



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Monday 24th November 2025



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

Southfields Academy Chess Tournament 2025-26 – Mr Spencer

Unbelievable drama in this year's Southfields Academy Chess Tournament.

The top players from the tournament (pictured below) battled it out in a tense and exciting atmosphere.

For the first time in the tournament's history we have a tie for 1st place. Firstly well done to Jamal Aziz who finished in 3rd place with 4 wins out of 6 matches.

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO DIRK OLIVIER AND BAHRAM KOHESTANI.

They tied for first with 5 wins out of 6 matches and can be seen battling it out in their match against each other below. Both students will add their names to the famous trophy and are crowned chess champions 2025-26.

Thanks to Mr. Ben Jones and Yacqub Hussein for helping me organise the tournament.

A reminder that chess club runs every Monday in A227 from 3:00-3:45. All ages and abilities welcome.



What University? What Career? – London Olympia Visit – Ms Harb

On Friday 14th November, 38 students enjoyed an inspiring visit to the 'What University? What Career?' event at London Olympia. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to explore a wide range of future pathways and speak directly with experts in education and industry.

Students engaged with representatives from universities across the UK — from Cambridge to Cardiff — learning more about course options, entry requirements, and the variety of routes available after college. They also had the chance to meet employers such as the Royal Navy, British Airways, and the RAF, gaining valuable insights into the many exciting career opportunities on offer.

Overall, it was a brilliant event that encouraged our learners to start thinking seriously about their next steps and the destinations they hope to reach.





Thought for the Week

'Most of the successful people I've known are the ones who do more listening than talking.'

Bernard Baruch



Mock Interviews – Ms Shah

On Thursday 13th November the Year 12 students had mock interviews as part of their IEAP Day. We invited 30 interviewers from various companies and a wide variety of industries (Construction, Law, Marketing, Sales, and Estate Agency etc.) to conduct 'mock interviews'. Students had to select from 5 broad jobs.

The interviewers gave feedback to the students on what went well and what could be improved. Overall the feedback from our guest Interviewers was very positive about Southfields Academy students. Some examples here:

"I interview people all the time in my job and the young people here really impressed me. I would happily employ everyone I interviewed today"

"Student M had a fantastic question. He asked me how we supported employees who were finding it difficult to do their job"

"Student C really impressed me because he had researched the company and was able to show this knowledge in his responses"

The students themselves gave great feedback on the insights they gained to prepare them for the interview process in a real work situation.



Science Club – Ms Omar

This week in science club, students got hands-on with the first part of our volcano-building project.

Using bottles, cardboard, glue and lots of newspaper, everyone worked on shaping and building their own volcano structure. There was plenty of sticking and problem-solving as the volcanoes slowly took form. It was great to see how different each one turned out and how much focus the students put into their designs. By the end, we had a whole table full of volcanoes drying and ready for the next stage.

Next week, students will paint their creations and add the finishing touches before we move on to the fun part—making them erupt!



Year 10 News – Mr Lamboi

Industria fructum dat – Diligence brings reward, and effort bears fruit.

At Southfields Academy we all strive to be the best that we can be, and remain relentless in the pursuit of excellence both inside and outside of the classroom.

This term, Year 10s have settled swiftly into the most important stage of their academic journey so far. I have seen, in the vast majority of them, an unyielding commitment to do well in their studies. For example, pockets of students converging in classrooms to revise and support one another during the most recent in-class GCSE exams.

I am filled with an immense sense of pride when members of staff comment on their work ethic and conduct around the school and there have been plenty of staff doing so.

However, this is only the genesis of what will be an exciting and demanding academic year. The next challenge is to go beyond what they have achieved, and raise the bar and expectations even higher, so that every student can thrive not only academically, but also in terms of behaviour, mental and moral wellbeing.

This will include every student (with the support of their parents/guardians):

1. Being 100% compliant 100% of the time
2. Being punctual to school and lessons
3. Being resilient
4. Having 100% attendance
5. Working hard in lessons, and completing classwork and homework to an exceptional level

A special thank you to Ms Millward for her tireless efforts with the year group. You are the engine room which drives us forward!

A special mention to Emily (10TY) for her outstanding delivery of Flanders' Field to commemorate Remembrance Day 2025. Thank you, Emily.

