



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

International Group Assembly – Ms Fearon

On Tuesday 26th March, the IG students had a special guest at their assembly. Habtom Ukobe, a past IG student was invited as the 1st official past student to address an audience. His approach was “10 Years Journey in 10 Minutes”. Habtom’s presentation took us on his journey as a young person who had to navigate the educational system and life as an UASC.

Habtom’s presentation was inspiring, personal and informative. It was an uplifting experience to have a young person speaking to over 100 students. Using graphic slides, he shared about his journey as an IG student. One of his proudest moments was when he was nominated as the Most Improved boy in 2011-2012. He continued his studies at London South Bank University. His journey to adulthood had its setback but he persevered. He worked as a Research Assistant, during the COVID period he had an online school, taught Science and participated in the South London Refugee Association. Presently, Habtom works at The Crown Estate, as an Asset Advisor. He is an engineering graduate who is passionate about sustainable energy.

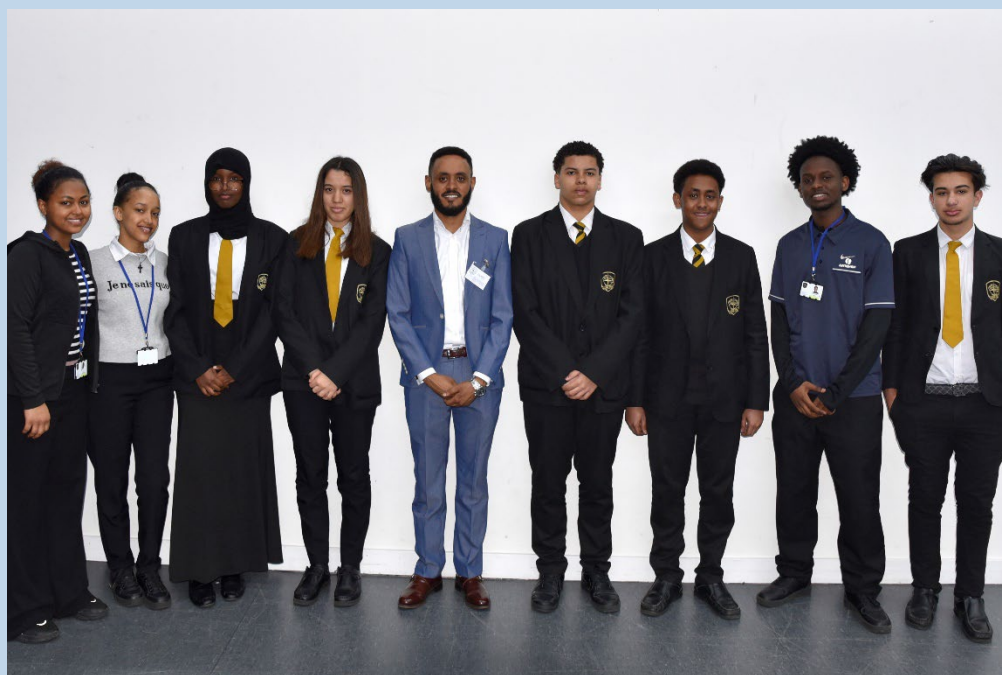
“Don’t expect the road to be smooth and easy from the beginning”...this was Habtom’s advice to the students. There will be barriers and challenges in life to overcome. He urged them to use the support and opportunities available to them in school and in their community.

His Golden advice –

The world starts and ends entirely inside your mind. No matter how rich or successful you become, you won't enjoy any of it if you get there at the expense of your mental health.

Above all, be thankful and grateful for all the wonderful gifts!

In a quiet conversation, Habtom mentioned that he had a nostalgic moment to be back at Southfields. He was touched by the wall ...“Success starts right here”. We are very proud of his achievements.





Thought for the Week – Leadership

“The successful warrior is the average man, with laser-like focus.” – Bruce Lee



Rail Safety Online Assembly – Ms Gbolonyo

On Wednesday 26th March 2025 Year 7s had the opportunity of participating in a **Rail Safety Online Assembly** as part of a nationwide initiative that included schools from across the UK. This interactive and engaging session was designed to teach young people the essential knowledge and skills to make **responsible and safe decisions** when around railways.

