



Southchurch High School

Friday 06 March 2026

The Southchurch Way

A community of opportunity, learning and aspirations

Issue number: 22

Message from the Headteacher

We were delighted to receive details of our September student intake on Monday. We have already received such lovely feedback from our prospective parents/carers as to how much they are looking forward to their child starting their secondary school journey at Southchurch High! A huge thank you to Kayden and Heidi for kindly recording a welcome message, posted on Facebook on Tuesday, to those students joining our school community in September and their parents/carers. Please do check it out on our Facebook page together with my welcome message to them!

This week's Professional Learning Journey for teaching staff focused on why staff teach at Southchurch High School. It served as a poignant reminder for many of us as to why we chose teaching as our career pathway and to share our respective stories.

Thank you to Ms Smith, Careers Leader, and Mrs Winter for their kind support of a trip to the 'Who Cares Wins' Conference in London on Tuesday. A number of Year 10 students attended providing them with an opportunity to discover first-hand, insights from national expert and dynamic young professionals in social care, showcasing why a career in this sector could be an excellent choice for them.

As you know, we as a school, recognise the vital role attendance plays in supporting students' academic progress, wellbeing and confidence in school for each and every student. We launched an attendance challenge for those Year 7 and 8 students who demonstrated excellent attendance for the previous half term; their reward has been a bouncy castle extravaganza this afternoon to celebrate.

As you are aware World Book Day took place yesterday, as part of a week-long celebration in school for World Book Week. All students should have received their book token from their Form Tutors this week which entitles them to one of the free books written specially for World Book Day, available at book shops or supermarkets, or alternatively they may choose to use the voucher to receive a £1 off another book of their choice.

Students have also been asked to write down their favourite book, the author and their reason for their choice. The students' 'favourite book' slips have been used to decorate their Form Room doors. It is hoped that it will inspire others to read books that they might otherwise not have thought of, having seen it to be the favourite choice of a fellow student.

One of our highlights in recent years when celebrating the World Book Week is our 'Masked Reader' competition. Five members of staff secretly recorded a small extract from a book, their face has been filtered and their voices distorted; the filter/book was a clue to their identity. One clip has been played each day to students during tutor time. The winning group, with the most correct guesses, has won a prize as well as the award of Classcharts points.

BUT the highlight for me yesterday, in celebration of World Book Day, was those members of our fantastic staff who went to extraordinary lengths to dress up as a book character! It was wonderful to see the expression on the students' faces around the school as they spotted 'Where's Wally', 'Violet Beauregarde', 'Professor McGonagall', 'Harry Potter' to name but a few! Please check out our Facebook page for the wonderful photos from the day at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthchurchSchool>.

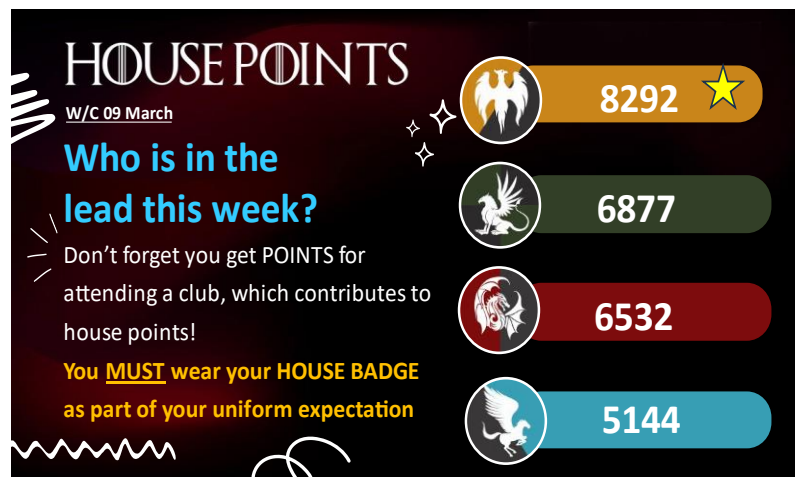
A huge thank you to our school librarians, Miss Watson and Ms Strover, and Mrs Adams who have kindly supported throughout the week and organised these celebratory events for World Book Week.

