



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

Sixth Form News – Mr Peck

Careers:

Year 12L2 - Work Shadow Day (22/1/26):

As part of the commitment to improving the work experience provision for Yr12 Level 2 students, the vast majority took part in a one-day work shadow experience. Placements were varied: Linden Lodge, Aspire Nursery, Fortunato Aesthetics, J&A Autos, Tony's Deli... and many more!

Feedback from the students was positive and those who hosted the students gave some very lovely commentary, for example - this comment from the staff at Linden Lodge who hosted four students: 'I just wanted to say we were blown away by your students yesterday they made so much effort with our students they were so polite and engaging and we would have them back at any time. At the end of the day I hosted a Q&A session for them with another colleague and they all asked meaningful and thoughtful questions too.'

Year 12L2 - Coming up: Trip to 'Sporting Chances' (10/2/26):

15 students are going to visit this provider to find out about their 'Creative Hair & Lash' courses. The provider boasts professional facilities as part of their courses which include giving students the opportunity to have real-life, hands-on experience to prepare them for employment or further study in the beauty industry.

Year 12L2 - Coming up: Trip to the Early Careers and Apprenticeship Showcase (11/2/26):

Students are being invited to attend this showcase at Wandsworth Town Hall, as part of National Apprenticeship Week. The event will focus on raising awareness of the apprenticeship route into employment, particularly regarding opportunities in local government at all levels for school leavers and graduates. It will also cover information around wider early careers opportunities at the councils, such as Horizons internships and the Graduate Scheme.

Trips / Visits / Enrichment:

Year 12L2 Tutor Programme - life skills (16/1/26):

Mr Holt led a one-hour session for 12QRA students on basic vehicle maintenance a few weeks ago. Some students brought prior knowledge, but for many it was their first foray into the workings of your everyday car: topping up essential fluids, legal requirements, fines, regulations, changing a spare tyre, checking the depth of the tyre tread. Many said that the session equipped them with information they were previously unaware of, including how expensive basic running costs can be! Sessions for 12HDN and 12SIA/RND are happening in the coming weeks.



Year 12L2 Tutor Programme - risk management/ life skills (20/1/26):

Through our connections with The Met - who do an on sight programme with target KS3 students - we were able to hold a specific session for Year 12 L2 students about the risks associated with County Lines, told from the perspective of someone who has experienced it. Her cautionary tale was raw, unfiltered and demystified some of the glamorous misconceptions. Students responded with empathy, interest and were inspired by her story.



Year 12 Honours Programme

Imperial College University Visit (04.02.2026)

The Year 12 Honours Group were invited to visit Imperial College London (currently ranked first in the UK and second in the World) for a STEM-focused university taster day. Students were given a private tour of the university campus by student ambassadors from a range of different degree courses, attended a Q&A session and were treated to two special lectures delivered by current PHD students on the topics of 'Sustainable Energy Storage' and 'Synthesising Catalysts using Robots'. The students represented the Academy perfectly throughout the day, asking thoughtful questions about university life and the application process.

They gained some invaluable knowledge about what the top universities are looking for in university applications, future careers in industry and how to use their time effectively in the sixth form to prepare for further study at one of the most prestigious universities in the UK and the world.



Degree Apprenticeships Workshops (spring terms 1 and 2)

This term, the Honours Group have been attending bespoke workshops on degree apprenticeships. Mr Browne, who has recently researched and written a book on degree apprenticeships, has been sharing his insight to give students a greater understanding of how degree apprenticeships work and the benefits they offer. The Honours Group have been learning how to research, prepare and apply for degree apprenticeships as an alternative option to university degrees.





Thought for the Week

“That is the one eternal education: to be sure enough that something is true that you dare to tell it to a child.” —G.K. Chesterton

Science Club – Mr Hayman

Science Club took flight this week as our classroom turned into a mini launch pad! Using a wire stretched across the room, a straw, and a balloon, students created their very own balloon rockets and watched them zoom from one side to the other. As the air rushed out of the balloon, it pushed the balloon forwards along the wire—bringing **Newton’s Third Law of Motion** to life: *for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction*.

With plenty of excitement (and a few dramatic countdowns), students explored forces, energy, and motion in a hands-on way, proving that you don’t need fancy equipment to do brilliant science—just curiosity, creativity, and a balloon or two!



