



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

### Year 12 News – Mrs Harb

We're excited to share some recent career-focused activities our Year 12 students have been involved in. On Thursday, February 13th, a select group of Year 12 and 13 students had a fantastic opportunity to visit Savills Head Office.

The day was designed to be both engaging and educational, starting with a unique team-building exercise called "Cave Escape." Students worked together to decide which essential equipment they would need to successfully "escape".

This visit to Savills was another example of the enriching careers events organised by Southfields Sixth Form team, designed to give students real-world insights and help them explore potential career paths.

Our Year 12 L3 students are also back in school this week after completing their work experience placements, which are invaluable in helping them prepare for their futures. Looking ahead, we have a busy and exciting term planned. 40 Year 12 students will take part in a careers day at ALETC and, in another fantastic opportunity, students will visit the London headquarters of the international marketing company, Publicis.

Our Year 12s are doing really well, exploring a wide range of career plans and preparing for a number of different opportunities and events.





# Thought for the Week – Leadership

“For every minute spent in organizing, an hour is earned.” – Benjamin Franklin

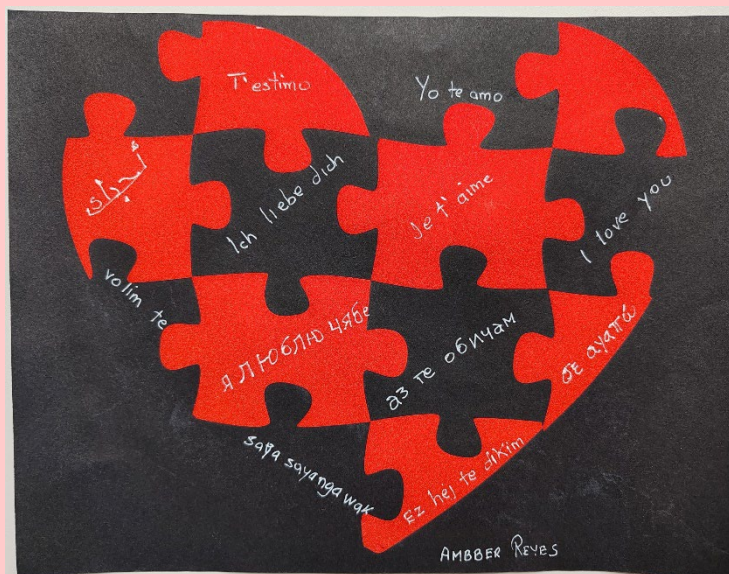
## MFL Valentine’s Day Poster Competition

Love and creativity were in the air! ❤️🎨

Big cheers to our MFL Valentine’s Day poster competition winner and runner-up — your designs stole our hearts (and the spotlight)! 🏆❤️🎨

Winner: Ellie 08CRO

Runner-up: Ambber 07RBT



## Creative Writing – English Department

***It's a first entry of the year from Year 9 this week. They have been learning how to write their own non-fiction in their English lessons, exploring a range of topical issues, including homelessness and climate change. Here's one of the best articles by Sumbal Butt (9BEN) on the "Dangers of Social Media".***

### **The Dangers of Social Media**

Since time began, humans have always looked for ways to communicate with each other: through letters, pigeons, telephones, and now social media. Social media is a way of communicating and connecting with others through a virtual network. Some would see it as a positive part of society whereas others will try to understand the risks and dangers that come with it. Is social media really a beneficial part of our society?

Social media has been seen as a coping mechanism and source of entertainment for young people. However, social media is often where mental health issues start. Data from the World Health Organization's Regional Office for Europe, released in September 2024, revealed a significant rise in problematic social media use among adolescents. The rates increased from 7% in 2018 to 11% in 2022, raising concerns about the impact of digital technology on young people's mental health and well-being. Surely the point of social media is defeated if young people cannot feel safe online? We cannot let this go on, we cannot let what we see on social media hypnotise or brainwash us, we cannot continue to empower such networks that are continuing to ruin the livelihoods of the younger generations.

Social media is not only causing issues in our society through social aspects but economic aspects too. A data journalist - Anna Fleck - stated "The global cost of cybercrime is projected to surge from \$9.22 trillion in 2023 to \$23.84 trillion by 2027. This increase highlights the rocketing financial impact of cyber threats, many of which are facilitated through social media platforms." If we are losing such money to social media (that could help billions of people all over the world), it makes one reflect on whether such connecting and entertainment is really justifiable. The money people earn by working hard can be gone due to one wrong click. Is it really fair that we are continuing to lose money that could help billions of people, because we didn't understand the risks that came with social media?

Some people may argue that social media is an educational tool that can be used to consume vast knowledge on anything, with students all over the world using it to prepare for exams and understand homework. However, social media has been the root of academic struggle for decades. While social media can be a valuable educational tool, it also presents significant drawbacks. An Ofcom study, in 2024, found that 41% of students admitted that social media distracted them from studying.

