Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter
Monday 9th November 2026

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

Creative Writing – English Department

Year 7 have been reading Boy 87 in English – a novel about the journey of a refugee. Early in the book, the main character, Shif, is captured by the military. The piece below by Cianna Clarke-Reid 7ZYS was part of a creative writing submission about Shif's captivity.

Boy 87. The wet, moist, metal box hit my nose with a sweaty odour. I couldn't tell if it was someone's body odour, or rotting rubbish. As I moved my legs along the box, I felt the damp, wet floor make a juicy sound everytime I took a step. I felt my surroundings, trying to find a clue to the pitch black room. The strong steel walls pained my fingers after every touch. I felt a tingle of movement across my leg, like something was crawling on me. I slowly reached down, trying to locate where the movement was coming from. I couldn't find it. I started to feel more and more movement. Maybe it was mud dripping? Maybe a bug? Or a cockroach? The thought of those possibilities made me nauseous. I needed to find a way out. Each breath felt like a clock ticking down the hours. The tapping of cockroaches made me feel dizzy... I slowly slid down the wall, feeling hopeless. I knew there wasn't an escape route. I knew there was no ending. I felt tears rolling down my face, one by one.

By the time I wiped my eyes, I already felt drained. I thought about what would've happened if I didn't pack my bag until the next morning. Sitting in the dull eerie room, I thought about my mother and Lem-Lem, how I wouldn't see them again, even knowing my father could be here. I hoped it would get better soon. I attempted to get some rest. All I could think about is what would've happened if I had made it on the escape boat. I sat down, drowning in my thoughts while the deafening sound of rain drops slapped down onto the big metal box. I thought about all the memories I had with my friends, my mum and Lem-Lem.

Shortly, the loud rain drops stopped. I heard the loud swing of the big iron box opening. A body builder shaped soldier's silhouette was the only thing I could see. "Get up! It's time to work!!" the soldier exclaimed. From that moment, I knew the real hardship had only just begun.

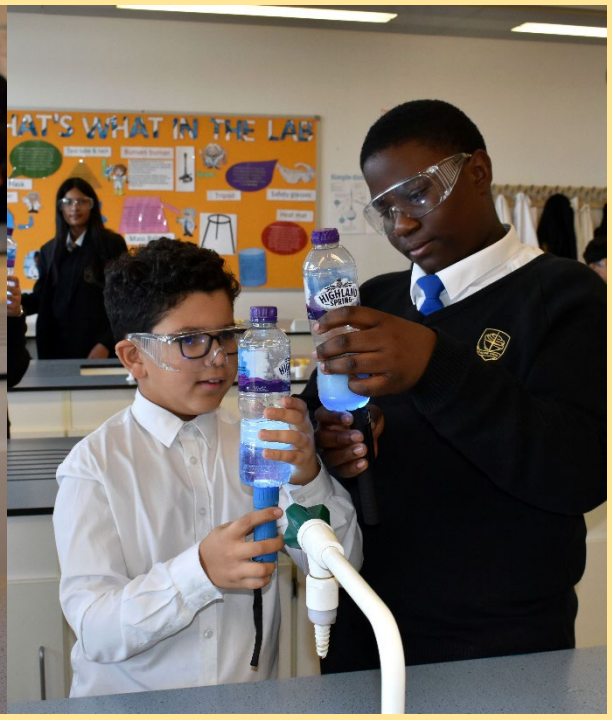
Science Club – Ms Akhvlediani

Science Club created their own bubbling lava lamps this week!

Students layered oil and water in bottles, adding food colouring to tint the bottom layer. Dropping in effervescent tablets caused colourful bubbles to rise and fall, and shining torches from top to bottom highlighted the dazzling reaction in action!







Thought for the Week

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." — C. S. Lewis

Submit your children's Christmas card designs!

"A fantastic opportunity for students to express their creativity and skill or just have fun.

Every year, Fleur Anderson runs her Christmas card design competition. Students and Pupils from around Putney, Southfields, Roehampton and Wandsworth Town have the chance to design a Christmas card. I'll choose a winner, which I'll use for the Christmas card which I'll send out to hundreds of people (including the competition winner!) this year, including the King, the Prime Minister, the Mayor of London, MPs and lots of others.

The extended submission deadline for Christmas cards is Wednesday 12th November this year.
To submit your designs - please give them to Mr Adam Smith, Head of Art and Design or another department teacher so we have time to submit them.

Please clearly state the name and school year for each submission.
Please allow time for the post to get to me! I can provide a freepost bag if needed - just ask.

Good Luck!"

NEW: Coffee Mornings

Secondary school can be an isolating time for parents and carers as your children become increasingly independent. This is not solely based on your evolving relationship with your kids, but your distance from other parents as well.

Where once you may have chatted with other parents and carers at the primary school gates, now your kids travel alone, leaving you out of touch with other families right when you need it the most.

Raising children to become confident and competent adults is a big job, and navigating adolescence is one of the hardest parts - especially if you are isolated. To help you feel more supported and connected with our wider school community, we are launching monthly coffee mornings.

