 average teenagers in the form of clothes actively being wasted every single year. Have they ever asked themselves: if I'm not going to use something in the next 3 months or so, is it really worth it? And if you are one of those people who decide to buy the latest Gucci bag or the newest product from Balenciaga, then you've already been infected. You've been infected by the virus of fast-fashion: your Tiktok "for you" page and instagram reels has caused you to contract it. But don't fear - I have the vaccine for you to finally break free and have a speedy recovery.

For the rehabilitation process, you need to know what people have to go through to make these clothes. To start, we should look at one of the main manufacturers for these clothes - China. Home to over 1000 of these famous clothing companies, China is one of the hotspots for the fashion industry. Well let me ask another question: how do you suppose they get these clothes? You're probably thinking: they must farm, bring materials and use professional manufacturers to get these clothes right? Wrong. Young children produce these clothes for you and me, for their country, for the entire world. Does it really sit right with you if someone as young as 7 had to dedicate their entire childhood to produce these clothes for us? This should drive you to take the vaccine more, and to finally unblind yourself from the effects of this. Not just for you, but for them too.

And now for the vaccine. This is your final step in order to fully cure yourself from this deadly virus. This is the solution to all people infected in this pandemic. The vaccine is called: the AWTSSFF vaccine, or "Alternative ways to stop fast fashion". Its side effects are: lack of ignorance, helping the planet and being unique. In order to stop, you are going to need to realise that trends won't last forever. Each trend dies out in the space of 5 months, so it's not worth spending hundreds of pounds on something you are going to abandon. In addition, you need to start finding a new way to give yourself quality over quantity. The amount of cheap clothes people have doesn't mean said clothes are good. So try looking at new solutions to break free of cheap designer clothes. This is not to say you should look like a fool, but treat yourself in a way that benefits yourself, but not at the expense of anyone else.

There you go, you are fully cured. You've realised how you got this deadly disease, and how to stop it. This cure should hopefully stop contraction in the future, and help you to be a better person overall. Please, try to find more people to cure like yourself, and give them a better chance of surviving the disease of fast-fashion.

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 13th February 2025 – Year 7 Parents' Evening
Monday 17th February 2025 – Academy Breaks for Half Term
Monday 24th February 2025 – INSET Day
Tuesday 25th February 2025 – Students Resume
Wednesday 5th March 2025 – Year 9 Options Parents' Evening
Wednesday 2nd April 2025 – Year 11 Parents' Evening
Friday 4th April 2025 – INSET Day
Friday 4th April 2025 – Academy Breaks for Holidays
Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – Summer Term Starts

National Grid Workshop – Year 7 – Mr Salter

On IEAP Day, 60 enthusiastic Year 7 students had the unique opportunity to take part in an engaging and educational workshop led by National Grid. The workshop aimed to deepen students' understanding of energy, climate change, and large-scale engineering projects through interactive group activities. Students also had the opportunity to learn about the different careers available in this sector.

Students worked collaboratively in small groups of four to six, allowing for teamwork and idea-sharing throughout the session.

The workshop was expertly delivered by a Connectr tutor, who was joined by a National Grid volunteer, both bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience in facilitating educational activities with young people.

The session focused on five key learning outcomes:

- **Understanding Climate Change:** Students explored the causes and effects of climate change, gaining insight into one of the biggest challenges facing our planet today.
- **The Role of National Grid:** Participants learned about the National Grid's core purpose and how the London Power Tunnels project contributes to the UK's energy infrastructure and sustainability.
- **Net Zero and the Future:** The workshop introduced the concept of net zero and explained how the National Grid is working towards a more sustainable energy future.
- **Personal Energy Consumption:** Students reflected on their own energy usage and how individual actions contribute to climate change.
- **Presentation and Persuasive Skills:** To consolidate their learning, students developed and delivered group presentations. These presentations highlighted the benefits of large-scale engineering projects, using persuasive language to articulate their points effectively.

The session was an excellent opportunity for students to develop critical thinking skills, collaborate with peers, and gain a deeper understanding of energy and sustainability. Through hands-on activities and engaging discussions, students left the workshop with newfound knowledge and a greater appreciation for how engineering and innovation play a crucial role in shaping a more sustainable future.

