



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

Creative Writing – English Department

This week, the English Department is proud to share the first of its three short story submissions for the Wimbledon Bookfest 2026 Young Writers Competition!

With a limit of up to 500 word limit in the form of a story or a poem, Zohra Nail (09SWN) has written a compelling description of a family experiencing illness. Zohra explores themes of faith and grief, all while utilising the literary tool of an internal monologue as well as elements of science fiction. We will continue to showcase Southfields Academy's participation in Wimbledon Bookfest by including the short story finalists in coming weeks!

They hate me. They think I'm crazy, stupid, useless. I was the wrong one. Grace was everything my mother could've prayed for: soft, pretty, modest, religious. She exists in a way I don't. I've always wished to be her.

Mum says the house is full of God's light. She keeps the curtains open day and night. She claims 'darkness is where sin settles', meaning we're never allowed to sit in it for long. Especially me. I started noticing the light when I stopped trying to sleep. It wasn't a lamp, or the moon. It was softer than that. It waited in the corner of my room. I think I was supposed to be afraid, however I had worse things to worry about in this house. So I spoke to it. Telling it all the troubles I ever had. The light brightened. After that, it approached every night. I told it everything I could never say out loud, and the light listened. It never interrupted. It never left. The light eventually started following me and began to appear outside my room as well. In mirrors. In gaps under doors. Even in the corner of Grace's eyes when she stared at me for too long.

Grace stopped laughing at me so easily after she fell ill this morning. Mum wouldn't meet my eyes or Grace's; half of her time she wasn't paying attention to any of us. It's bad enough I never get noticed. Now she's managing to not look after her sick daughter. She's sat there praying. Unbothered to first check if her daughter is conscious. Her actions made me feel sick; it wasn't a simple belief anymore. It was something unstable.

That night, the light felt warmer. Closer. I didn't question it, I couldn't afford to because this was the first time in my life something was paying attention to me. This time the changes were growing. My mother's voice cracked through prayer, sharp and panicked, as if faith itself was failing her. Grace stood beside her, perfect as always, even in fear. No one looked at me. They never did. I stood at the top of the stairs and felt something answering a call it had been waiting for. Grace suddenly sprinted towards me for the first time in all my years of living and burst into tears, saying she doesn't feel like herself. I stood there in a sort of confusion I never felt before. The light came. It didn't appear all at once. It grew, spilling through the house like grief that had finally decided to be seen. After that, there was only silence.

The light wasn't changing the house. It was correcting it. I don't remember deciding to move towards it. I only remember the feeling of being pulled, like something inside me had already agreed before I could refuse. For the first time I saw clearly inside it. Grace stood there. Not as she was, but as I had been.

Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 18th June 2026 – IEAP Day
Thursday 25th June 2026 – Year 11 Leavers' Celebration
Friday 26th June 2026 – INSET Day
Tuesday 30th June 2026 – Year 6 Induction Day
Thursday 9th July 2026 – Year 12 L3 Parents' Evening
Thursday 9th July 2026 – Year 12 Careers Day
Friday 10th July 2026 – Year 9 Enterprise Day
Monday 13th July 2026 – KS3 Sports Day



Thought for the Week

"A single bracelet does not jingle." — African Proverb

Science Club – Ms Omar

This week in science club, students took part in a simple but effective experiment using milk, food colouring, and dish soap. They added drops of food colouring to the surface of the milk before gently touching it with a small amount of dish soap.

Students observed how the colours began to spread and move across the milk, forming a variety of patterns. They watched closely as the colours mixed and changed direction, creating different effects each time the soap was added. Once everyone had seen the reaction in action, students shared their observations and compared the different patterns they had created using their different colours. It was a great opportunity to explore science through hands-on investigation and see how everyday materials can produce surprising results.

Stay tuned as later on in this half term we have a special caterpillar to butterfly project coming up, giving students the chance to observe an incredible life cycle up close!



Froglets Update – Ms Sulliman

As many of you are aware, the science department rescued some tadpoles and have raised them into froglets!

You have been watching them develop and grow as you pass by the technicians' office on the corridor and a few of you have asked where the frogs are...

Well, we are happy to share that they have been released into the wild!

If you have any questions about animal conservation, please speak to your science teachers.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u_5XfDWvctskptj6uF4631xAj9LC2DqR/view?usp=sharing

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ax94PGpzSM1WdWR9Sd15R42-iJeqJM7u/view?usp=sharing>

Newsletter:

Please click to access the [28th Edition of the Careers Newsletter](#) - It's [National Freelancer Week 08 – 14 June](#). [What is freelancing?](#) If you want to know more about work generally, have a look at [Day of Wrk](#) to show what people actually do for their jobs

Work Experience Help:

Our **Year 10 students** have their **Work Experience Week 2026** in **July: 6th – 10th July 2026** and they are looking for placements. Please let the [Careers Team](#) know if you have **any contacts who could help us**.

