



Southchurch High School

Friday 13 March 2026

The Southchurch Way

A community of opportunity, learning and aspirations

Issue number: 23

Message from the Headteacher

As you will be aware from a previous newsletter, we are proposing to hold a lockdown drill prior to the Easter half term and in readiness for this, an all staff training event took place on Monday in place of the teaching staff's Professional Learning training. Students will be addressed at their year group assemblies next week on the expectations and the protocols during a lockdown in preparation for the lockdown drill to be held shortly. As previously explained, there will be no advance notice to ensure we replicate as much as possible the scenario of the need to lockdown the school.

On Tuesday, we were delighted, to once again, host Big Bang Promotions for a STEM go-kart activity as part of the UK's National Science Week. It was a unique and educational opportunity for our Year 7 students. This event was held as part of our commitment to providing enriching experiences. A big thank you to Mr Druce, Head of KS3 Science, who organised the event and was able, along with other members of staff, to kindly support on Tuesday.

Thank you to Ms Smith, Careers Leader, and Mrs Winter for their kind support and organisation of mock interviews for our Year 10 students yesterday. A huge shout out to all those local business leaders who very kindly gave up their valuable time in supporting our students in preparation for life in the real world!

Ms Smith and Mrs Winter also kindly supported and organised for Year 10 students to attend the South Essex Colleges 'Experience Day' today. Students were invited to attend for the morning, afternoon or all-day, dependent on their preferences. The visit provided an opportunity for students to explore what college life can offer them as they begin thinking about their next steps. Students will have gained first-hand insight into a range of courses, experienced specialist facilities and taken part in engaging, practical sessions led by college tutors. It is hoped that the visit will have enabled students to make informed decisions about their future by allowing them to experience a real college environment, meet staff and develop a clearer understanding of the pathways available to them.

Congratulations to those students who have been selected as Youth Health Champions. The students will be attending training in school in due course.

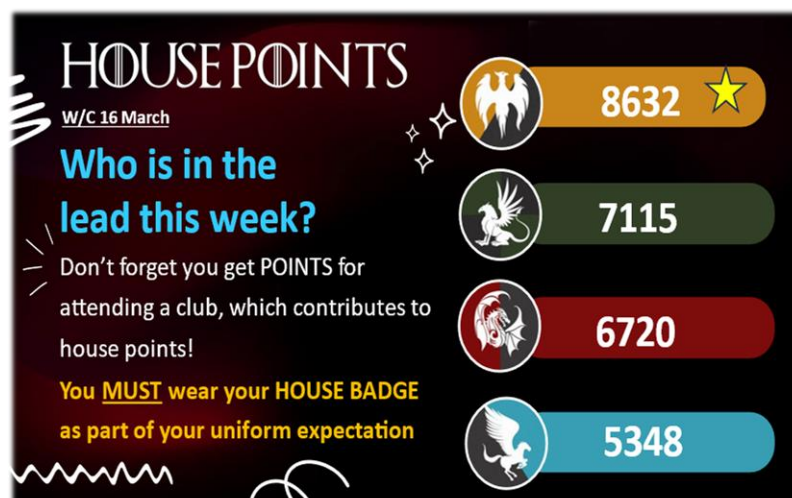
Next week's 'word of the week' will be 'opportunity': noun 'a time or set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something'. Please encourage your child to think about how they could use it in lessons and around school next week!

Gentle reminder for Year 7 parents/carers that we shall be holding an Information Evening from 6.00 to 7.00 pm on Thursday, 19 March. The evening will provide an opportunity to share important information and guidance around your child's progress, following their AP1 report, and for you to ask any questions you may have. We shall also be covering attendance, Accelerated Reader, maths skills, enrichment and clubs and revision techniques. It is hoped parents/carers will be provided with useful practical advice and enable both school and home to work effectively together to maximise progress from all our Year 7 students.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to our Year 11 students whose attendance and conduct has been impeccable throughout this second set of mock examinations.