Finally, please have a warm and restful festive season this year. Stay safe and healthy. I wish you all and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Key dates

•Parent's Evening: Thursday, 4th December – I am expecting 100% attendance, as this is the only time in the academic year you will get to speak first-hand with your child's teachers to gain a comprehensive understanding of their progress so far and what they need to do to improve.

•GCSE Mock Exams: Monday, 2nd February – Friday, 13th February 2026.

This may seem far away, but it is not. As the adage goes, "If you are not prepared, be prepared to fail."

I am sure you agree with me when I say that failure is not an option for our students—only success. Let's prepare ahead of time.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 24th November 2025 – INSET Day
Thursday 27th November 2025 – Prize Evening
Thursday 4th December 2025 – Year 10 Parents' Evening

Proud Places Reception – Ms Shah

Heritage of London Trust was delighted to welcome staff and students from Southfields Academy to the Proud Places Reception at Jones Day. Proud Places is a London-wide engagement programme that inspires young people to connect with the world around them. This special event celebrated five years of the programme—supported by the Jones Day Foundation—and the 10,000 young people who have taken part since 2020.

Guests heard about the programme's impact, took part in stonemasonry and gilding demonstrations, and discovered our exciting plans for the future of Proud Places.

We were especially pleased to welcome back Southfields Academy students who previously completed work experience placements with the Proud Places team, as well as those currently taking part in Proud Prospects—the programme's career-development pathway, designed to help young people build skills, confidence, and experience for their future careers.

The students who attended were:

Frankie Ahern

Scarlett Spencer

Nathan Betts Garcia

Nana Maghradze Khvedelidze

Nathan & Nana opening the newly renovated water fountain in Coronation Gardens whilst on their work placement.



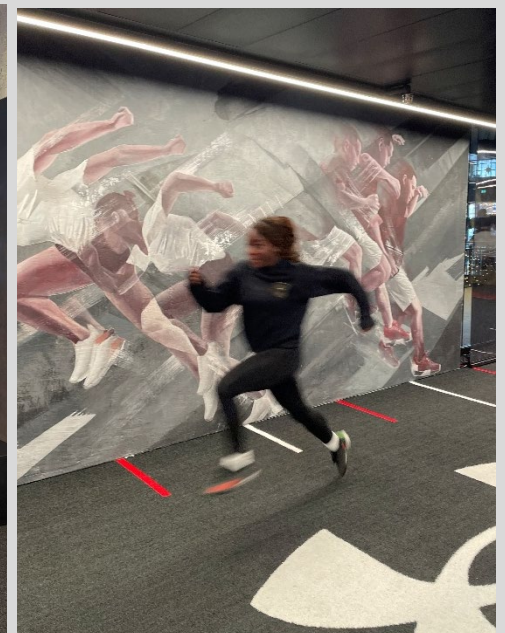
Year 11 BTEC Sport – Ms Lenton

Well done to the Year 11 BTEC Sport students who have recently completed their practical assessment for Component 2. This assignment challenged the students to step into a leadership role by requiring them to: plan three specific drills in their chosen sport, deliver these drills to their peers, demonstrate key skills accurately and provide focused, constructive feedback to the participants. The level of preparation and the quality of coaching demonstrated were both high. All students showed a strong ability to both perform and instruct. Great work everyone.



On Thursday 13th November, our Year 11 BTEC Sport students had the exciting opportunity to visit Under Armour at the iconic Battersea Power Station. This trip was a fantastic learning experience, directly linked to their Component 3 exam preparations for January.

During the visit, students took part in a series of engaging fitness tests, giving them hands-on experience with the topics they will encounter in their coursework and exams. These tests allowed the students to apply their theoretical knowledge in a real-world environment, helping to deepen their understanding of fitness, performance, and how the body reacts to different challenges. Throughout the day, the students showed outstanding enthusiasm, discipline, and professionalism. They were a true credit to the academy, demonstrating teamwork, determination, and respect. It was a pleasure to watch them engage so positively with the activities, and they did us proud in every way.



Year 11 BTEC Sport continued.....

A big thank you to Under Armour for hosting us, and to all the students for their exceptional behaviour and effort.

We are looking forward to seeing how they apply what they learned on this trip in their upcoming



Creative Writing – English Department

For this week's entry, we celebrate three Y8 students who have been published in a collection of very short stories called The Grim Tales. In the coming weeks, we will share several more of the participating Southfields Academy students' work.

