



# Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

## Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025



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

### Year 7 News – Ms Watkinson

What an incredible first half-term it has been for Year 7 at Southfields Academy! Our newest students have made a truly fantastic start to their journey with us — full of energy, kindness, and enthusiasm. From classrooms to football pitches, assemblies to clubs, they have thrown themselves into every opportunity, and we couldn't be prouder of them!

#### Kindness

Our theme this half-term has been Kindness, and Year 7 have absolutely embodied it. Together, they've achieved an amazing 160 positives for kindness alone — showing compassion, helpfulness, and respect to their classmates and teachers every single day. In total, the year group has earned a staggering 5,814 positives this term! What an incredible achievement! Next half-term, we'll be exploring a brand-new theme — Communication — and we can't wait to see how the students rise to this challenge.

#### Year 7 Sports

Our sporting stars have been busy too! The Year 7 boys' football team proudly represented Southfields in their first competitive matches. After a thrilling and hard-fought 6–4 game in the Inner London Cup, they now have their sights set on the upcoming Wandsworth Cup and League — and we're backing them all the way!

The Year 7 girls have also shown outstanding commitment to extra-curricular sport, with many close to completing their Southfields Girls Can cards. Their enthusiasm has been inspiring! After half-term, they'll play their very first competitive football match and take part in borough tournaments — an exciting next step for our talented athletes.

#### Careers Fair

This week, our students shone brilliantly at the Careers Fair, chatting confidently with visitors from a wide range of professions. The feedback we received was incredible as the guests were full of praise for Year 7's impeccable manners, maturity, and curiosity. They truly represented Southfields with pride and professionalism!

#### Student Council

Leadership is a big focus for us this year, and Year 7 have jumped right in! After a student vote, we're thrilled to announce our KS3 Council Representatives: Azai (7OMR) and Meg (7AAD)! Every form group has also elected two representatives, giving students a strong voice and a real sense of ownership in shaping their school community.

#### MFL Ambassadors

Excitement is also building in the MFL Department! Ms Terrington and her team have chosen their new Year 7 MFL Ambassadors — a fantastic opportunity for students to show their passion for languages. The lucky ambassadors will be revealed in assembly straight after half-term... stay tuned!

#### Dates for diaries

Thursday 13th November - IEAP Day  
Thursday 6th November - Royal Navy  
Team Building Day (selected students only)

Year 7 boys' football team





**Thought for the Week**  
'My religion is very simple. My religion is kindness.' Dalai Lama

### Hampton Court History Trip – Ms Atley

On Thursday 16th October 70 Year 10 history students were able to go a free trip to Hampton Court. This was to support their GCSE on Early Elizabethan England and bring the topic to life. Students had a guided tour of the palace and talk about Elizabeth and early threats to her reign, then they were able to explore the rest of the palace and beautiful Georgian gardens and maze.

The students were so well behaved and engaged it was a pleasure to take them. Thank you so much to all the staff who supported with this trip.



### JP Morgan Visit – Mr Wood

Thirteen of our Year 13 students had the fantastic opportunity to visit JP Morgan today. They heard from a range of professionals, including those working in sales, research analysis, and trading, who shared insights into their roles within the organisation. Students also got to experience the excitement of the trading floor, even shadowing a live client call to see how decisions are made in real time. They asked incredibly interesting questions, and the JP Morgan team were very impressed by their knowledge of economics and trading.

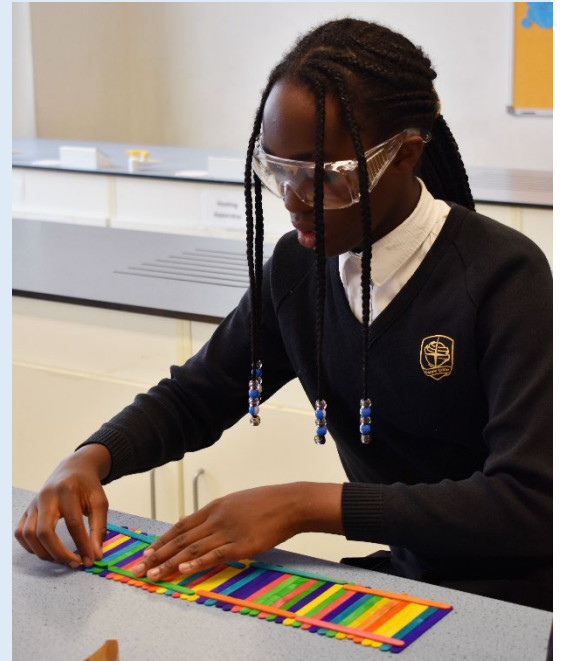


## Science Club – Mr Ahmad

This week in Science Club, we explored the world of bridges, from beam and arch designs to Leonardo da Vinci's clever self-supporting bridge. After a brief discussion (and a few "bridging the gap" jokes), we began constructing our own designs.