The assembly covered a wide range of important themes, from **peer pressure** and **group mentality** to the significant impact their choices can have on their safety and the safety of others. Through this assembly, students were encouraged to reflect on their behaviour near railways and understand the dangers posed by unsafe actions around trains and tracks.

The speakers discussed the following objectives:

- **Understanding the Role of Peer Pressure:** Students explored how group mentality can sometimes influence unsafe decisions, and how to confidently make responsible choices, even in challenging situations.
- **The Speed and Power of Trains:** Students learned about the **immense speed and power** of trains, as well as the hidden dangers of electricity near railway tracks, emphasizing why it's essential to keep a safe distance at all times.
- **Railway Rules and Behaviours:** The session covered the **basic rail safety rules** and behaviours everyone should follow when at train stations or level crossings, with a focus on making safety a priority.
- **Recognising Risks and Consequences:** Students discussed the potential **consequences of unsafe behaviour**, not only for themselves but also for others and the wider community. The assembly aimed to challenge any preconceived ideas about risk-taking around railways.
- **Resisting Pressure:** One of the key takeaways from the assembly was helping students **resist peer pressure** to engage in dangerous behaviour. Through role-playing and scenarios, students gained skills to confidently avoid unsafe choices.

While the assembly focused on creating awareness and safety, it is important to note that some content involved discussing risky behaviours and their consequences. Year 7s were engaged and held high quality discussions. I was so proud of the thought provoking questions students asked during the Q & A session.



Creative Writing – English Department

Year 10 have been studying Shakespeare's great tragedy, Macbeth, in English lessons. They have written some fantastic backstories for Lady Macbeth, which explore how she becomes the evil, sinister figure she is in the play. Here's one of the best by Eva Sarli (10ATY).

The flames of her past were engraved in her memory for eternity. She sat in front of the mirror, brushing her hair with gentle and deliberate strokes, even though her mind was somewhere else. The quiet, soft voices speaking her thoughts returned exactly at the same time. Every day, they invaded her privacy and clung onto her like a moth to a flame. She had learned to ignore them years ago. As usual, she pressed her hands over her ears and hummed the half-forgotten lullaby, until they decided to leave her alone for the day. Ever since the incident, Lileas had lost the ability to be at peace. The whispers and the strange presence would bother her. Every night, they spoke in the flickers of candlelight, in the creaks of an empty hall, in her mind. The strange presence of the phantoms was haunting, yet so vivid, so clear.

A woman stood in the mirror where Lileas' reflection should be. She wore a dark crimson dress, her dark hair spilling like ink. Her lips curled into a smile, her eyes deep and endless, burning like the embers buried in ash. A strangely abnormal presence, yet comforting. Lileas knew this woman, but how? She had known her all of her life, last seen her standing in the flames which consumed her family. She spent years pretending she was only in a nightmare, a dream where she was overshadowed by grief, but the woman was patient. She had waited. Lileas did not take her gaze away from the woman, afraid she might disappear. A cold wind blew through the chamber, even though the windows were shut. As they held eye contact, Lileas let the brush slip from her soft fingers, while silence stretched between them like a blade. The woman tilted her head to the right, watching and waiting. Lileas did not break her gaze.

Lileas had spent years running from the shadows that clung onto her, pretending to be anything other than what she was, but deep down in her core, she knew that this was never her choice to make. If she were to go back in time, she would have put out the fire. The accident, the blood, the horrifying screams of ones she loved, the whispers that constantly followed her. They were not warnings. They were invitations. The odd woman slowly reached her transparent hand from the mirror to Lileas, expecting her to take it.

She looked at the woman's hand and finally decided to answer.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 5th May 2025 – May Bank Holiday

Wednesday 7th May 2025 – Year 12 Level 3 C4C Parents' Evening

Friday 23rd May 2025 – Academy Breaks for Half Term Holidays

Monday 2nd June 2025 – Academy Resumes

Wednesday 18th June 2025 – IEAP Day

Friday 27th June 2025 – INSET Day

Tuesday 1st July 2025 – Year 6 Induction Day

2025 Fabulous Book Award - Mrs Litwin-Roberts

On 1st April 2025, fifteen of our Key Stage 3 students attended the 2025 Fabulous Book Award (FAB) finale event at the Wandsworth Professional Development Centre in Burntwood School. Apart from the students from six secondary schools in Wandsworth, a group of student guests from Lilian Baylis Technology School from Lambeth were also present.