Music Inspired Art – Ms De Feo-Walsh

It was lovely to see Year 8 students letting music inspire their art last week. They created collages while listening to a variety of scores, including the Star Trek Film Music Prague Festival concert conducted by Chuhei Iwasaki.

It was fantastic to see how they saw instruments like the trombone, clarinet, and French horn in colour, line, shape, and texture. This builds on their understanding of composition, colour, and harmony, and allows them to respond to more complex works, making clear connections between music, emotion, and artistic expression.

Why don't you have a go too?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yySw7vkdZy>
<https://chuheiwasaki.cz/en/media>



Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 12th February 2026 - Year 7 Parents' Evening
Monday 16th February 2026 – Half Term Starts
Monday 23rd February 2026 – Academy resumes
Wednesday 4th March 2026 – Year 9 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 25th March 2026 – Year 11 Parents' Evening
Friday 27th March 2026 – INSET Day

Creative Writing – English Department

This week's creative writing entry is an exceptional poem from Sophie Rolls (08DSV). Sophie builds on the metaphor of a wound in order to explore themes of change, trauma, grief, and more. The English Department applauds Sophie's fantastic piece of genuinely insightful work!

The wound

The wound that is the part that no one prepares for
It keeps going
Long after the skin closes

It teaches everyone to live on edge
Love becomes surveillance
Affection turns into a checklist
People stop asking how you are
And start asking questions
that sound casual
but aren't

The house forgets how to relax
Silence is no longer neutral
A closed door is a threat
A nap feels like negligence

Parents carry a quiet terror
That never clocks out
They learn how helpless feels
How knowing someone's pain
doesn't give you the right tools
to stop it

Friends inherit guilt that they didn't earn
They wonder if laughter was careless
If distraction was a betrayal
If loving someone normally
Was a mistake

Even when things look better
No one fully believes it
Recovery doesn't undo the damage
It rearranges it
Everyone learns how to pretend
They are not bracing for impact

The scars don't belong
only to the person who made them
They spread
They live in other people's nervous systems
In the way voices shake
when your name comes up
In the way love learns to panic

The heaviest part
is knowing no one could've fixed it alone
That pain was asking for language
And everyone answered too late or not at all

And now they carry the knowledge
that someone they love
can be hurting this badly
Right beside them
And there is no clean way
to make that stop



Future Leaders in Action: Active Citizenship Campaign Success – Mr Samuels

We are incredibly proud to share the results of our recent Active Citizenship Campaigns. Over the past term our students moved beyond the textbook to tackle real-world issues, demonstrating that they are not just learners but active participants in our democracy.

The school has been buzzing with energy as five distinct student groups launched their initiatives. To succeed, students had to master the difficult arts of lobbying and negotiation, meeting with decision-makers to present evidence-based arguments for change. From environmental reforms to local community improvements, the level of professionalism was outstanding.

Building Skills for Life

Throughout the project, we assessed students on six key pillars of citizenship. We saw incredible growth in:

- **Advocacy & Communication:** Students drafted professional letters, designed persuasive media, and spoke publicly on behalf of those whose voices are often marginalised.
- **Resilience:** Not every meeting resulted in an immediate "Yes". We saw groups handle setbacks with maturity, adapting their strategies and returning with even stronger arguments.
- **Collaboration:** Students managed their own teams, delegated tasks, and learnt the vital importance of working together toward a common goal.

The Results

Whether it was through petitioning—which saw hundreds of signatures gathered across the school and local community—or through direct action, nearly all groups successfully met their project aims.

We want to congratulate the students on their dedication. They didn't just talk about change; they organised, collaborated, and tried their best to make it happen.

Keep an eye on the school social media for the campaign materials and photos from the event!

