



# Southchurch High School

Friday 6 February 2026

## The Southchurch Way

*A community of opportunity, learning and aspirations*

Issue number: 19

### Message from the Headteacher

This week's Professional Learning Journey for teaching staff focused on links between independence, attainment and disadvantaged. Independent practice for students is important for a number of reasons such as strengthening a student's memory making it easier to recall information later, building confidence and resilience in order to be able to complete tasks without help thus fostering a sense of ownership, self-motivation and a growth mindset. Independent practice is also key for students to learn how to manage their own time, working through problems and taking responsibility for their learning and it also allows for teachers to check for students' understanding and address errors immediately. Finally, independent practice simulates exam conditions for students who must solely rely on knowledge and skills retained.

Thank you to Ms Smith, Careers Leader, and Mrs Winter for kindly supporting our Year 8 students who took part in a Careers Carousel on Tuesday. We hope the students found it inspiring; they met with a number of employers, including one of our very own former students. They also had a session on Post-16 options. I would also like to thank the employers who kindly gave up their time in support of our students.

Thank you to Mrs Winter, Mr Winyard and Mr James for kindly accompanying a group of Year 10 students on a visit to Writtle College, Chelmsford for a Sports Science 'Taster Day'. Students experienced a further education establishment and provided with the opportunity to learn more about careers in the sport/leisure industry.

Thank you to those parents/carers who are members of our Parent Council and were able to attend Wednesday evening's meeting. As always, it was an extremely productive meeting and we welcomed the discussions that took place. Thank you also to Miss Murray for her organisation and support of the meeting.

Next week's word of the week for students is 'evaluate': verb 'to determine the significance, worth, or condition of something'. Please do encourage your child to practice with you over the weekend ahead of the need for them to use the word in lessons next week.

Finally, congratulations to all of our students who have achieved 100% attendance this week. Well done!

For three out of five days this week the school's attendance figure has been 92 or 93% which is a fantastic achievement; we have celebrated as a school community and would also like to thank you all for your continued support. Keep up the good work everyone! Every day counts in your child's secondary education journey.

Gentle reminder that the Year 9 Parents' Evening is taking place next Tuesday, 5 February from 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Please encourage your child to book appointments with their subject teachers. It is especially important that parents/carers attend ahead of the Year 9 Options Evening being held on Thursday, 26 February (first week back after the half term holiday).

One week to go until the school community has a well-deserved week's holiday! **Please note that students are expected back to school on Monday, 23 February, 2026.**

Mrs Airoll  
**Headteacher**

### Key Dates

<b>10 Feb</b>	Year 9 Parents Evening, 4-7pm
<b>11 Feb</b>	School Musical, 6:30pm
<b>12 Feb</b>	School Musical, 6:30pm
<b>13 Feb</b>	Feel Good Friday/Last day of term
<b>26 Feb</b>	Year 9 Options Evening



## House points

**HOUSE POINTS**

W/C 02 February

**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

	<b>7315</b>	★
	<b>6108</b>	
	<b>5987</b>	
	<b>4688</b>	

**GAME OF HOUSES**  
INTERHOUSE COMPETITION



EVENTS RUNNING UNTIL 13TH FEB

<b>French</b> Design a poster on <b>Mardi Gras</b> Year 7, 8, 9	<b>Textiles</b> Rubbish costume design Years 8, 9, 10
	<b>Geography</b> Design a sustainable City Years 7, 8, 9

