



# Southchurch High School

Friday 12 December 2025

## The Southchurch Way

*A community of opportunity, learning and aspirations*

Issue number: 13

### Message from the Headteacher

It was lovely to see so many students, their parents/carers and friends turning out, on what was an horrendous evening weather wise, last Friday in support of our Christmas Fayre. We would also like to thank all the stallholders and our staff community for their support. Seeing the children's faces, of all ages, as they met Father Christmas and his elf and not forgetting, The Grinch who put in an appearance!

Your child/ren may have informed you that we have introduced a 'Word of the Week' where we are encouraging students to use the word, correctly in context; a Classchart point will then be issued as a reward. This week's 'Word of the Week' was 'persuade'.

This week's Professional Learning Journey for teaching staff focused on ensuring that every child that they teach is understood and why it is important to use strategies and adhere to the 100% compliance.

A huge thank you to Miss Townley for her organisation and support of the PSHE Drop Down days that took place earlier in the week for both Year 10s, Monday, and Year 11s on Tuesday on the subject of 'Talk Consent'. A very important topic matter for young people. We do hope all those that attended found it extremely informative.

Thank you to Miss Waite who very kindly supported six of our students at a Panathlon competition at Hollywood Bowl in Basildon on Tuesday.

In support of World Human Rights Day on Wednesday, Mr Naidoo and the wonderful Student Leadership Team hosted activities at both breaks. Students were also given stickers to add to the growing collection in their planners!

Over the course of Wednesday and Thursday this week, all Year 7 students took part in a 'Goals and Aspirations' Workshop in collaboration with the Department for Work & Pensions. Thank you to Ms Smith, Careers Leader, for her support of these workshops.

Thank you to Mr Winyard for his support of the u13 indoor cricket competition which the school hosted yesterday. Well done to all those who took part!

It was an exceptionally early start for some of our students and staff today as they departed for a trip to the Lille Christmas Market. Enormous thanks to Mrs Langdon for her organisation and support, together with Mrs Blas-Semwayo, Mr Tape, Ms Smith and Miss Cass who all accompanied the students on what we hope was a lovely festive filled trip. We look forward to hearing all about it on Monday.

The term dates for the next academic year, 2026/2027, have now been agreed and have been published on the Parent tab on the school website; Governors have approved a two-week October half term break.

As you are aware, the My Child At School (MCAS) App will be launching upon our return from the Christmas holidays. A letter has been sent to parents/carers containing details on how to access the App from a smartphone or other device. Parents/carers are asked to download the MCAS App prior to 1 January, 2026. **From this date, MCAS will be the school's primary method of contacting parents/carers and we will cease sending out information by email and text from that date.** Paper copies of all letters will be available to collect from the school Reception, if required, but will not be routinely sent out after this date.

Finally, congratulations to the Christmas card competition winners who were Bethany and Alisa in Year 7, Aoife in Year 9 and Tia in Year 10. Their winning entries have been printed on card as Christmas cards and I am in the process of sending out to all the local secondary school Headteachers.

Mrs Airoll  
**Headteacher**

### Arrangements - Last Day of Term

A letter will be emailed to you early next week regarding the arrangements for the last day of term.

There will be an early finish for students and we will be having a Christmas theme day. The students will be allowed to wear a Christmas jumper or a T-shirt/Jumper in a festive theme colour.

Important guidelines:

- Full school uniform must be worn on the bottom half
- School shoes are required
- Blazers are not required
- No hoodies



## Menu

### SWAN'S RESTAURANT

### WEEK 1

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main Meal</b>	Chicken Korma Served with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread (Halal)	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Gravy	<b>Special Lunch</b> Turkey Burger in a Bun Served with Curly Fries	Chicken Fajita Served with Diced Potatoes & Coleslaw (Halal)	NO LUNCH MORNING BREAK ONLY
<b>Vegetarian Meal</b>	Vegetable Sweet & Sour Served with Boiled Rice & Spring Rolls (Vegan)	Vegetable Sausages Served with Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Gravy (Vegan)	Vegan Burger in a Bun Served with Curly Fries	Vegetable Quiche Served with Diced Potatoes & Coleslaw	NO LUNCH MORNING BREAK ONLY
<b>Extra's</b>	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Available Monday, Tuesday & Thursday Small Pasta & Sauce Available Monday, Tuesday & Thursday				

## Key Dates

18 Dec	Year 7 Pantomime Trip
19 Dec	Last day of Term
22 Dec – 02 Jan	Christmas holiday
05 Jan	Students return to school



## Christmas Card Competition

Here are some of the amazing entries to our Christmas card competition! They are all so talented!



