



**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**

### **UCAS & Beyond: Sixth Form Students Shine This Term**

Our Sixth Form has been a hive of activity this academic year, with students achieving remarkable success in both university applications and apprenticeship pursuits. Out of 109 students, 102 successfully completed their UCAS applications, with all but one submitted by the crucial 15th December deadline. This demonstrates exceptional organisation and dedication from our students and the unwavering support of our staff.

The results are already impressive. Approximately 19 students have secured offers from prestigious Russell Group universities, including coveted places at the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge. In total, 97 students have received at least one university offer, reflecting the diverse talents within our cohort. We also extended our support to six former students, assisting them with their applications.

Beyond university, our students are actively exploring the world of apprenticeships. Over 20 students are pursuing degree apprenticeships and other opportunities. Two students have demonstrated exceptional ambition, submitting multiple applications for highly competitive programmes. We are particularly proud to announce that one student has secured a place on the Ernst & Young degree apprenticeship programme.

To further empower our students, we have enhanced our WAVE (Work, Apprenticeships, and Vocational Education) sessions. These now include practical, hands-on support, allowing students to complete applications within designated lessons. This ensures they receive timely, personalised guidance.

A significant highlight of our WAVE programme has been the invaluable insights shared by our alumni and industry professionals. We have welcomed a diverse range of guest speakers, providing students with real-world perspectives and expert advice. This term, we were privileged to host representatives from Pantechicon Creative Agency, Kacey Scotland (BBC Degree Apprentice and alumni), Nat Pownall (Actor, Producer, and "Amazon Trailblazer"), Visionpath, The Money Charity, Ofcom, The Talent Hub, Ask Apprenticeships, Saif Shoubaki (Hargreaves Lansdown Degree Apprentice and alumni), and Mitesh Bhimjiyani (founder of Success at School).

These sessions have covered a wide range of topics, from career pathways and application techniques to the realities of the professional world. Students have gained valuable insights into various industries, learned about different career options, and received practical advice on how to succeed in their chosen fields.

The experiences shared by our alumni have been particularly inspiring, demonstrating the diverse paths that our students can take after leaving school. The guest speakers have provided invaluable advice on navigating the application process, building professional networks, and developing the skills needed to succeed in the workplace.

We are immensely proud of the achievements of our Sixth Form students. Their dedication, hard work, and ambition have been truly inspiring. We are confident that they are well-prepared to make a positive impact on the world.

### **Dates for Your Diary**

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

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Year 12 Level 3 C4C Parents' Evening

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 – Academy Breaks for Half Term Holidays