**COMPETE TO EARN POINTS FOR YOUR HOUSE**



**Y10 WORK EXPERIENCE DEADLINE**



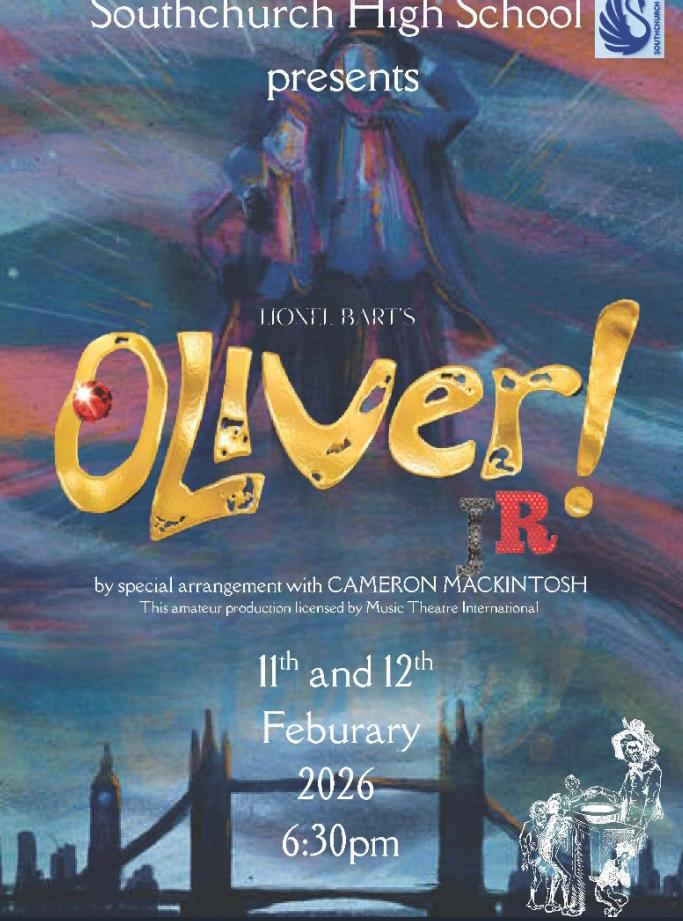
**DEADLINE IS THIS FRIDAY!**

**5 DAYS TO GO UNTIL WORK EXPERIENCE DEADLINE**

Please see **Ms Smith** for any help or guidance needed to find your placement. Well done to all those who have found a placement so far.

## School production

Southchurch High School presents



LIONEL BART'S

**Oliver! JR.**

by special arrangement with CAMERON MACKINTOSH  
This amateur production licensed by Music Theatre International

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>  
February  
2026  
6:30pm



Please "consider yourselves part of the family" as we proudly invite you to this year's school production: a lively, heart-warming, and occasionally pickpocket-filled performance of **Oliver!**

Our talented students have been rehearsing with the enthusiasm of someone who's just asked for "more"... rehearsal time. From cheeky street urchins to larger-than-life characters, the cast promises an evening full of energy, humour, and the kind of musical chaos only children can create.

Join us for a performance that will leave you humming familiar tunes all the way home — and possibly feeling grateful that your own dinner isn't supervised by Fagin's crew.

### **Performance Details:**

⌚ Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February  
⌚ 6:30pm ♂ MUA

Ticket Prices are £5 for adults, £3 for children.

**Tickets can be bought on IPayImpact.**

We'd love your support, your applause, and your willingness to be momentarily transported to Victorian London — with far fewer rats, we promise.

# SPORTS NEWS

# WELL-BEING

## Next week's fixtures

MONDAY 9th

TUESDAY 10th

WEDNESDAY 11th

Y7 Netball v Chase (A)

Y8 Netball v Chase (A)

THURSDAY 12th

Y7 Netball v Eastwood (H)

Y8 Netball v Eastwood (H)

FRIDAY 13th

Our Daily Action – 6 February 2026. Download the whole calendar at [www.actionforhappiness.org](http://www.actionforhappiness.org)



### 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

YOUNGMINDS  
fighting for young people's mental health

### Clubs



### Clubs



Year 7 & 8  
Pupils  
Wednesday  
3:15-4pm,  
A116



## Options

# Y9 OPTIONS EVENING

WHERE WILL YOUR JOURNEY TAKE YOU?

**THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY | 4:30-5PM**

We invite you and your parent/carer to join us to explore which GCSE subjects are on offer to you. Teachers will be on hand to offer advice and support.