Get Work Ready – Learn in Your Own Time

[Open University](#) has a number of free Level 1, 2, and 3 courses across a wide range of subjects; Learn AI skills with [Google Career Certificate](#) Courses; [IBM Skills Build](#) has over 1,000 courses – AI, Cyber Security & Data analysis. [Escape Studios](#) offers free, on demand tutorials for gaming, animation, VFX etc





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

Education
Wellbeing
Service

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

Supporting Your Teenager With Emotional Difficulties and Self-Harm

Being a teenager can be difficult to navigate, with lots of change and emotional ups and downs.

Parents and carers can have key roles in supporting their teenagers through this by understanding emotional regulation, and how to facilitate healthy responses to difficult or testing situations.



DATE / TIME

Wednesday 10th June
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

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

DATE / TIME

Thursday 18th June
7.00-8.00pm



Scan the
QR code
or
click here

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

SUPPORTING YOUR TEEN'S TRANSITION TO COLLEGE - PARENT / CARER WEBINAR

Moving from secondary school to college involves lots of different changes for adolescents, including travelling new routes, becoming familiar with new environments and teachers, making new friends, and learning new subjects. This workshop aims to discuss these common worries and provide strategies to help you support your teen through the transition.

This workshop is for the parents and carers of teens that are going to one of our colleges: Merton, Carshalton, Wandsworth, Kingston, Croydon and Richmond.

Education
Wellbeing
Service



DATE / TIME

Monday 6th July 1.00-2.00 pm

Wednesday 26th August 6.00-7.00 pm

LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to this event for free on Eventbrite by scanning the QR Code or following the link below:



[Click here](#) to book

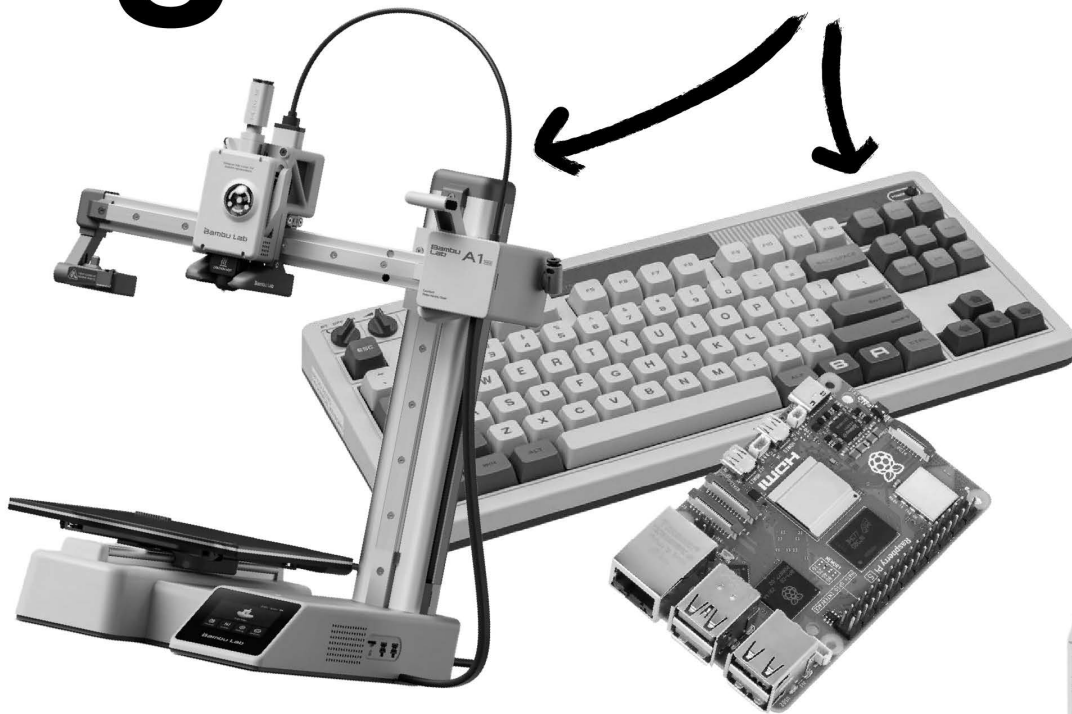
wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk



in partnership with **NASA**

teenager?

get a free



by coding projects this summer.

start now 

Stardance Challenge is a STEM challenge by Hack Club, where any teenager (aged 13–18) can make technical projects to earn prizes until Sept 30, 2026.

Hack Club is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit, and Stardance Challenge is hosted in collaboration with NASA, AMD, and GitHub.



Ref: a-kf2uo