Thank you also to our wonderful Student Leadership Team for their great idea of a book swap stall which has been running throughout the week.

Please remember to encourage your child's use of next week's word of the week 'community': noun 'a group of people living in the same area'.

Mrs Airoll
Headteacher

House Points



Menu

SWAN'S RESTAURANT WEEK 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal	Halal Chicken Korma Curry Served with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread	Homemade Beef Lasagne Served with Garlic Bread	Halal Chicken Fajita Served with Diced Potatoes & Coleslaw	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Gravy	Halal Chicken Burger In a Bun Served with Potato Wedges & Homemade Coleslaw
Vegetarian Meal	Vegan Vegetable Sweet & Sour Served with Boiled Rice & Spring Rolls	Vegetable Pasta Bake Served with Garlic Bread	Vegetable Quiche Served with Diced Potatoes & Coleslaw	Vegan Sausages Served with Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Gravy	Vegan Bean Burger In a Bun Served with Potato Wedges & Homemade Coleslaw
Extra's	Jacket Potato with Cheese ,Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Available Monday - Thursday Small Pasta & Sauce Available Monday - Thursday				

Key Dates

12 Mar	Year 8 Parents' Evening
19 Mar	Year 7 Information Evening
27 Mar	Last day of Term Close for Easter Holiday
30 Mar – 10 Apr	Easter Holiday
13 Apr	Students return to school

Year 8 Art

8F have now completed their pointillism landscape study. It took meticulous, precise and careful work, with the results looking fabulous. They were so proud of their work and so are we!



World Book Day

We had a wonderful World Book Day on Thursday, with lots of activities, our annual 'Masked Reader' and a 'Book Swap' stall.



We also had lots of golden ticket winners, they have all won class chart points and tokens for our book vending machine!



Food Technology

Last week, our talented Year 8 students were busy cooking up a storm with their delicious homemade ragu.

From carefully chopping fresh ingredients to patiently simmering rich, flavourful sauces, they've been developing essential kitchen skills and learning the secrets behind this classic Italian favourite.

Well done, Year 8, we're so proud of your hard work and culinary creativity!



This week, our talented Year 8 students got busy creating their very own Malteser Cheesecakes! From crushing the biscuit base to whipping up the creamy filling and topping it with those irresistible Maltesers, the kitchen smelled amazing.

It was great to see everyone developing their skills, working as a team, and showing real creativity with their presentation. Well done Year 8 – fantastic effort this week!

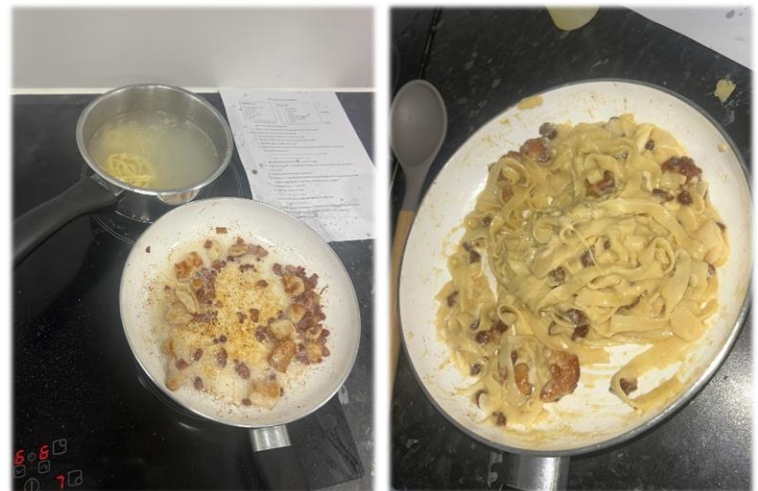


Cooking Club

This week at Cooking Club our students whipped up a delicious Chicken Carbonara from scratch. From preparing the ingredients to creating a rich, creamy sauce, everyone worked brilliantly to bring this classic dish together.

