



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

### A Farewell to Our Visitors – Ms Marshall

For the third year in a row, we welcomed visitors from across the Pacific Ocean to our Academy in Wandsworth! Specifically, this is our second consecutive year hosting students from Taiwan. On this occasion, 22 students were hosted by students in yr8 and 9 for two weeks. As is becoming standard, their programme involved them participating with the full KS3 timetable of lessons: from English and maths, to PE and DT. This was alongside social activities at break and pastoral activities during registration sessions and assemblies.

On Friday, 6th February we held their farewell assembly with touching speeches from Southfields students about how the visit has enriched their lives and given them a sneak peek into Taiwanese culture. You can see snippets of their speeches and some pics from the visit, below.



Good afternoon everyone,

Today is a very special day because it is the last day of our Taiwanese friends' visit to our school. Although their stay with us was short, the memories and experiences we shared will last a long time.

Over these past days, we have learned so much from one another. We learned about Taiwanese culture, traditions, and daily life, and at the same time, we were able to share our own culture and school life with them. This exchange has shown us that even though we come from different countries, we can still connect through friendship, laughter, and mutual respect.

Your visit has brought new energy and excitement to our school. From classroom activities to conversations during breaks, every moment reminded us how important it is to understand and appreciate people from different backgrounds. You have helped us see the world from a wider perspective.

On behalf of our school, I would like to say thank you for visiting us and for being such wonderful guests. We hope that your time here has been meaningful and enjoyable, just as it has been for us.

As you return home, we wish you a safe journey and great success in the future. We hope this will not be goodbye, but see you again someday. You will always be welcome here

*Zikria-800v*





## Thought for the Week

“The more a man thinks the better adapted he becomes to thinking, and education is nothing if it is not the methodical creation of the habit of thinking.” —Ernest Dimnet



## Active Citizenship

As part of their Active Citizens project, a group of Year 11 students collected several crates of food to donate to the Dons Local Action Group! Well done, girls! @donslocalaction



## Year 7 News – Ms Watkinson

This term has been a busy and rewarding one for our Year 7 students as they continue to settle into life at secondary school. A key focus has been their recent assessments, which formed the basis of discussion at Parents' Evening — their first at this stage of their education. It was a pleasure to meet with parents and carers, and the conversations were overwhelmingly positive. Students spoke confidently about their progress, reflected thoughtfully on their learning, and showed a growing sense of independence and responsibility. The support and engagement from families made the evening particularly valuable and highlighted the strong partnership between home and school.

Another highlight of the term was IEAP Day. Students approached their presentations with enthusiasm, demonstrating impressive confidence, communication skills, and genuine passion for their chosen career from IEAP Day 1. It was wonderful to see them articulate their ideas so clearly and take pride in their work — a real testament to how much they have developed since September.

Year 7 students have also received **3470 positives** this term, recognising their effort, attitude, and achievements across lessons and wider school life. **7AAD** are leading the way with 830 positive closely followed by **7OMR** with 788!

A special mention must go to **Livia 7AAD, Elliot 7ABM, Mitchell 7HUH, Aisha and Ameen 7OMR and Yasmeen 7TON** for topping the positive tallies for their respective tutor groups this term!

In PE, the girls have represented the year group brilliantly during their swimming lessons, showing great effort, participation, and resilience. The progress they have made over the last six weeks has been outstanding and they should all be really proud of themselves!

After half term, it will be the boys' turn, and they will need to bring their swimming kit for both of their PE lessons. Thank you in advance for your support in ensuring they are prepared.

We are incredibly proud of how well Year 7 have embraced new challenges this term and look forward to seeing their continued growth in the months ahead.

## Creative Writing – English Department

*Year 7 are reading Private Peaceful in English lessons at the moment. The book features the disappearance of a key character in Devon in 1912. Meg King (7AAD) in Year 7 has written a clear, formal and journalistic newspaper article, summarising the facts of the story, and giving quotes from a number of key "witnesses". Well done Meg.*

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The Daily Herald

Tuesday 11th June 1912

A disappearance that must be solved

The police were called to the small town of Cunningham, Devon, after a local boy, known to the townsfolk as Big Joe, was reported missing. On Monday 10th of June, at 5:30, Big Joe reportedly went for a walk and never returned. At first, his family wasn't worried as he does this "sometimes" to look for insects. By 6:30, his family had come down to the local pub to declare Joe missing. The villagers searched for five hours before finally giving up and calling the police.

