



From the Associate Headteacher:

Dear Parents/Carers,

I want to start with saying THANK YOU to all of you for all of the support you have given your children with their organisation and school work across this very difficult period. We know that parents have played a vital role in supporting learning at home. We know that there will be some gaps for us to find and close next year, but we also know that the work and engagement of County High students, with their on-line learning, has been very high. This hard work and disciplined approach will help them to be ready for next year and for independent learning higher up the school.

You will probably have seen lots of announcements about schools in the last two weeks. We are excited about the thought of us all being able to be back in September, doing what we do best which is teaching in the classroom setting. We will send out more details about arrangements for the new school year once we have had the full guidance from the Department for Education.

This is always a time for saying thank you and farewell to the members of staff leaving us this summer. One of those colleagues is Jen Sims. Jen has made a phenomenal contribution to the ethos and life of students at County High for many years and Caroline Derbyshire has written a separate section to pay tribute to that for this newsletter. The other members of staff leaving us are listed for you below. They will all be very much missed and go with our best wishes and thanks for their contribution to the school.

Another major change for us here on the Senior Leadership Team is that Helen Cox is stepping down as Director of Sixth Form, she is now going to be working in a part-time role and Graham Oxborrow is also choosing to step down from his SLT responsibilities. Helen and Graham have also made a huge contribution to the leadership of County High and I am delighted that they will both be teaching here next year.

I wish you all a very happy summer.

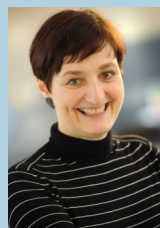
Polly Lankester
Associate Headteacher.

From the Executive Headteacher:

Jen Sims

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Jen Sims, our much-loved Deputy Headteacher, as she takes retirement at the end of this academic year.

Jen came to County High as an Assistant Headteacher in 2001 and has therefore given remarkable service to the school for 19 years. Everyone who has worked with her knows how passionately she cares about the welfare of young people and how much she believes in setting the highest expectations of achievement and conduct for them. It was as a consequence of this admirable approach that Jen became a finalist in the National Teaching Awards in the lifelong achievement category. I include a little of what I wrote about her here for you:



Jen believes passionately that students should be supported throughout their education in a holistic way and she works tirelessly to this end. She is committed, with every ounce of her being, to sustaining an inclusive school community that does not leave any child behind. She strongly believes that all pupils, whatever their background or prior attainment, can make great progress and leave the school as caring young adults who can make a contribution to establishing a fairer and more cohesive society.

Jen has always been held in the highest esteem by parents, students and fellow professionals and I know that she will be greatly missed by all of us.

Jen intends to be busy during her retirement. You can't really imagine that she would do otherwise! She will take on the role of court magistrate as well as education consultant when she isn't travelling.

We wish her the happiest and most deserved of retirements from teaching.

Caroline Derbyshire
Executive Headteacher.

Teaching Staff Changes:

Staff who will be leaving us at the end of the summer term - we thank them for their hard work and dedication and wish them all well.

Mrs J Bath	Vocational Department
Mr G Douglas	Art
Mr A Fowler	Sixth Form/Economics
Rev T Hardingham	Science
Mrs V Kennedy	Business
Mr E Rymill	Maths
Ms J Sims	Senior Leadership Team
Mr A Wells	Media/Drama

Virtual Sports Week Monday 6th July - Friday 10th July:

Unfortunately, we are unable to hold our traditional and usually much anticipated Sports Day this year. However, our PE team are determined that students still get an opportunity to compete, in a slightly different way.



The Virtual Inter-Form Competitions are for students from Years 7, 8 and 9 and will comprise of four events. Full details of the events and instructions on how students can compete and record their results will be sent out by PE on TEAMS next week. Please do watch the instruction video with your child.

Virtual messages to Year 11 and Year 13:

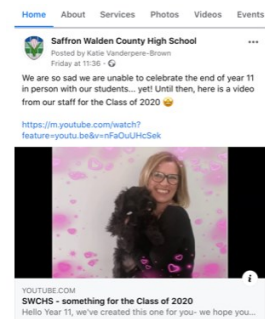
Year 13 - On 7th May, what would have been **Leavers' Day**, we said a virtual goodbye to our current Year 13 students with a stream of memories, photos and a final toast to their future success.

The final post of the day:



We would today have toasted you from the grounds at Bury Lodge. We couldn't do that, so today we got together (via Zoom) and toasted you from our gardens. We hope you've enjoyed the messages, photos and videos today, we know it isn't the same as it should have been, but we couldn't let this day pass without recognition. Each and every one of you make us immensely proud and we miss you so much. More than ever, we wish you luck, love and happiness.

Year 11—All students should have now received their Year Book. We hope that you enjoyed looking back and remembering your time at SWCHS. The Year 11 team also put together a very special message to students from teachers across the school with a song and a dance.



Their last message read:

We are so sad that we are unable to celebrate the end of Year 11 in person with our students.....yet! Until then, here is a video from our staff for the class of 2020.

[Click here to view the Year 11 video.](#)

SWCHS Technology Department help for front line workers:

Following the national shortage of PPE, especially to smaller communities and establishments such as GP surgeries, care providers and key workers, the SWCHS Technology department, along with so many other schools nationally, felt it was our duty to contribute as much as possible to support our local communities on the front line.

We are very lucky to have excellent facilities in the Technology area, which has enabled us to produce 600 visors. The contributions from staff across the school who have helped with the assembly, organisation, communication and distribution of the visors has been humbling, as have the donations from members of the local community to support the cost of materials, and the offers of support in assembling the visors, and helping with deliveries.



We have so far supplied visors to many local establishments including, local GP surgeries, Fulbourn Hospital and a number of care homes and individual carers in our community. As you can see they have been put to good use. The visors will also be used by Saffron Academy Trust staff.



Our thanks also go to Mrs Jones (pictured right) and the Science department who donated their Science safety equipment to local GP surgeries at the start of the lockdown period.



Ironing for the NHS:

Mrs Boyd has been a constant and welcoming presence in our main reception throughout the lockdown period. She has certainly missed seeing all of our students each day and greeting visitors to the school but has kept busy by ironing for colleagues to raise money for the NHS.

Mrs Boyd offered to help out with ironing for staff in exchange for a donation to the NHS. This has proved to be extremely successful and raised a fantastic £550 so far.



Online Book Group:

The SWCHS online Book Group is open to all students and staff at SWCHS. The members enjoy coming together and sharing recommendations, thoughts and opinions on what we are all reading while we are at home. This group is here for anyone at all who would like to connect at this time. There are no tasks to complete, or deadlines to be met, participants don't even have to contribute if they don't want to.



Just a few of the books that students and staff have been chatting about together on our SWCHS online Book Group

Please email Miss Lister - JLister@swchs.net if you would like to join. Sometimes a story, a chat and a connection can help us feel like we are together again and that can only be a good thing.

Weduc App:

Have you downloaded the Weduc App? We will soon be using this app as our main communication tool.



If you have not yet downloaded Weduc then please do so as soon as possible. If you have any queries or have not received your enrolment email, please contact Mrs Sims - JSims2@swchs.net.

Have your contact details changed?

It is extremely important that you inform us of any changes to your contact details. Please email office@swchs.net to advise us if you have recently moved house or changed any of your contact telephone numbers.