A fantastic effort from all involved – and the finished dishes looked (and tasted!) incredible.

We can't wait to see what's on the menu next week!



Library Corner



Word of the Week:

Generate

Verb

Meaning: Produce, create, or bring something into existence

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

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

Adventure	Y H P A R G O I B H G K Y
Author	K V N L O J N O B N B E R
Biography	O X V S V W J O I C T Q A
Enjoyment	O T D Y E W T D I I Z T R
Fantasy	L N L X T A A T F T G E B
Fiction	Z E J H U E I C A T C B I
Library	P M V T R D U S N A S I L
Novel	P Y H N O V E L T Z X A F
Poem	E O B C U V N A A U N Y C
Reading	R J E Z D E J S S I O A B
	W N Y M R A E W Y L U R R
	A E W E R U T N E V D A X
	C M U Y A B K U D F E Z X

LIBRARY INITIATIVES

World Book Day Celebrations 2026

Another fantastic World Book Day celebration this year!
A huge thank you to everyone who took part.
Our Year 7 students enjoyed showing off their competitive spirit in the World Book Day Quiz
Well done for your fantastic teamwork, Year 7!

On the big day, the Library Team took the fun to the canteen, running another successful emoji quiz where students guessed the correct book titles.

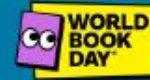
There were some brilliant answers!

Students had the opportunity to win some great prizes, including books from our vending machine.

Many also enjoyed discovering golden tickets hidden inside books and even in the chess boards during break and lunch, with more prizes rewarded to our lucky winners.

Congratulations to everyone who participated and made this week's events so enjoyable.

Your love and enthusiasm for reading made this World Book Day truly special!



The Masked Reader 2026

A huge thank you to all the tutor groups who participated in this years Masked Reader challenge! We enjoyed seeing all your creative guesses this week.

Did anyone manage to uncover the identity of Leopard? Or who was behind French Fries?

The big reveal took place today, Friday during Tutor, and the winners will be announced soon... stay tuned!



Goals

Having goals for things we want to do and working towards them is an important part of being human. The path towards our goals may not always run smoothly or be easy, but having goals, whether big or small, is part of what makes life good. It gives us a sense of meaning and purpose and points us in the direction we want to go. It gets us interested, engaged and it is good for our happiness.

Think of each small goal as a stepping stone towards a happy future. You don't know where it might take you.

Decide - think of something you want to do or work towards

Write it down - this increases our chances of sticking to it

Tell someone - this makes us more committed

Break your goal down - think of smaller goals as stepping stones to reach your main goal

Plan - your first step

Keep going - understand that it may be frustrating or difficult, but don't give up

Celebrate - and remember to thank people who have helped you

SMART GOALS!
Setting S.M.A.R.T. goals can help keep you motivated and get you closer to reaching your goal!

- S**PECIFIC: What is the exact goal that you are trying to accomplish?
- M**EASURABLE: How will you be able to see that you are making progress?
- A**TTAINABLE: Is this a goal that you think you can actually reach?
- R**ELEVANT: Is this something that's important to you right now?
- T**IME-BOUND: When do you think you'll be able to reach your goal?

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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

Fixtures



Next week's fixtures

MONDAY 9th

TUESDAY 10th

U16 Netball v Belfairs (H)

U16 Rugby v Chase (A)

WEDNESDAY 11th

Y7 Football v Belfairs (H)

Y7 Netball v Shoebury (A)

THURSDAY 12th

FRIDAY 13th

Empathy Week

MY | YOUR | OUR
CULTURE

9-13th March 2026

www.empathyweek.org



FRIDAY 13 MARCH

EMPATHY WEEK

Activities • Break & lunchtime