The guest speakers were incredibly impressed with all students and spoke so highly about their engagement, presentation and thought provoking questions.

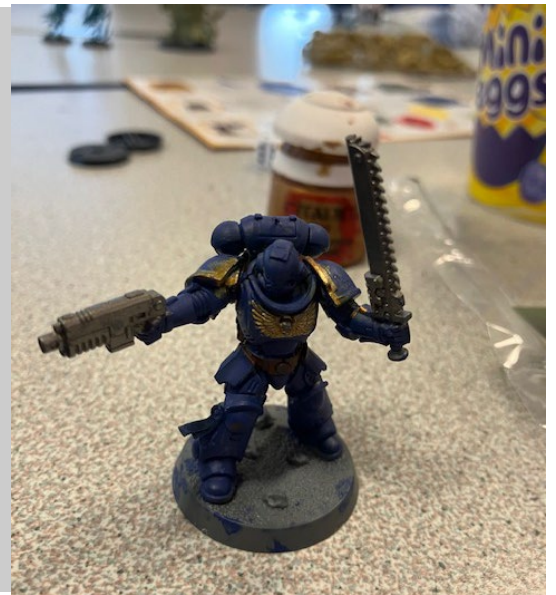
A big well done to **Maliha 07DBY** for getting individual recognition from National Grid! Maliha's presentation and delivery was outstanding and really impressed her peers! Another huge well done to the winning group: **Mustafa, Jack, Timurs, Devondre, Rylee, Vinnie, Haroon, Yusuf, Zikria and Luis.**



Warhammer Club – Mr Hillman

Warhammer is one of the world's largest and fastest growing hobbies. Hobbyists collect, build and paint armies of miniature figures before taking them to battle on the table top against friends. Southfields' Warhammer Club has been running for seven years and attracts students from Year 7 to Year 13. Currently students are learning the basics of building and painting their miniatures (all provided by the club) and in the coming term we will begin to learn the rules and play some games.

In previous years students have had whole days off timetable to play large scale battles and two students even went to Warhammer World in Nottingham! Feel free to come along any and every Thursday from 3 – 3.50 in A122. Ask Mr Hillman if you want more details.



U13 Football – Mr Munro

Congratulations to the U13 football team for a brilliant 4-0 win against St Cecilia's. Every single player worked extremely hard and deserved to be on the winning side. Goals came from Harlem H-D, Georgie F, Nathaniel A & Marley SA.

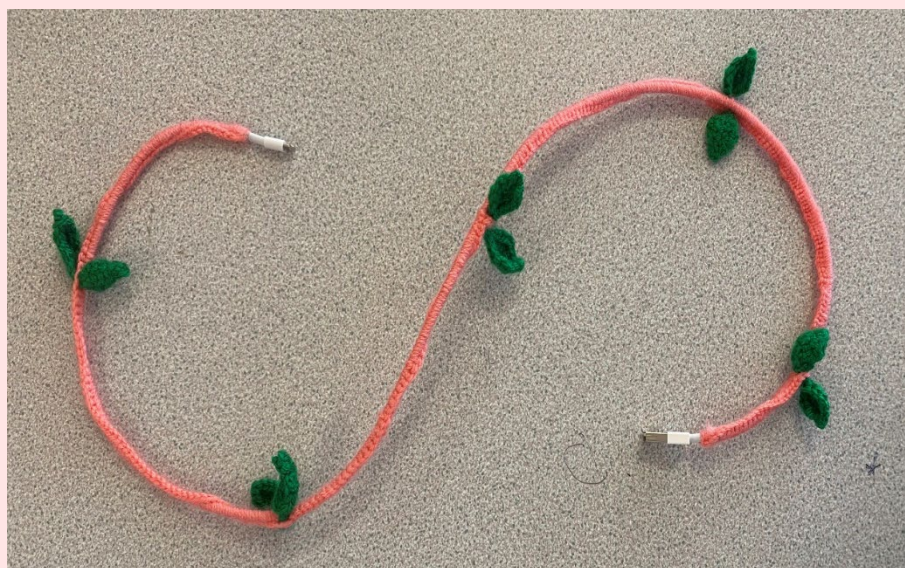
An unbelievable performance from Tyler TS who was outstanding, and earned a well-deserved Player of the Match.