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 – Academy Resumes



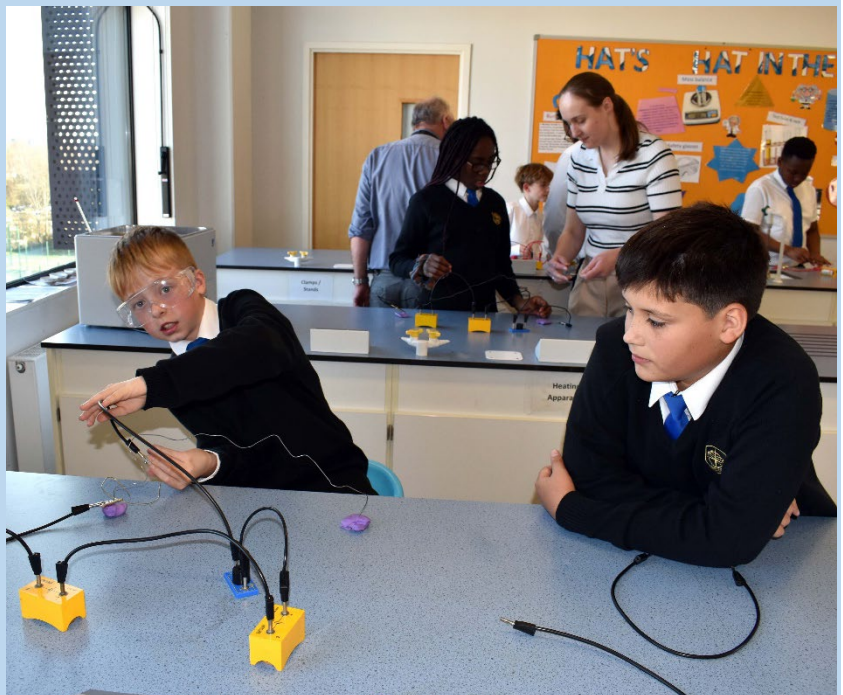
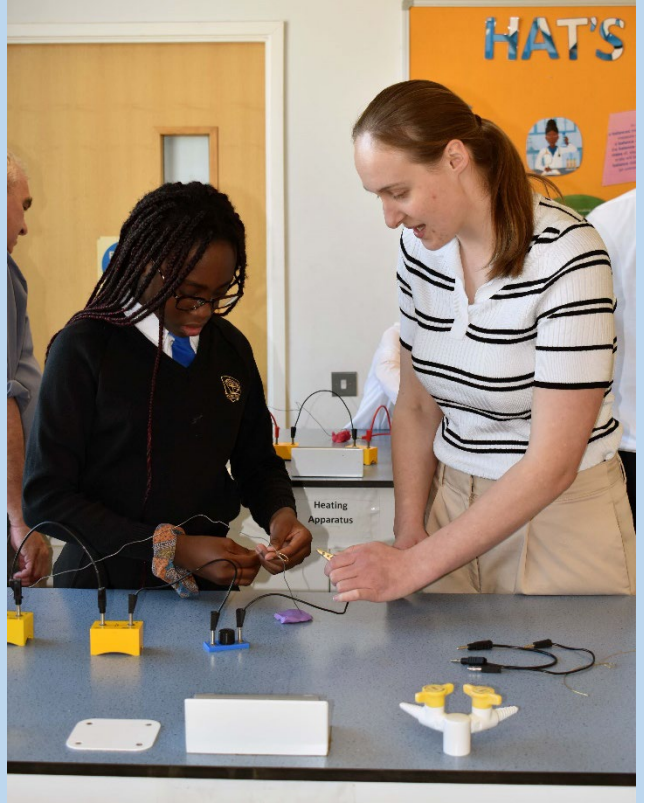
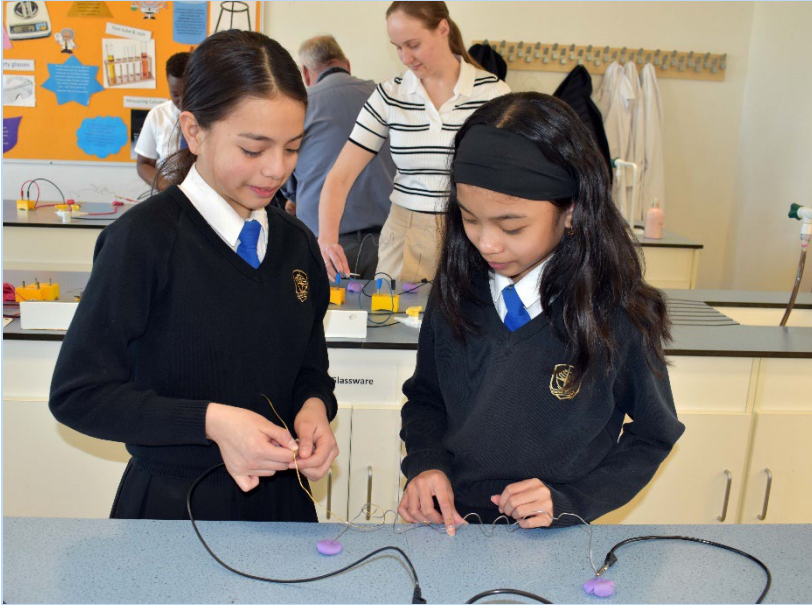
# Thought for the Week – Leadership

“Life truly begins only after you have put your house in order.” Marie Kondo

## Science Club - Mr Abdirahman

This week, we built a steady hand game using wires, a battery, and a flexible metal shape. If the loop touched the wire, the buzzer sounded! It was a shocking test of patience.