In conclusion, I believe that social media may be beneficial for our society. However, overall we are stepping into a digital world naively without enough knowledge of the damage that could be done by it. One of the most intelligent men to live (Albert Einstein) stated that "I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones", implying that technology will one day in the near future destroy all the assets of our society that we value.

## **Year7 Period Well-being and support in PSHE lessons**

All Year 7 students are currently being taught about puberty in Science and PSHE to support our students to be informed, empathetic and kind to ourselves and others. The Year 7 girls will *receive a courtesy pack of menstruations pads*, along with a booklet to make talking to your daughter about periods and puberty easier. This year we have also purchased *period pants* to support our girls. The girls can pick the size that they want and they can use this an emergency pack to have in their bags for school.

The girls know that pads can always be given to them at break times from the PSHE base. We are serious about supporting our girls so that periods do not stop them from learning.

## No Regrets – Drama Department

Southfields Academy are excited to announce the world premiere of Gary McNab's new play 'NO REGRETS'.

As part of their course, the Year 10 drama students will be performing 'NO REGRETS' as part of the National Theatre's Connections Festival at Southfields Academy.

Performances are at 5pm on:

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March

- Tickets are priced £5 for guests and £2 for Southfields students. They are available from the drama office during break times.
- Free tickets are available for Year 9 students who are considering drama as an option next year

Please come and support our students.

This is the beginning of their journey before we transfer the production to the Southwark Playhouse on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May with the hope of being selected to perform at the National Theatre in July.

**National Theatre**  
**CONNECTIONS**  
**2025**

**Southfields Academy**  
presents

**NO REGRETS**  
By Gary McNair

5pm  
Mon 10 March  
Tues 11 March  
Thurs 13 March

Tickets £5  
available  
from Drama  
Office  
£2 for SA students

Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**



## Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – Year 9 Options Parents' Evening  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 – Year 11 Parents' Evening  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – INSET Day  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Academy Breaks for Holidays  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 – Summer Term Starts

## The Parent's Guide to NCW 2025 #NCW2025

**National Career's Week** is nearly upon us - it's 3rd - 8th March 2025. We will be celebrating in school next week but please click on the below link to access careers information below:

<https://nationalcareersweek.com/ncw25pg/>

## Crochet Club – Ms Hoy

Crochet Club continues to grow in popularity with lots of students working on independent projects. Well done to Zhi who has made fantastic progress and has made herself a scarf!



**EXPLORE NHS CAREERS**  
"Virtual Insight Session"  
7th - 11th April  
2025



**Scan Me  
To  
Register**

*14 years and above can apply!*

# PE lessons

**Mon 3rd March - Fri 7th March 2025**

All PE lessons next week will be planned around enjoyment and celebrating girls being physically active.

There will be a twist on the usual PE lessons with music, competitions and celebrations.

Girls will still need to bring swimming kit in if they are on swimming as you will be playing water polo or taking part in pool games (including splash the teacher).

# Extra-Curricular Clubs

**Mon 3rd March - Fri 7th March 2025**

Day	Activity	Facility	Teacher	Time
Monday	Beyonce Dance Workshop	Dance studio	Ms Lanning	3 - 4:15pm
Tuesday	IWD Strength Workout Girls only trampolining	Gym	Ms Lenton Ms Lanning	3 - 4:15pm
Wednesday	Inter year group football match (sign up on google classroom)	Astro	Ms Lenton & Ms Lanning	3 - 4:15pm
Thursday	Girls only water polo/ pool games	Swimming pool	Ms Nilsson	3 - 4:15pm
Friday	Year 7 & 8 girls Wandsworth football tournament (invite only)	Astro	Ms Lenton & Mr Miller	2 - 3:30pm

# HER, ME & ADHD READY, STEM, GO!

## FREE 4-WEEK STEM PROGRAMME FOR GIRLS WITH ADHD (MARCH 2025)

Kicking off in 'British Science Week', Her, Me & ADHD returns this March with our Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) Programme.

Developed for girls in Wandsworth with ADHD, the Ready, STEM, Go! programme supports social development, mental health, and emotional and physical wellbeing.

- Take part in fun, experimental, and investigative STEM workshops each week
- Meet other girls with ADHD
- Gain supplementary education in a relaxed social environment
- Explore sporting activities linked to science and maths
- Join a welcoming and supportive community
- Build confidence and self-esteem

**PLACES ARE LIMITED**

**SO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW**

<https://forms.office.com/r/JYS9pMnMrh>

### Join the free 4 week programme

**Starting:** Thursday 13th March 2025

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:00 pm

*Every Thursday until 3rd April 2025*

**Age:** Year 7 (11 - 12 years old)

**Location:** Haldon Road, SW18 1QD  
(West Hill Baptist Church Hall)



For Wandsworth  
residents & children  
attending Wandsworth  
Secondary schools  
only