Crochet Club – Ms Hoy

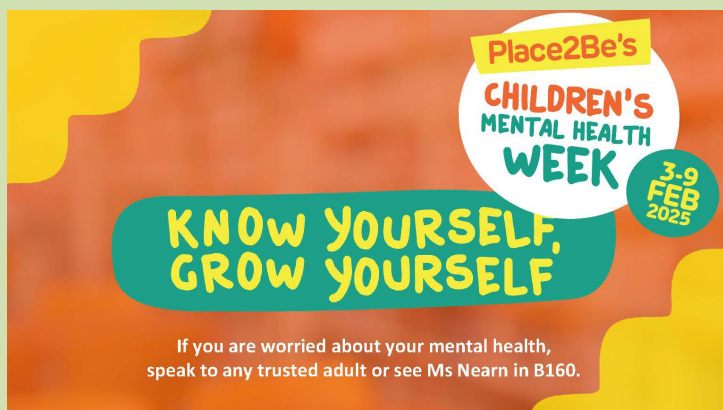
This week in Crochet Club, we kicked off an exciting new project—mittens! Our students cast on their stitches, excited to watch their creations take shape over the next few weeks. It's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and creativity grow with each session.

Some students have even been practicing at home and brought in incredible projects to share with the group.



Children's Mental Health Week – Ms Nearn

This week we acknowledged Children's Mental Health Week sponsored by Place2Be, providers of in-school counselling support for students across the borough.



This year's theme - "know yourself, grow yourself" - invited students to ask, "How well do I really know myself?"

Being curious about ourselves and noticing what's going on inside us, can help us make better choices and be more in touch with our feelings and behaviours. After all, growing up is a long process of getting to know ourselves!

How well do you know yourself? Ask yourself some key questions:

- What makes you feel nervous?
- What makes you feel relaxed?
- What do you enjoy learning about?
- What are you good at?
- What makes you laugh?
- What would a best friend or a family member say about you?
- What might others notice that you don't always see?

Good mental health is built on a foundation of self esteem, self confidence and self worth. All of these start with the same word - **self**. By being curious about ourselves, we grow ourselves!

If your child needs any support exploring their mental health or emotional wellbeing, we have support available. Please reach out to your child's tutor, or email Ms Nearn, our Designated Senior Lead for Mental Health: tricia.nearn@southfieldsacademy.com

Don't miss our free teenage brain webinar!

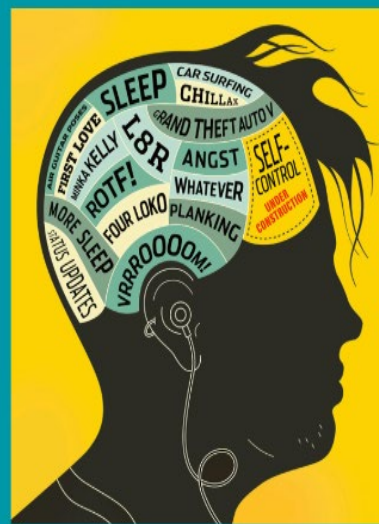
Monday, 10 Feb, 9:30-10:30
or
Thursday, 14 Feb, 16:00-17:00

Use this [link](#) to sign up. If you have questions, get in touch with Tricia Nearn:

tricia.nearn@southfieldsacademy.com

Who is this stranger?

Understanding teenage development through the lens of neuroscience



MFL Poster Competition

Love speaks every language!
The MFL department is running a poster competition - students need to make a poster with 'I love you' in at least 10 languages.

The best posters will be displayed on the MFL corridor. Remember that the deadline is Monday 10th February!



NHS
South London
Children and Young
People's Community
Immunisation Service

Missed your flu vaccine?

Live or attend school in the borough of Wandsworth? Aged 2-19?

Come down to a flu catch-up clinic and protect yourself this winter!

Monday 17 February
12:00 - 16:00
St John's Therapy Centre
SW11 1SW

Please call 020 3903 3374 to book an appointment or for more information

Wandsworth Access for All

For information about free swimming lessons for eligible children and wide ranging offers on sports facilities for Wandsworth residents please see:

[Access for all - Wandsworth Borough Council](#)

<https://Wandsworth.gov.uk/access-for-all>