The student representatives from all schools delivered short presentations based on the shortlisted books. Two of our students, Safa Hussein and Sofia Alix Joa Romero, introduced and reviewed *The Thieves Gambit* by Kayvion Lewis.

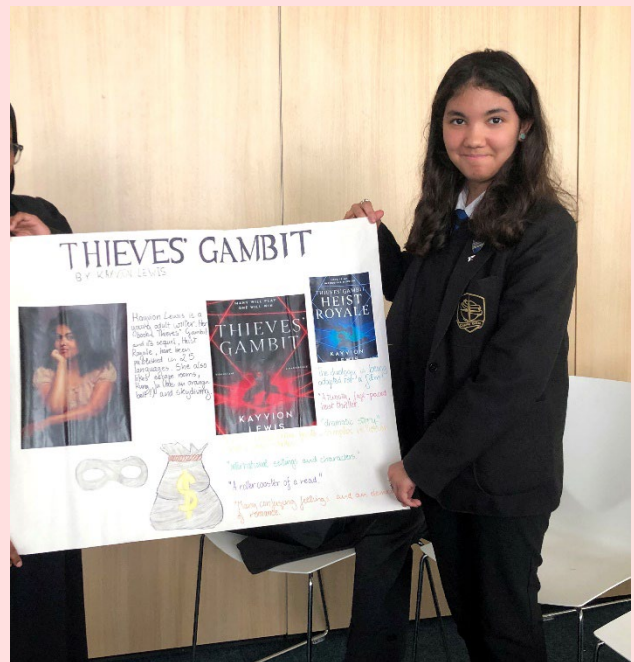
Although only three of the shortlisted authors were present at the event, others sent lovely video messages for those attending. Among the writers who were present at the event were Frances Hardinge, Bea Fitzgerald and Elle McNicoll.

All students had an opportunity to listen to the authors' lively and interesting speeches, talk to them and ask questions.

All participants also took part in a quiz based on the shortlisted books. Ashcroft Academy and Graveney School won the challenge and were awarded a joint first prize. Hopefully, we will win next year!

The highlight of the celebrations was the announcement of the 2025 FAB Award winner who turned out to be Bea Fitzgerald, the author of *Girl, Goddess, Queen*. Ms Fitzgerald was also presented with a special FAB trophy. As in previous years, all participants shared a special FAB Award cake at the end of the event. All in all, the students had a great time. The atmosphere was fantastic, students were buzzing with excitement and positivity.

We left the venue fully energised and inspired to read many more wonderful books.



Sea Life Aquarium – Ms Hodgson

On April 4th, 26 Year 10 Travel and Tourism students enjoyed an exciting visit to the Sea Life Aquarium. They explored a wide variety of marine life, fed the fish, braved the hurricane simulator, and browsed the gift shop. We also couldn't help but have a photoshoot in front of the London Eye and Big Ben.

This visit wasn't just about sightseeing - it will support students with their next component focused on understanding customer needs. It was also a well-earned reward for all their hard work on Component 1 and completing their first PSA.

Well done, Team Travel - you smashed it!



Engineering Challenge – Ms Humphries

Sudais Abdullahi (7RBT) and Faisal Khan (9BEN) have been taking part in the James Dyson Foundation engineering challenge. Sudais and Faisal have learnt about what it means to be an engineer, the iterative design process and have used tools to disassemble and reassemble attachments for the Dyson cordless vacuum. The boys have shown excellent work ethic and resilience during the challenge. Well done!



Support in and out of Southfields Academy – Ms Nearn

Support for emotional wellbeing and mental health is woven into the fabric of Southfields Academy. Students are encouraged to speak to any adult they like and trust, and can also access counselling, mentoring, coaching, and more. But not all troubles arise at school, and from time to time you may need to turn to someone - a person or an organisation - for help outside of school hours.

The trusted services shown below offer support, advice, and signposting. You can also find a comprehensive list of services or download a copy of our booklet Metal Health and Emotional Wellbeing Butterflies on our [website](#).