Mrs Airoll
Headteacher

House Points



Menu

SWAN'S RESTAURANT		WEEK 2			
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal	Halal Sweet & Sour Chicken Served with Boiled Rice & Spring Rolls	Homemade Steak Pie Served with Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Gravy	Roasted Halal Chicken Thighs Served with Roast Potatoes, Vegetables & Gravy	Macaroni Cheese Served with Garlic Bread	Jumbo Hotdog In a Bun Or Halal BBQ Chicken Wings Served with Potato Wedges & Homemade Coleslaw
Vegetarian Meal	Vegan Vegetable Curry Served with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread	Cheese & Onion Slice Served with Mashed Potatoes & Peas or Baked Beans	Quorn Fillet Served with Roast Potatoes, Vegetables & Gravy	Vegetable Pizza Served with Garlic Bread	Vegan 1/4lb Burger In a Bun Served with Potato Wedges & Homemade Coleslaw
Jacket Potato with Cheese ,Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Available Monday – Thursday Small Pasta & Sauce Available Monday - Thursday					

Key Dates

19 Mar	Year 7 Information Evening
24 Mar	Make Happen trip to the University of Essex, Colchester
27 Mar	Year 10 SEN students' trip to the University of Essex, Southend
27 Mar	Last day of Term Close for Easter Holiday
30 Mar – 10 Apr	Easter Holiday
13 Apr	Students return to school

Easter HAF Programme

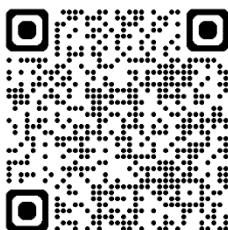


Easter HAF Programme 30 March to 10 April 2026

We are delighted to share that HAF bookings will be opening on **Thursday 12 March** from **11am**. The HAF programme is for pupils who get Benefits Related Free School Meals.

Eligible pupils can attend up to **4 days** over the Easter holidays.

Check out the HAF providers who are delivering this Easter and register your interest in attending: **[Book here](#)** or scan the QR



Any questions email:

HAF@southend.gov.uk or text 07795044329

Not eligible for free school meals?

Apply here: **<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals/southend-on-sea>**

Year 10 Mock interviews

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their time on Thursday to support our Year 10 students with their mock interviews.

The guidance, encouragement, and thoughtful conversations helped our students gain confidence, develop their communication skills, and get a taste of what real-world interviews are like.



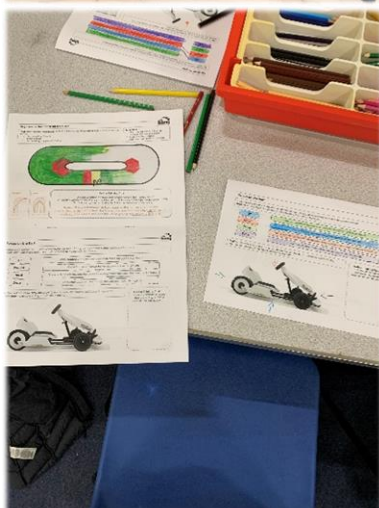
Stem Go-Karting

On Tuesday, our Year 7 students took part in an exciting STEM Karts event delivered by **Big Bang Experiences**.

The event was expertly set up and run by the team, giving students a fantastic opportunity to engage with STEM in a fun and practical way.

The students represented the school brilliantly, behaving very well and giving a great account of themselves throughout the day. They particularly enjoyed the chance to drive the electric go-karts and showed great enthusiasm while completing the STEM activity booklets.

It was a memorable experience that combined learning with hands-on activities and inspired the students to think more about science, technology, engineering and maths.



Food Technology

This week, our Year 7 students have been busy making homemade tomato soup.

As part of the lesson, they focused on developing their knife skills, practising the dicing, julienne and brunoise techniques to cut their onions, potatoes and carrots into super-small pieces - perfect for blending into a smooth and delicious soup.

They did a fantastic job and showed great care and precision while cooking. Well done, Year 7!