Our first event will take place on Wednesday, 11 November. Please join us from 8:30-10 am for a hot drink and biscuits - arrive through the main reception. This will be an initial "ice breaker" event to meet us, meet other parents and carers, and chat about what is important to you. Based on your feedback, we will then bring in guest speakers and present topics throughout the school year.

For more information:
Stacey Gavin (stacey.gavin@southfieldsacademy.com)
Tricia Nearn (tricia.nearn@southfieldsacademy.com



Southfields Academy
Coffee Mornings for Parents



CONNECTION - SUPPORT - LEARNING

Wednesdays from 8:30-10:00 am
on the following dates:

★ 11 November 26 ★
27 January 27
10 March 27
05 May 27
30 June 27

Please arrive via the main reception

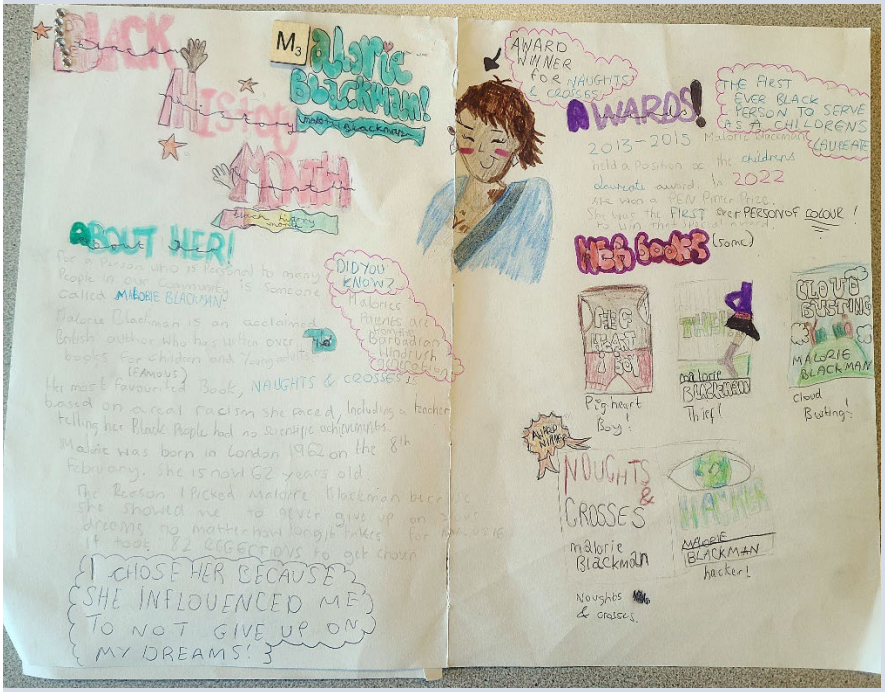
- Join us for a hot drink and biscuits
- Connect with other parents
- Hear from guest speakers and special presentations
- Learn how to best support your children and each other

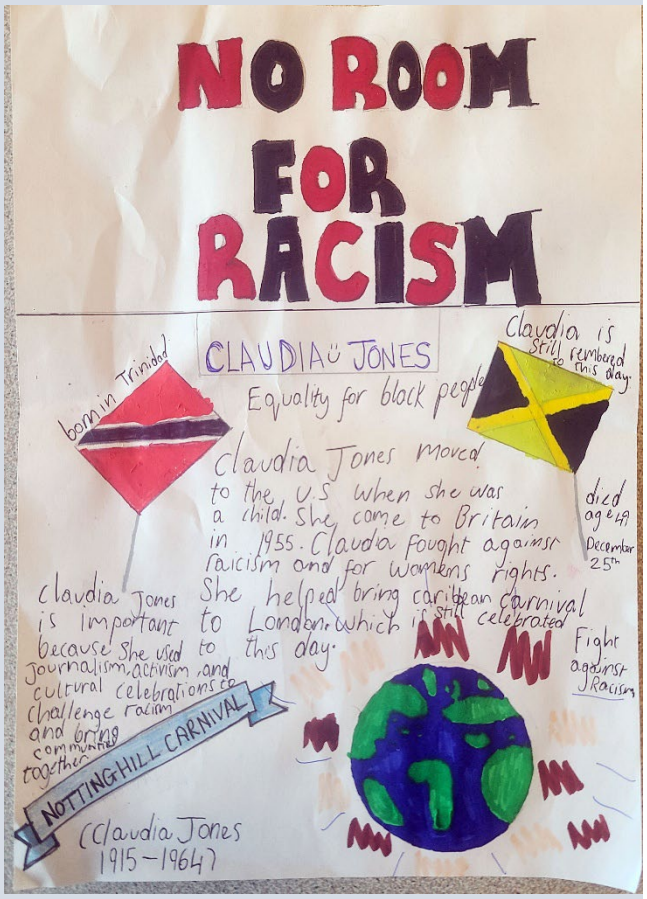
WE BELIEVE IN WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS, SCHOOL STAFF, AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS TO SUPPORT PUPILS' AND FAMILIES RESILIENCE AND WELLBEING. YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT TO US!