*These three pieces reimagine classic fables and well-known characters, each adding their own twist! Well done to Si'Ava Simm (08NOR) for her creative adaptation of *into Alice in Wonderland*, to Pierre Job (08NOR) for his rendition of a treacherous journey and a classic pirate, and to Khadija Mohamed (08DBY) for her vivid recasting of *Snow White*.*

It's a Dream, Or Is It?

It's a normal Saturday. Kids are playing while I'm going home. I realize a white as snow bunny is reading under a bright red apple tree. *Am I seeing things?* We make eye contact. Without warning, he suddenly bounces towards me. I gasp. I speed away with my big bag. Slowly, everywhere is turning black. No people. No shop. No one. I wait to hear the familiar sound of the door shutting. No noise. I turn around to see if he's still chasing. That's when I notice the small, furry, soft rabbit paw stopping the colourful door from shutting. My heart pounding, I realise he's in *my world – my wonderland*.

Si'Ava Simm

The Lost Treasure of Captain Crunch

It starts with a young boy named Chris and his father, Johnathan, who went to find Captain Crunch's treasure.

It was a perilous journey, through many obstacles, but the two were tough, so they powered through, unscathed. They edged closer to Skull Island, a land where no one escaped and where Captain Crunch's treasure was stored.

A skull-crawler is what the locals call it. With large arms, a skull-like face and a snake-like body. It was hard to go past the creature because it was very agile and had extremely fast reflexes. As it wrapped around them, they knew their heroic quest has ended.

Pierre Job

Snow White and the Uncovering of Them All

I'm just walking to school with my best friends. I go in and get stopped without my blazer, which I don't understand since its summer. I go home, getting lost on the way. Seven people. They look like experts. I ask them for directions, and tell them my address. They take me somewhere I don't know. I look up. Could it be? My dad who left me? I break down on the floor. The people are my dad's assistants. Two words. Mafia gang. Is this one of my crazy dreams again? And that's the story of modern Snow White.

Khadija Mohamed

MFL Language Ambassadors – Ms Ratkevicius

Meet our new Year 7 Language Ambassadors! Amelie, Cristina and Soufia will be supporting the MFL department in bringing languages to life through exciting events and activities. Their first mission: promoting this year's Spelling Bee!



Work Experience Help:

Our Year 12 students have their **Work Experience Week 2026** in **February: 9th – 13th Feb 2026** and are urgently looking for placements. Please let the [Careers Team](#) know if you have any connections who might be able to provide placements (ideally for the 5 days)

Newsletter:

The 5th edition of the [Southfields Academy Careers Newsletter](#) is now available here: Young Entrepreneur of the Year Competition; Anti-Bullying; GCSE help; Apprenticeship info...

Labour Market Information:

Find out about V-Levels, sustainable careers, BBC apprenticeships – London's new Inclusive Talent Strategy for the Capital, and much more [here](#)

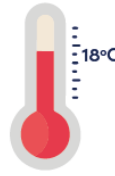
Look after children in cold weather



Dress children in layers, including hats and gloves. Make sure coats and shoes are waterproof.



Heat rooms children spend most time in to at least 18°C.



Make sure children get their flu vaccine and stay up to date with routine immunisations.



Provide warm meals and drinks regularly.



Open windows regularly to prevent damp and mould.



Wash hands regularly and use tissues for coughs and sneezes to stop infections spreading.



If you're worried about your child's health, contact your local pharmacist, your GP or NHS 111.

DISABILITYSPORTSCOACH

Wandsworth Girls Club

A free inclusive movement club for disabled girls



When?

Thursdays
4.30pm - 6pm

Where?

George Shearing
Centre
Este Rd, London
SW11 2TF

Scan the QR Code to book your free place now!

Supported by



Get in touch: dsc@disabilitysportscoach.org.uk | 020 7928 4267

GIRLS ONLY

DISABILITY SPORT CLUB



Are you aged 10-17 and want to sign up to a new Girls Only Sports Club?

Scan the QR code to register



**Roehampton
Sports Centre**
Every Tuesday
at 4.30-6pm



SEN Unity
Sports, Education & Nada (musical sound)



**SPORT
ENGLAND**



**Wandsworth
Council**