Next week, we're making lava lamps! Get ready for a colourful experiment with density and chemical reactions.



## World Book Day – Ms Sulliman

On Thursday, 6th March, we turned the page to an unforgettable World Book Day celebration! Our students penned their own literary adventures by diving into thrilling book quizzes during tutor time—over 20 lucky readers will soon be reaping their *novel* rewards in assemblies!

The morning began with a delightful chapter as we welcomed the Ladybird Class from the Nursery @ Aspire. Our Y7s took on the role of storytellers, enchanting the little bookworms with read-alouds, phonics games, and a special delivery of brand-new books for their classroom—proof that a love of reading starts young!

Throughout the day, the school corridors felt straight out of a bestseller. Hogwarts students and alumni cast their spellbinding lessons, hungry caterpillars munched their way through knowledge, and Peter Pan and friends reminded us all to never grow up—at least when it comes to the magic of stories.

Of course, no World Book Day would be complete without a *plot twist*—every student received a special £1 World Book Day voucher, redeemable for an exclusive WBD book. Because in the grand library of life, a new adventure is always just a page away!







## National Careers Week - Meet the Employee Year 8 Event

On Tuesday 4th March we welcomed 15 visitors from a variety of industries to meet with students and talk about their job role. These volunteers included a radiographer, quantity surveyors, a book designer and illustrator, an economist and a pathologist.

Year 8 students prepared for the event with their tutors by learning a little about the visitors and preparing questions. The event lasted 2 hours and students were placed in small groups to rotate around the visitors, meeting employees in different roles.



## Pi Week Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Hold onto your hats, Southfields! The mathematical event of the YEAR has arrived!

Prepare for a week of dazzling digits and mind-blowing memorisation as... PI WEEK IS HERE!

That's right, folks! It's time to unleash your inner mathematicians and join the legendary Pi recitation competition! Every year group is invited to step up and prove their prowess, battling it out to see who can conquer the most decimal places of the mighty Pi!

Think you've got what it takes?

Here's the deal: Anyone who can recite Pi to at least 10 decimal places will be rewarded with a delicious, golden-crustured APPLE PIE! Yes, you heard that right – PIE!

Heats: Monday 10th - Thursday 13th March, Break 1, in the canteen.

The Grand Finale: Pi Day, Friday 14th March, Break 2, in the foyer/general office area.

Parents/Carers: Encourage them to embrace the challenge and become legends of Pi! Let's see Southfields shine with mathematical brilliance!

**Don't miss out on the chance to etch your name in Pi history!** Let the memorisation madness begin!

### Pi Week 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

$\pi$



THE RETURN OF...



3rd of April 2025

5PM - 6:30PM

TICKETS GO ON SALE ON THE 10TH OF  
MARCH - IN THE FINANCE OFFICE

ADULT TICKET - £1

CHILD TICKET - 50P

### Spotlight is back on the 3rd of April!

If you love performance, dance and music please come a long and support your peers in this show full of a variety of styles!

You can purchase your tickets in the PE office by the AstroTurf.

## Creative Writing – English Department

*It's another article from Year 9 this week by Karmella Mendoza (9BEN), who has written a sophisticated critique on the impact of social media. The statistics have not been independently verified!*

### Dangers of Social Media

Social media is both a blessing and a curse, but will you risk the consequences for its benefits? The word 'social' draws people into thinking that social media is a digital community that is a safe environment for all, allowing us to communicate with loved ones from afar, learn new things online and meet new people. This is what's on the surface. The media blinds users from the truth, making the social misconception invisible. Open your eyes, and let me show you what lies beneath the "utopia", a "utopia" which you might become the next victim of.