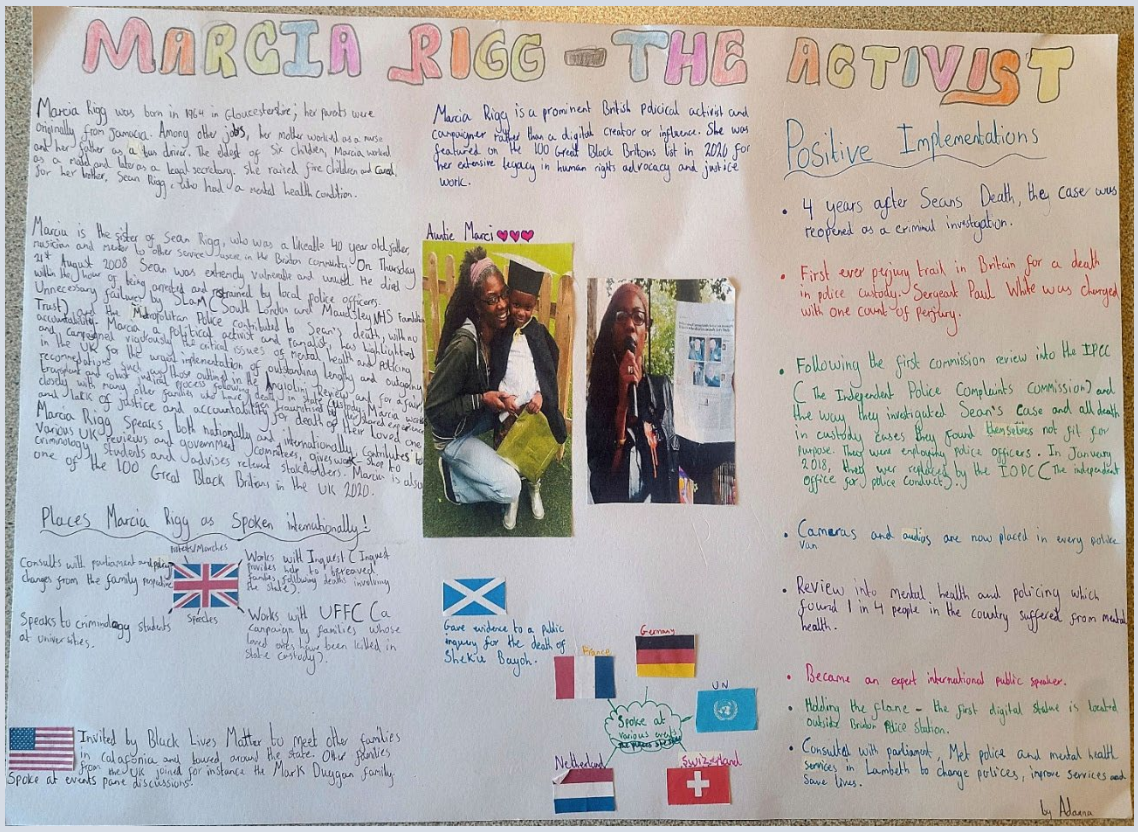
Black History Month – Mr Williams

KS 3 students were asked to design a poster about a Black British individual who they think has had a positive impact on society.

There were loads of entries which will be displayed in the Academy, and the ones below are a very small example of the Wonderful quality of their creations.







Dates for Your Diary

Thursday 12th November 2026 – IEAP Day
Wednesday 18th November 2026 – Year 8 Parents' Day
Thursday 19th November 2026 – School Council Election Day
Monday 23rd November 2026 – INSET Day 2
Thursday 26th November 2026 – Prize Evening

Newsletter:

Please click to access the **8th Edition of the Southfields Academy Careers Newsletter**, with details of Green Careers and how your child can get into a career in any area – Law, Finance, Engineering & others but still be working to transform the world towards sustainability. **Destination STEM** has created **a virtual Careers Fair**. This 360-degree online careers exhibition is aimed at supporting young people to explore the work of those mitigating and adapting to the challenge of climate change.

Work Experience (WEX) Dates 2026/27

If your child is in Year 12 or Year 10, please try to assist them in finding a work placement for work experience so that they can enjoy the benefits of a live workplace?

- WEX Year 12: Mon 8th – Fri 12th Feb 2027
- WEX Year 10: Tue 13th – Thu 15th Jul 2027

Please let the Careers Team know if you have any contacts who could help us with placement opportunities

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

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 17th November
12.30-1.30pm

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

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

DATE / TIME

Tuesday 17th November
7.00-8.00pm

Scan the QR code or click here

Education Wellbeing Service

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

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

Parent/Carer Webinars

Secondary Schedule 26/27

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

- Understanding and supporting teen sleep
- Supporting your teen to cope with exams (Years 11-13)
- Screen time, social media and gaming - what parents need to know
- Conflict, communication and compromise - the teen years
- Healthy habits in teenagers with Autism
- Managing exam and assignment stress (Years 7-10)

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.

Respectful Open Collaborative Compassionate Consistent