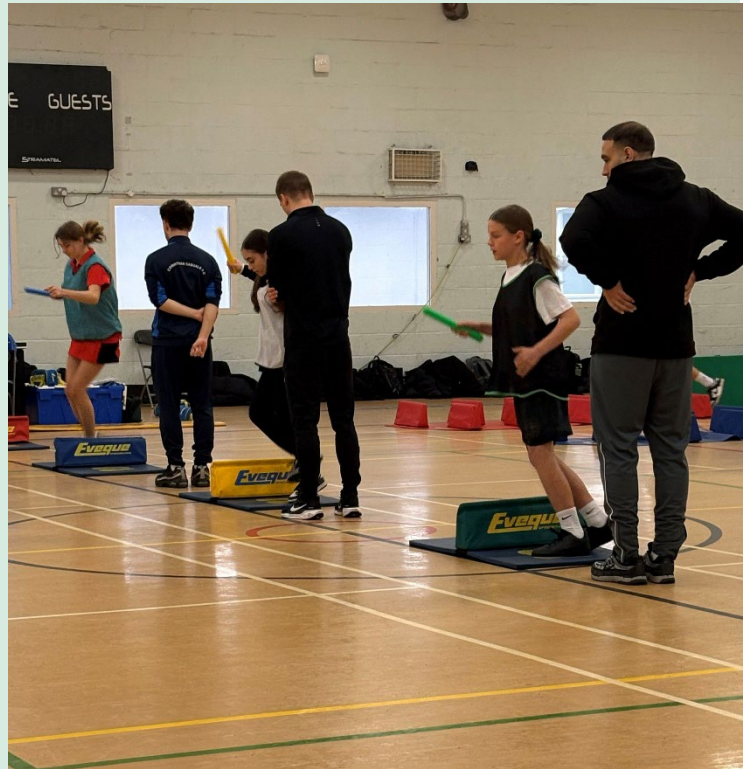


Indoor Athletics Event – Ms Lenton

On 22nd January, some of our Year 7 students showcased their athletic talent and school spirit at the Indoor Athletics Event held at Battersea Sports Centre. The day was full of energy, determination, and friendly competition as students took part in a range of track and field activities, including sprints, relays, long jump, and more.

It was fantastic to see the students encouraging one another and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout the event. Many personal bests were achieved, and the teamwork and resilience displayed by all participants were truly commendable.

We are incredibly proud of all students who attended the trip for their hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm. Well done to everyone who took part – you made the day a huge success!



NHS - Education Wellbeing Service February webinars

The SWLSTG Education Wellbeing Service is offering lunchtime and evening parent Webinars across the year to help support your child's wellbeing and mental health.

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>

If your child is interested in 1:1 sessions with our in-school NHS Wellbeing Practitioners to help with worries, low mood or anxiety, they can speak to Ms Nearn, Senior Lead for Mental Health.

Education
Wellbeing
Service

wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Upcoming Events For Secondary Parents Spring Term 2026

Supporting your teenager's mental health webinars

We also provide free 1:1 early help support programmes for young people to support with anxiety or low mood. Speak to your school to find out more.

**4TH FEB 26
12.30 PM - 2 PM**

Healthy Habits in
Teenagers with
Autism

**9TH FEB 26
7 PM - 8.30 PM**

Supporting Siblings
of Children with
SEND

**10TH FEB 26
1.30 PM - 3 PM**

To view further event details and descriptions, and to book on to any of the webinars, please scan the QR Code or follow the link to our Eventbrite collection.

[Click here](#)



Making Life
Better Together

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

Supporting your teenager with Exam Stress in the run up to big exams (Years 11-13)

Upcoming GCSE & A level exams (as well as BTECs etc) can be a stressful time for your teenager.

This workshop talks through some of the common challenges many young people face when their stress around revising or sitting an exam becomes too much. It will also cover how, as a parent or carer, you can best support your child to manage these feelings and do their best.



Education Wellbeing Service

DATE / TIME

Monday 16th February
7.00-8.00pm



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

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

DATE / TIME

Tuesday 17th February
1.00-2.00pm



Scan the QR code or click here

Study Spaces

Looking for a welcoming place to focus on your studies?

Wandsworth offers dedicated study spaces designed to help young people succeed.

Our study spaces are located in libraries, family hubs, youth clubs and community centres across the borough.

What's on offer?

- Quiet, safe, and inclusive spaces for independent study for students aged 14-18.
- Access to free Wi-Fi and devices available for research and assignments.
- DBS-checked staff and young person-friendly internet access.



For more information scan the QR code or visit: wandsworth.gov.uk/studyspaces