Social media is negatively impacting our mental health. Seeing people online making progress in their lives will have an impact on those who already have difficulties with their own lives: developing jealousy, low self-esteem, and the desire for a life like that of the fortunate. Furthermore, social media creates an addiction; every like, every share, and every comment triggers dopamine in the brain, which makes the person feel validated and dependent on the people online, causing short attention spans as they continue to desire more attention from the devices. However, when their devices fail to provide the wanted attention, the users' minds begin to develop insecurities and anxiety. Oxford University carried out a survey in 2020 and found that 18-25 year olds who use social media for five hours a day are experiencing symptoms of social anxiety and depression. The cycle of wanting validation and feeling unwanted puts the person into a mentally unhealthy position and this in fact proves that social media is giving superficial happiness and false hopes.

Social media exposes the young generation to inappropriate content: revealing that the age restrictions lack the protection needed for the youth today. Children are curious and with the technology built within their time, they are more likely to spend more time on their devices than older generations. With a touch of a screen, curiosity will drive the child to explore many parts of the device: video games, music and of course, social media. Social media is very accessible as it is free to download and can be used by a guest account or a parents' email. Most social media platforms (such as Snapchat, Tiktok and Instagram) have the age restriction of 13+, but this does not stop older people from posting sexual, racially motivated, and hateful content online. In 2018, psychiatrists - who have studied in Harvard University - researched that 68% of children (ages 7-12) have social media and yet, have no age restrictions on them. You know what this means? This will impact children in a certain way: how they act, how they see the world and how they speak. As a parent myself, I wouldn't want to see my own children internalising the sexism and discrimination they see online and you would not want that if you have children of your own. Would you? We need to protect our children, our future generations, for a better, more promising society in the future.

You might be wondering, 'What's the point of social media if not for socialising?' As stated earlier, social media brings out numerous opportunities for many that can't communicate with their loved ones from long distances, the desire of new friends and a chance to express yourself online. However, do you question whether you really know who you are communicating with behind the screen? Even though social media brings out beneficial opportunities, it can introduce barbaric, horrifying and disgusting opportunities for people with dangerous intentions. Putting yourself online, revealing details about yourself, is causing more problems than you think; people tend to share their location and give information about their daily life, not realizing how someone might use that as their advantage to harass and threaten them. Social media not only increases the number of stalkers but groomers, catfishers and kidnappers too. Talking to the anonymous and revealing too much information risks putting yourself in threatening situations.

All is not lost yet. Although there are statistics and facts that prove the dangers of social media, it doesn't mean we must stop using it. In other words, there are numerous ways to keep yourself and others safe online. Although social media can be very addictive, include a time limit to keep yourself productive and healthy rather than procrastinating on daily needs. To avoid harmful content, seek more positive and inspiring content that influences a beneficial mindset and enable the safety features on social media to block inappropriate content for children. Lastly, restrict yourself from oversharing personal information and put your account into private to bypass perilous individuals.

## Emotional Wellbeing and Ramadan

Ramadan is a holy month in the Islamic calendar. During this month, millions of Muslims around the world dedicate themselves to their faith, practice gratitude, kindness to self and others, giving to charity and connecting with loved ones.

### 1 Look after Yourself



It's important to look after yourself by practising self-compassion and self-care. Doing activities such as walking, reading, spending time outdoors and making time for the things that are important to you.

### Who We Are?

Educational Wellbeing Practitioners are available in primary and secondary schools throughout Wandsworth, Sutton and Merton.

We offer evidence-based support programs for secondary school students dealing with anxiety and low mood, as well as guided self-help programs for parents of primary school children experiencing anxiety or behavioural challenges.

For more information please get in touch with the mental health lead at your school.

Education Wellbeing Service YouTube Channel. Videos cover a range of topics about child and adolescent emotional wellbeing.



Education Wellbeing Service - SWLSTG - YouTube

### 2 Stay Connected

Making meaningful connections are vital to our emotional well-being. Healthy connections with friends, family and others can support our mental health and well-being. Stay connected by going on walks together, doing fun activities (such as board games, going to look at the Ramadan lights at the West End etc.) and sharing meals. Here are some community events taking place this Ramadan you could attend:

[Eid in the Square 2024 | London City Hall](#)

<https://thebigiftar.co.uk/#about-us>

[Community Activities & Groups | Sutton Council's Cultural Services](#)

### 4 Acts of Kindness

Ramadan is a time for kindness and giving back to others. Simple acts of charity, like helping your parents around the house, preparing iftar with your family, or checking in on neighbours are great. Being considerate, whether through kind words, sharing, or lending a helping hand reflects the meaning of Ramadan.