Using lolly sticks, tape, and plenty of imagination, students set out to create the strongest bridges they could. There were a few wobbly starts, some sticky situations, and one or two "structural failures," but the teamwork was inspirational. When one bridge fell, another stood strong to support it.

Next Science Club, we'll see which bridges can really hold up under pressure as we test them with different objects. Let's hope none of them crack under the weight!



## Dates for Your Diary

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 – Students resume  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Year 11 Parents' Evening  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – IEAP Day  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Year 9 Work Shadow Day  
Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Year 8 Parents' Evening  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – INSET Day  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – Prize Evening  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – Year 10 Parents' Evening

## Creative Writing – English Department

*For this week's entry, Nevaeh Horgan (9TOO) has written a wonderfully reflective poem about the challenges of growing up, entitled "My Fear".*

### Dear My Fear

Dear my fear,  
When will you leave me? – when will you stop shadowing me,  
consuming my happiness and comfort?

I'm drowning – suffering in an ocean of sorrows,  
my cries bubbling beneath the salty surface.

Why me?

Beneath the mask of empathy—  
the smiling girl trying my best, enduring the pain —  
trying to climb the mountain but falling  
before I could reach the crest.

Are you there, God?  
Can you hear my tortured yells from beneath the shining clouds  
or am I crying at a wall blocking me from seeing her,  
a wall so transparent I wouldn't know it's there.

Are you with me?  
Is she with me?  
Can she hear my cries within my soul,  
the tears begging to fall from my eyes;  
my mask cracking.

The smiling girl is no longer there,  
she's gone — lost.

---

Dear my fear,  
Are you ever leaving?

Flooding me with anxiety and hopelessness,  
Are you having fun? —  
you overwhelm my joy and empathy,  
leaving me with nothing but a mask on my bed.

You follow me to school,  
and lay with me as I fall asleep.

Can she hear me?  
Can she really hear me?  
Is she there?

## Parents' Guide to University – Ms Stewart

The Parents' Guide to University 2025 will help you support the young people in your life to make an informed choice about university. It includes articles to guide them in deciding whether university is right for them, what they should study, and where they should study it.

<https://www.unitasterdays.com/university-support-for-parents/parents-guide-to-university-brochure/>

## Our Beautiful Neighbourhood project at Southfields Academy

A Partnership with the Royal College of Art with Wandsworth, the Borough of Culture, meant a group of Year 7 students had an amazing opportunity to work with a local artist on an exciting project to celebrate nature in Wandsworth.

The aim of the project is to create large-scale, colourful artworks, created by participating schools, which will be exhibited across the area, as part of a year of events for the London Borough of Culture.

7AAD Students discussed the local habitats, identified the different plants, animals and insects that can be found in their local area with the local artist before learning how to visual communicate their learning about science and geography. They worked on developing their drawing and observation skills experimenting with a few fun sketching task before creating a collage.

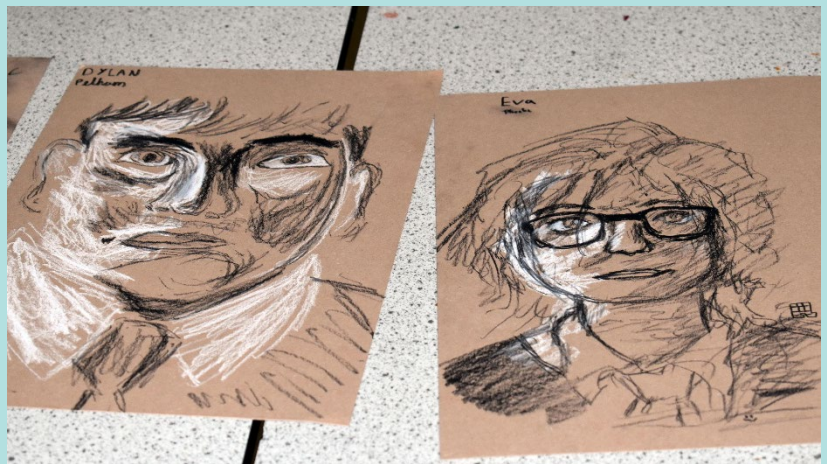
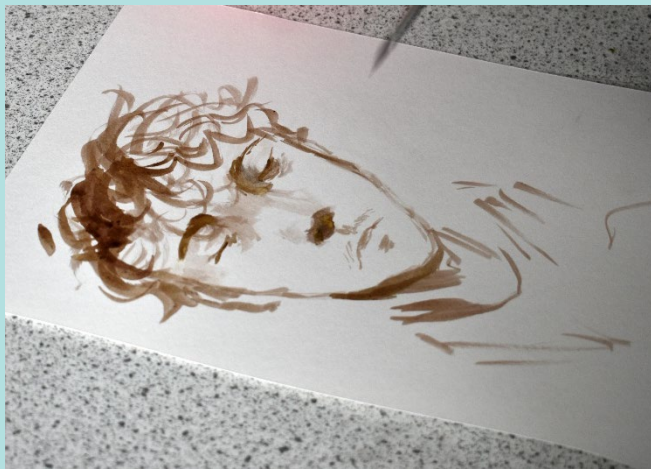
In the near future the creative outcomes will be celebrated in public spaces across the borough for the Academy to visit and will be celebrated with a series of public engagement activities using the artworks created by the students as inspiration.