**Special Lunch**  
**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Turkey Burger in a Bun  
or  
Vegan Burger in a Bun

Served with  
Curly Fries

Dessert  
Vegan Chocolate Chip Cookie  
&  
Any Drink

**£2.50**

## House points

### HOUSE POINTS

W/C 15 December

### Who is in the lead this week?

Don't forget you get POINTS for attending a club, which contributes to house points!

You **MUST** wear your HOUSE BADGE as part of your uniform expectation



5415



4421



4332



3590

MERRY  
Christmas



## Attendance

Congratulations to all of our Attendance winners!

Oliver won an adventure island wristband, a 'Skip the Queue' pass and a bacon roll. Jamie, Archie, Fatema and Ayomide all received 'Skip the Queue' passes.

Sky received an Adventure Island wristband.



Aiden won an Adventure Island wristband, and Fabyan, Kai, Lauren and Piper all received 'Skip the Queue' passes.



Jack received an Adventure Island wristband.

Well done to you all!



## Christmas Fair

Our Student Leadership Team worked so hard on their stall at the Southchurch High Christmas Fair!

They raised an amazing £110! Well done to them all.



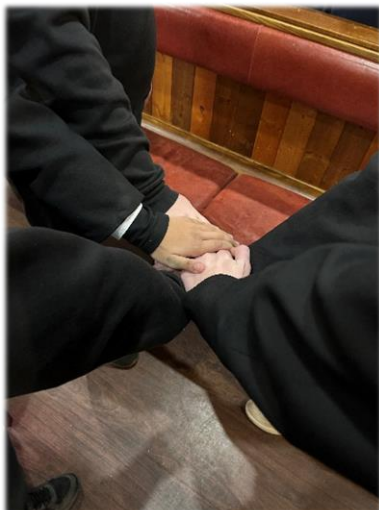
## Fixtures

Next week's fixtures
<b>MONDAY 15th</b>
<b>TUESDAY 16th</b> Y11 Football v Chase (A)
<b>WEDNESDAY 17th</b> Y10 Basketball v Chase (H)
<b>THURSDAY 18th</b>
<b>FRIDAY 19th</b>

## Panathlon Bowling Competition

On Tuesday, some of our students took part in the Panathlon bowling competition at Hollywood Bowl in Basildon. They represented the school impeccably, showing their teamwork and support for one another. A lot of fun was had, a number of pins knocked over and a few spares scored along the way!

The students received medals at the end of the competition for their hard work. Well done to those involved!



We hope you all have a lovely Christmas this year and are able to have some rest. This season is a great time to be reminded how lovely some of the Christmas films are. A firm favourite is Elf and also Nativity.

Remember to listen to uplifting music, it can increase your levels of wellbeing instantly.

We have also included a scavenger hunt that you may wish to do!

## Christmas

### SCAVENGER HUNT

<input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTMAS TREE	<input type="checkbox"/> PRESENT
<input type="checkbox"/> ORNAMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> STAR TREE TOPPER
<input type="checkbox"/> MISTLETOE	<input type="checkbox"/> REINDEER
<input type="checkbox"/> GINGERBREAD MAN	<input type="checkbox"/> SWEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> SLEIGH	<input type="checkbox"/> GOLD BELL
<input type="checkbox"/> CANDY CANE	<input type="checkbox"/> SANTA
<input type="checkbox"/> WREATH	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVENT CALENDAR
<input type="checkbox"/> SNOWFLAKE	<input type="checkbox"/> STOCKING
<input type="checkbox"/> JINGLE BELLS	<input type="checkbox"/> RUDOLPH
<input type="checkbox"/> SNOW GLOBE	<input type="checkbox"/> ELF
<input type="checkbox"/> RED BOW	<input type="checkbox"/> NUTRACKER
<input type="checkbox"/> SNOWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> CHRISTMAS COOKIE