Here are some volunteering ideas:

<https://www.mcwas.org/whats-on/-ramadan-food-pack-drive-hot-meals->

<https://www.muslimaid.org/opportunities/volunteers/ramadan-campaign/>

### 3 Routine



Achieving the goals you've set yourself for this month and doing things that you enjoy, such as spending time with your loved ones is great. It's important that you work on building a routine that works for you as it can help you to feel balanced and relaxed.

### Further Support

Muslim Youth Helpline  
Provides faith and culturally sensitive support for young Muslims.

Online chat service available during opening hours.  
[Home - Muslim Youth Helpline \(myh.org.uk\)](#)

South West London 24/7 Mental Health Crisis Support Line on 0800 028 8000

[Childline](#): Call 0800 1111 (available 7:30am – 3:30am, seven days a week)

[Samaritans](#): Call 116 123 or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org) (available 24/7)

[Shout](#): Text SHOUT to 85258 (available 24/7)

You can sign up to any of their free webinars by copying this URL:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/secondarycollege-parents-wellbeing-workshops-725989?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=creatorshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=odclsxcollection&utm-source=cp&aff=escb>

24 April 2025 • 11am-4pm

Civic Suite, Wandsworth High St, SW18 2PU

get set

# Preparing for Adulthood

An event for parents, carers, families, schools and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities



2025



I found easy guidance for my son's future.

As an OT working in the community, it was useful to understand the different pathways that young adults can access.

Conversations with the Local Authority services were so helpful.

Lunch and refreshments on the day

FIND OUT WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR AGES 14-25!

TRAINING  
HOUSING  
EMPLOYMENT  
EDUCATION  
ACTIVITIES  
HEALTH

This is a market-style event with numerous activities taking place. The venue may be noisy and busy, so please consider this when planning your visit.



Please note that the quietest times to attend are likely to be between 11am and 12pm, and 3pm and 4pm. If you prefer to avoid crowds, consider visiting during these hours.

for more information scan the QR code or visit [Family Information Service | Get Set Go! 2025](#)



Wandsworth Children's Services



Designed and produced by Richmond and Wandsworth Design & Print: wdp@wandsworth.gov.uk. ©S2073 Byer w map (1:25)



Do you live in the London Borough of Wandsworth?  
Do you have an autistic teenager (age 13+ years)?  
If you answered 'YES' to these two questions then this is the autism course for you!



P.A.C.T

Parenting Autistic Children Together

### Topics covered on our NEW 3 week course:

- ① Navigating the social world
- ② Understanding sensory processing differences in the context of puberty
- ③ Reducing levels of anxiety
- ④ Promoting independence and planning ahead for the future

### Course dates (you will need to attend all of the sessions):

Friday 7th March 2025 10am- 12:30pm

Friday 14th March 2025 10am- 12:30pm

Friday 21st March 2025 10am- 12:30pm

Location: SEND & Inclusion Hub, 1 Siward Road, SW17 0LA

For course enquiries or to secure your place please email:

[Charlotte.Richardson@RichmondandWandsworth.gov.uk](mailto:Charlotte.Richardson@RichmondandWandsworth.gov.uk)

#WAAW2025  
#BH365



A2ndvoice **CIC**  
—Autism . Ethnicity . Culture—

WANDSWORTH

# AUTISM

'CULTURAL EXPERIENCE FAYRE'

Stalls . Music . Food . Workshops . Gallery . Arts

#WorldAutismAcceptanceWeek2025

SEND TOO!

5th April 2025  
2.30 - 6pm

Book now



Prices £0 - £10  
More on the day



Sports Hall  
Tooting Leisure Centre  
Greaves Place, SW17 ONE  
hello@a2ndvoicecic.co.uk  
www.a2ndvoicecic.co.uk



Disclaimer: All proceeds raised will go toward covering the costs of the event.