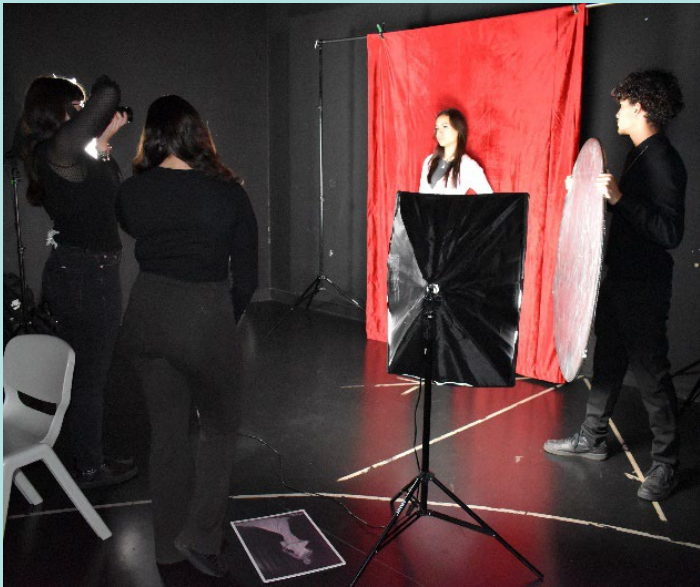
## National Portrait Gallery

This month the National Portrait Gallery educator has been working with students from the Academy: Year 11 Art GCSE and Year 12 Art Cambridge Technical Level 2 & 3 students. The Faces and Places is an ambitious schools outreach programme that uses the Gallery's diverse collection of portraits to creatively explore connections between people and places focused on Wandsworth.

Each week students have been introduced to different creative stimulus and activities working on their painting, drawing and photography skills. The students actively engage with the diversity of people represented in the gallery's collection, expand their knowledge of local history through people, discover artists and artworks, and are inspired to create their own artistic responses.



# National Portrait Gallery Continued.....



# National Portrait Gallery Continued.....



## Careers Fair – Ms Shah

We are delighted to report that our Careers Fair was once again a huge success with over 45 organisations supporting our students including 4 Russell Group Universities (Durham, Kings, Imperial & Leeds) plus organisations such as the Berkeley Group (Construction), Little Brown Publishing, The Royal Navy, Heritage of London Trust, Academy of Real Assets and O'Halloran & O'Brien, and The Royal Marsden amongst others.

The visitors all expressed how impressed they were by the polite and inquisitive nature of our students. Particular comment was made about how amazingly well behaved Year 7 was compared to other schools they have visited. The Careers team would like to thank all the teachers for their support. The team also appreciated the great enthusiasm and engagement of all students who visited. Finally, a massive thank you to the student volunteers in Years 12 & 13 who acted as a great Ambassadors for our school.

We are also extremely grateful for all the support teams that helped including Aspire Centre Reception, SA Reception, Premises team, MRO for all the printing (and there was a lot) and Fady's team for amazing catering support and everybody else that helped make this happen.

The food was delicious and much appreciated by visitors who often are given nothing by other schools for their voluntary support.



# Black History Month Poster Competition

During Black History month history students have been making posters and fact files about people that have inspired them. Here is a very small selection of their work.


Frank Bruno by Ja'vontae LAKEY-MCPHERSON 7TON  
 Sir Lenny Henry by Cameron Dyson-Taylor 9CMO  
 Sir Bill Morris by Denise Thompson 7TON  
 Black History Month poster by Carla Mendez 7ABM  
 Sugar paper poster by Olivia Williams 9CRO.  
 Hidden Figures poster by Livia Ruman Gustavo 7AAD

Winner: Olivia Williams.  
 Runner up: Livia Ruman Gustavo

Other displayed entries are all highly commended!

**Sir Lenny Henry: A legacy of strength and progress!!**

A positive force in society, Lenny Henry has dedicated his life not only to entertainment, but also to make the world fairer, more inclusive place. Through laughter, story telling and advocacy, he spurs his voice and inspires change.



**Commitment to the black community**

Lenny is a trail blazer who has consistently fought for representation, equality and opportunity within the arts and beyond. His unwavering commitment to progress defines him as a beacon of hope and leadership for the black community.