Art - Year 9

This week, Year 9 have been showcasing their artwork inspired by Sarah Graham.

We really do have some very talented artists.



Library Corner



Word of the Week:

Community

Noun

Meaning: A group of people living in the same area

This week's theme is: International women's Day

Key date: 8 March

Did you know?

- More than 1 in 3 women around the world experience a form of gendered violence.
- Around 650 million women across the globe were married before the age of 18.
- Women spend at least twice as much time as men on domestic work.
- Less than 20% of landholders worldwide are women.
- Over 1.2 billion women and girls live in places where

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

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
Advocacy
Equality
Feminism
Inclusion
Justice
Leadership
Progress
Respect
Women

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

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

Golden Ticket Winners

Here are a few of our Golden Ticket Winners from World Book Day, they won tokens to use in our book vending machine, skip the queue vouchers and class chart points. Well done!



WELL-BEING

It's International Day of Happiness on Friday 20 March. With this in mind, below is some information from Action for Happiness

Here are three ways you can put happiness first and create a healthier, more intentional relationship with social media

STEP 1: CHOOSE

Be mindful of if, when and how much you are on social media.

- Pause and ask yourself, "What do I really want to do right now?" Keep a list of analogue activities you can do instead, like playing music, drawing, gardening or going outside for a walk.
- Set a timer so scrolling is a short snack rather than a wormhole.
- Give your mind space to think, keep the bedroom phone free, try a 'digital sabbath'.



STEP 2: CONNECT

Don't let scrolling be a substitute for real connection.

- Phone a friend for a chat, or send some voice notes, instead of scrolling.
- Make plans offline, get excited about your next adventure with loved ones.
- Use social media to connect with supportive friends and communities that are meaningful to you.



STEP 3: CURATE

Personalise your experience to support your wellbeing.

- Follow plenty of positive accounts - bloom scroll, don't doom scroll.
- Share and amplify uplifting stories, messages and ideas, be aware of misinformation.
- Be kind in the comments, it matters more than you think.



SPORTS NEWS

Fixtures



Next week's fixtures

MONDAY 16th

TUESDAY 17th

WEDNESDAY 18th
Y7 Netball v Cecil (A)
Y8 Netball v Cecil (A)

THURSDAY 19th
Y7 Football v Chase (H)

FRIDAY 20th

Girls Football



Girls Football Sessions

A non-competitive, fun way for girls to give football a go for the first time!



TRINITY WILDCATS
SESSIONS: SATURDAY, 9:00 AM
VENUE: TRINITY FOOTBALL CLUB, THE YOUTH GROUND, SS2 4FA
LEAD COACH: PHILIP ANSELL
CONTACT: KAT
PHONE: 07740 360059
EMAIL: CONTACTUS@TRINITYFC.COM

SOUTHEND WANDERERS
SESSIONS: SATURDAY, 9:15 AM
VENUE: SOUTHCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTH CHURCH BLVD, SS2 4XA
CONTACT: VICKI
PHONE: 07939 544516
EMAIL: OFFICE@SOUTHENDWANDERERSFC.CO.UK

HAWKWELL ATHLETIC GIRLS WILDCATS
SESSIONS: SATURDAY, 9:00 AM
VENUE: APEX SPORTS GROUND, PLUMBEROW MOUNT AVE, HOCKLEY SS5 5AU
COST: £3
EMAIL: WILDCATS@HAWKWELLFC.COM

ACADEMY SOCCER YFC WILDCATS
SESSIONS: SATURDAY, 8:30 AM
VENUE: SWEYNE PARK SCHOOL, SIR WALTER RALEIGH DR, RAYLEIGH, SS6 9BZ
CONTACT: SHANE BIRD
EMAIL: SHANE.BIRD@ACADEMYSOCCER.CO.UK

ESSEX COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Ages 5-11
No experience needed
Just turn up and have fun!



Scan here for sessions near you!

Wildcats is a non-competitive way for girls who want to give football a go for the first time with girls their own age.



Pals on the pitch