We spoke to Joe's mother Ms Peaceful, who was distraught. She said that Joe was "emotional" and "innocent" and "he didn't deserve all of this."

As well as that we spoke to Joe's younger brother, Tommo, and he said that "everyone in town knows Big Joe and they have been so kind as to help us."

By midday, Joe had still not been found. Sgt Riley had to expand the search to surrounding woods and streams. There are a fair few streams around and the police have started searching the bottom.

We spoke to Joe's other brother, Charlie, to find out if there are any reasons why Joe would want to leave. Charlie told us "The wretched colonel shot Big Joe's dog Bertha, Big Joe was heartbroken." The colonel responded to that comment with "The silly boy let the dog wander away; I thought it was attacking me and look at all the fuss he has created."

Unfortunately, Big Joe is still missing, so the search will continue.



## London Wetland Centre Trip – Ms Toffolo

On Monday, 9th February, some Year 11 students and I, swapped our classroom for the outdoors at the **London Wetland Centre** in Barnes.

The afternoon kicked off with a visit to the resident **otters**, Honey and Tod. Beyond being adorable, we learned they are a vital "indicator species," proving just how clean and healthy our water environments can be. We also got a front-row seat to nature's comedy as Bob the **Heron** "borrowed" some of the otters' lunch!

Students got stuck into their **Ecology required practicals**, using sampling techniques to estimate plant populations and map out how distribution changes across different habitats. We explored the many **habitats** around the site and discussed how organisms interact, whilst looking at food chains and food webs.

A particular highlight was the session at the **bird hides**; for many, this was their first experience using **binoculars**. We definitely have some **new birdwatchers** in our midst!

The London Wetland Centre is an incredible place for all ages to explore and deepen their understanding of ecology. I highly recommend a visit and the **scenery changes beautifully with every season**.



## Science Club – Ms Omar

This week in Science Club, students explored colour and light by creating their very own colour wheels. They carefully divided cardboard plates into equal sections and coloured them using different colours like green, orange and purple. Once attached to a pencil so they could spin freely, the real excitement began.

As the wheels spun, the separate colours appeared to blend together, creating a much lighter shade that looked almost white or grey. This experiment demonstrated an important scientific idea about light and colour. When a colour wheel spins quickly, our eyes cannot process each individual colour separately. Instead, the colours combine in our vision due to something called persistence of vision.

By the end of the session, everyone had created a successful spinning colour wheel and gained a better understanding of how our eyes and brain work together to interpret colour.

Stay tuned for next science club - plenty of surprises ahead



### Dates for Your Diary

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Half Term Starts  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 – Academy resumes  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Year 9 Parents' Evening  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Year 11 Parents' Evening  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – INSET Day  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 – Start of Easter Holidays  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – Academy Resumes  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – May Bank Holiday

## MFL News – Ms Ratkevicius

The MFL department has been busy! We're handing out trophies and getting ready for our next big challenge.

### The Spanish Spelling Bee

After a short delay, our linguists finally took to the stage for the **Spanish Spelling Bee Final**. The level of accuracy and speed was truly impressive.

A massive "¡Enhorabuena!" to our finalists and winner! 🏆



### MFL Cooking Competition

From Swedish cinnamon buns to Ukrainian broken glass dessert, the entries looked delicious and authentic.

It was a tough job for the judges, but we have crowned our master chefs! Congratulations to all our winners and runners-up! 🏆



### ♥ NEW: Valentine's Day Collage

Ready for the next one? We want to see your best collages! See your Google classroom for details.



## Y8 Healthy Relationships Workshop – Ms Swann

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February, 30 Y8 students came out of their usual lessons to learn about healthy relationships. Through participating in drama, games and activities, the students learnt to:

- Identify key elements of healthy and unhealthy behaviours in relationships.
- Explore the nature, prevalence, and impact of abuse in all its forms.
- Recognise early warning signs of unhealthy relationships.
- Practice healthy behaviours in relationships and develop understanding of personal boundaries and consent.
- Identify different barriers to leaving an unhealthy relationship, including additional barriers faced by marginalised communities.
- Develop awareness of where to seek or signpost support.
- Build soft skills including empathy, self-esteem, confidence, creativity, communication skills, emotional regulation techniques and conflict resolution strategies.