Useful helpline details

**Childline 0800 1111**

<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/>

**Samaritans 116 123**

<https://www.samaritans.org/>

**Young Minds**

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/find-help/i-need-urgent-help/>

Shout Text YM to 85258



**SAMARITANS**

**YOUNG MINDS**  
fighting for young people's mental health

## Food Tech

This week in Food Tech, Year 8 have been making jam tarts. They made their own jam and pastry last week, ready for them to be assembled during this week's lesson.

They look truly scrumptious!



## PHSE - Talk Consent

Our Year 10 and 11 students spent a day this week learning about consent and healthy relationships.

They conducted themselves brilliantly and were a credit to Southchurch!



## Child Development

Last Tuesday, our Child Development students had the wonderful opportunity to visit a Flora Childcare group as part of their coursework observation.

It was an amazing experience for them to explore, interact, and develop practical skills that will support their learning journey. The childminder shared some lovely feedback about the group: "You should be really proud of how lovely and polite they all were. What a lovely little group. Apologies that some of them are covered in glitter - I think they really enjoyed their time with the kids."

This visit was not only fun but also a fantastic learning experience for our students. We're so proud of them for representing the class so well!



## Construction

Last Friday, we took our Year 10 Construction students to an Experience Day at South Essex Colleges Group, Stephenson Road Campus.

The students took part in hands-on carpentry, brickwork, and painting and decorating sessions, giving them a fantastic insight into college life and the opportunities available within the construction industry.

They all had an amazing day!



# Library Corner



## Word of the Week:

*Persuade*

Verb

Meaning: Induce someone to do something through reasoning or argument.



This week's theme is: Human Rights

Key date: 10 December

### Did you know?

- All the UN's members agreed to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights except three, who abstained: the Soviet Union, South Africa and Saudi Arabia.
- Amnesty International was founded in 1961 by a lawyer who had read about two Portuguese students being arrested for drinking a toast to freedom.
- According to the charity Freedom House, the country with the least freedom is South Sudan, with a score of 1/100. The country with the most freedom is Finland, with a 100/100 score.

				1	4	6	7	2
		3		8	2	1		
2			5				3	
5		7			1		2	
4					6		5	
6			7	4		9	8	
					7			8
9	8	6	1	5				
	7	4	2	6				9

Fill the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 9 by 9 box contains the numbers 1-9

Find the word in the puzzle. Words can go in any direction. Words can share letters as they cross over each other

Activism  
Community  
Empathy  
Equality  
Freedom  
Justice  
Kindness  
Progress  
Respect

S A S K Y S E O Y B J J R  
S C Q G C X S H K M J M V  
E T F D T R T E C B W P U  
R I M G D A E O N P N D  
G V S I P I M S B D Z W V  
O I C M X M K P S N F I  
R S E J U S T I C E Y I U  
P M P N W N B D B J C T K  
K A I M O D E E R F V T A  
H T S Z E Y D P T H G G S  
Y P X W H W H B L L V S H  
Y T I L A U Q E L H O E X  
O U U H U G D R H R D C U



## LIBRARY INITIATIVES



Welcome to the Library



### Christmas Party

We will be holding our Christmas party next week for all our top Accelerated Reader Quizzers so look out for your invite,

We cannot wait to celebrate all your hard work.

Remember to keep taking the AR quizzes to earn your points, prizes and certificates.



## LIBRARY POST OFFICE



Post cards for your friends/teachers and they will be delivered weekly by our library elves!

Design the front however you like, but on the back please write the name of the person you are sending it to and their year/class if you know it - we need to make sure it goes to the right person!

The students have enjoyed making cards again this week and receiving them.



## Important Information



- Remember to quiz each book you finish on Accelerated Reader to add to your word count. There are prizes for all students who climb our ladder and reach the word count goals. See the librarians for your login details.
- Teams Page Remember to check the library teams page for : Updates and Announcements