## Careers

**EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE IN HEALTHCARE** with Mid and South Essex Health & Care Academy

The Health & Care Academy is working with Medical Mavericks to provide a fantastic hands on workshop where you can explore careers in the NHS whilst getting the opportunity to practice your skills and take basic medical obs!

Activities include...

- Record and print an ECG from your heart
- Use a needle to take fake blood from a dummy arm
- Try your hand at keyhole surgery
- See inside your body with an ultrasound machine.
- Scan your retina with a ophthalmoscope.
- Listen to your pulse with a pulse doppler.
- See your veins under a vein scanner.
- Take basic medical obs.

This opportunity is available to students in Years 10 - 13, who are thinking of a career in healthcare.

Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 (am) 9.30am - 12pm	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 (pm) 1pm - 3.30pm	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 (am) 9.30am - 12pm	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 (pm) 1pm - 3.30pm
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Young People scan this QR Code to find support

Parents scan this QR Code to find support

Text a school nurse directly to talk about health or emotional wellbeing:

**IF YOU'RE 11-19 YEARS OLD TEXT**  
**07520 649895**

**PARENT OF 5-19 YEARS OLD TEXT**  
**07507 331884**

 ChatHealth  Southend on Sea City Council

Young People scan this QR Code to find support

Parents scan this QR Code to find support

## SOUTHCHURCH HIGH CLUBS

Some of the clubs on offer at breaktimes and after school! See the school website for our up-to-date list of extracurricular and sports clubs

# Library Corner



## Word of the Week:

### Determine

Verb

**Meaning:** To officially decide (something) especially because of evidence or fact.

This week's theme is: **International Day of Women and Girls In Science | 11 February**

These are six hugely significant women scientists who have not been sufficiently recognised for their achievements.

Can you find out what any of them achieved for bonus Class Chart points?



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

<b>Biology</b>	E D A K M T E W Y U P I Q
<b>Chemistry</b>	U B D E I C O B Z Q T N Y
<b>Equality</b>	F I U I N M H S C X L V H
<b>Experiment</b>	Z U D E E A E A E W N E C
<b>Investigate</b>	C O I N B P H Y S I C S R
<b>Physics</b>	M C E X P E R I M E N T A
<b>Research</b>	S L U F S S E C C U S I E
<b>Science</b>	B I O L O G Y H Z A J G S
<b>Successful</b>	Y G O L O I B N I A V A E
<b>Women</b>	Y R T S I M E H C X N T R
	E Q U A L I T Y L O H E I
	F N B C B D P K S C C Z D
	P R A B U A M U Z G J C N

## LIBRARY INITIATIVES

### Welcome to the Library

Miss Watson and Ms Strover would like to remind you that the library is open everyday during break & lunch and Monday-Thursday after school. The Library is a calm, quiet place to come and sit and read in one of our comfy reading areas or to enjoy boardgames; such as chess and scrabble.



### Chess Champions



Do you want to learn a new skill? Improve your logic, concentration and problem solving? Then learn how to play chess! Chess runs everyday during all of our opening hours. If you decide to play a competitive game, the winners are added onto our Chess Champions leader board!

### After School Club: Monday-Thursday

The Library is open to all students after school to enjoy the same activities that we have running at break & lunch.

Students have access to the computers for study or coursework. These activities run until 4.30pm

**Accelerated Reader (How To)**

**READ, QUIZ, REPEAT!**

Log in to Renaissance Learning on the PC, choose Accelerated Reader and search for the book...

Read a book...  
Choose a book from the library!

Quiz...  
Login to Renaissance Learning on the PC, choose Accelerated Reader and search for the book...

Climb the ladder in the library...  
Every time you pass a quiz your word count will be contributed to and you will move up the ladder in the library...

Earn prizes and rewards  
Students are awarded classchart points and given certificates & prizes every term for taking part! There are also extra prizes for hitting word count goals!

Repeat!!  
Quiz as many times as you like on all of the books you read!