At the end of the workshop, the Y8 students presented what they had learnt in Y7 assembly.



## UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge – Ms Felbinger

Two weeks ago our Year 10s, Year 11s and an IG student competed in this year's UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge.

Smart mathematicians and logicians as they all are, we've had a number of silver and bronze certificates again this year. Well done!

### Year 10:

Silver - Stanislav (*the best in our school this year!*), Mattia, Dabeer, Abdelrahman, Ada

Bronze - Mahid, Mohammad Ali, Nimra

### Year 11:

Silver - Nana-Osei

Bronze - Polina, Etehsam

### IG:

Silver - Kian

Here's the first few questions from this year's challenge if you want to give it a go:

1. Which of these has the largest value?

A  $\frac{1+2}{2}$

B  $\frac{1+2+3}{3}$

C  $\frac{1+2+3+4}{4}$

D  $\frac{1+2+3+4+5}{5}$

E  $\frac{1+2+3+4+5+6}{6}$

2. What time will it be 2026 minutes after 20:26 on Monday?

A 06:12 on Tuesday

B 16:12 on Tuesday

C 20:12 on Tuesday

D 06:12 on Wednesday

E 20:12 on Wednesday

3. A cuboid has side-lengths, in cm, which are three consecutive positive integers. It has volume  $120 \text{ cm}^3$ . What is the area, in  $\text{cm}^2$ , of its largest face?

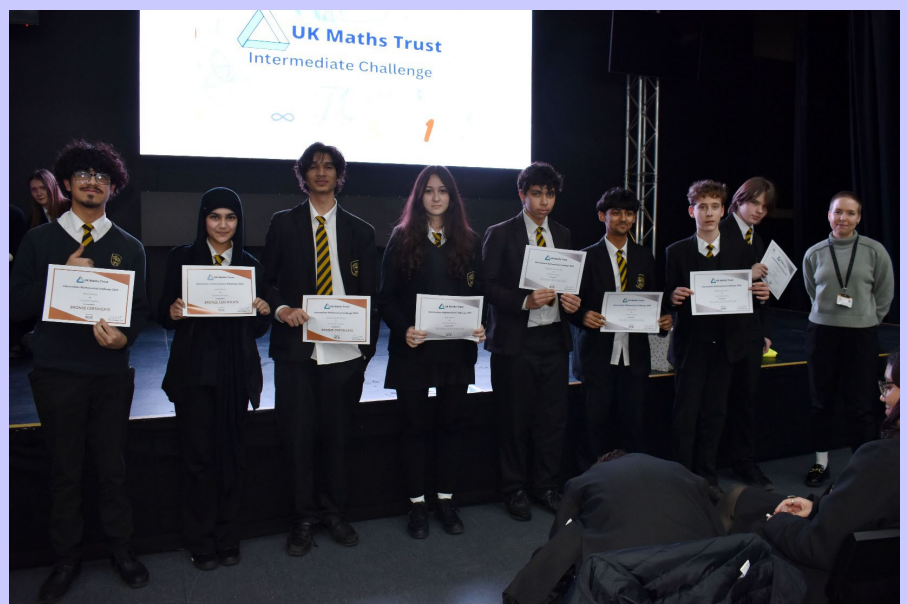
A 15

B 20

C 24

D 30

E 41



**Did you miss your teenage  
vaccines at school?**

**Visit a catch-up clinic to make sure  
you are fully protected**

**Thursday 19 February**

10:00 - 14:00

Wandsworth Town Hall, SW18 2PU

**Thursday 12 March**

15:30 - 17:30

Endlesham Hall, SW12 8JL

**Saturday 28 March**

10:00 - 14:00

Fayland Children's Centre, SW16 1SY



**Scan the QR code or call  
020 3903 3374 to book an  
appointment or for more  
information**

# ADHD PARENTING COURSE



**Want to understand more about ADHD and  
the reasons behind your child's behaviour?**

Taking place over **4 weeks**, with discussions based around real-life scenarios, each 2-hour session will support you to meet the daily challenges using practical and proven strategies.

**Starts:** Friday 6th March 2026

**Ends:** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Time:** 10:00AM - 12:00PM

**Where:** Henry Prince Clubroom, SW18 4UN

**Book your space now:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/LyJyDWviin>



For parents and carers of newly diagnosed children with ADHD/on the assessment pathway, who live or go to school in Wandsworth.