"We rise by lifting others"  
 -Sir Lenny Henry

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

What is Black History Month?  
 Black history month is an annual celebration whereby we share the achievements and contributions of black people.



**Important people -**

- Martin Luther King
- Rosa Parks
- Frederick Douglass
- Harriet Tubman
- Jackie Robinson
- Maya Angelou
- Oprah Winfrey
- Michelle Obama

Black History Month

Carla Penn Mendez 7ABM

Born: November 16, 1961, in Hammersmith, London, England **Frank Bruno**

**Five fun facts about him**

- British Icon:** Known for his charisma and catchphrase "Know what I mean, 'Arry?", Bruno became one of the UK's most beloved sports personalities during the 1980s and 1990s.
- Fought the Best:** Throughout his career, he fought some of the biggest names in boxing, including Mike Tyson (twice) and Lennox Lewis.
- Mental Health Advocate:** Bruno has been open about his struggles with bipolar disorder and has since become a strong advocate for mental health awareness, founding the **Frank Bruno Foundation** to help others.

**About his career**

**Early Start:** Frank Bruno was born on **November 16, 1961**, in Hammersmith, London. He began boxing at age 9 and turned professional in **1982** after a successful amateur career.

**Power and Popularity:** Known for his powerful punches and gentlemanly nature, Bruno won his first 21 professional fights by **knockout**, earning huge popularity with British fans.

**About his personal life**

**Family:** Bruno was married to **Laura Mooney**, with whom he has three children. Despite their later separation, he has remained a devoted father.

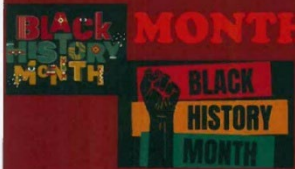
**Mental Health Journey:** He was diagnosed with **bipolar disorder** in the early 2000s and has spoken openly about his experiences with hospitalization and recovery.

**Advocacy:** His honesty about mental health challenges helped reduce stigma in the UK. In 2017, he founded the **Frank Bruno Foundation**, which offers mental health and wellbeing programs.

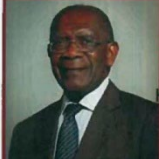
**Public Image:** Bruno is admired not just as a boxer but as a warm, down-to-earth personality — known for his humor, resilience, and kindness.

**Black history month started in October 1987**

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**



**Sir Bill Morris:**  
 Sir Bill Morris was born on the **19<sup>th</sup> of October, 1938**. He was the first black leader of the **British Trade Union**.



**EVERY MONTH IS OUR MONTH**

**YOU MATTER**

**US**

**ONE LOVE**

**BLACK MATTER**

**WE MATTER**

**9CRO**

**OLIVIA W**

*"Blax is Boudy"*


*"The 20 August 1961 to the 20th August 1962 was a very important day for the people of the Caribbean."*

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**Black History Month - Hidden Figures**



Three female African-American mathematicians play a role in astronaut John Glenn's launch into orbit. They helped a lot but in the process they had to deal with discrimination and racial problems at work.

**Katherine Johnson**  
 Katherine Johnson was a brilliant mathematician whose calculations were critical to the success of early U.S. spaceflights, including John Glenn's orbit and the Apollo moon landing.

**Dorothy Vaughan**  
 Dorothy Vaughan was a pioneering mathematician who became the first African-American man-computer leader in the West Area Computing Unit, and a skilled programmer who adapted to new technologies.

**Mary Jackson**  
 Mary Jackson was an African-American mathematician and aerospace engineer who broke racial barriers at NASA. She was the first female engineer at NASA and worked as a human computer before being an engineer.

Livia

## Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

# Healthy Habits in Teenagers with Autism

Education  
Wellbeing  
Service

A 1.5 hour long webinar dedicated to look into how healthy habits can be implemented at home to improve the wellbeing of teens with autism.



### DATE / TIME

Monday 3rd November  
6.00-7.30pm



Scan the  
QR code  
or  
[click here](#)

### LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to either event for free on Eventbrite by scanning the QR Code.

You can also check out our other events by [clicking here](#)

wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

### DATE / TIME

Wednesday 4th February  
12.30-2.00pm



Scan the  
QR code  
or  
[click here](#)

Education  
Wellbeing  
Service

## Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

# Understanding and Supporting Teen Sleep



This webinar will look at some of the research and science around sleep hygiene, teenage sleep and thinking together about the challenges with some options for supporting from the perspective of parents or carers.

### DATE / TIME

Tuesday 11th November  
1.00-2.00pm



Scan the  
QR code  
or  
[click here](#)

### LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to either event for free on Eventbrite by scanning the QR Code.

You can also check out our other events by [clicking here](#)

wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

### DATE / TIME

Tuesday 11th November  
7.00-8.00pm



Scan the  
QR code  
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