



From the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

Walking around the school this week, I have been in a large number of classes and it has been wonderful to see students working hard and enjoying their learning. I also had the pleasure of spending some time in our new Pastoral Hub, seeing students benefitting from additional support and bespoke interventions. We are so pleased that we managed to establish this hub at this time and we are looking forward to the opening of our new Well-Being Hub in December.

This term, many students have worked from home during periods of self-isolation and we are continuing to focus on the best ways to support these students, whilst still delivering a full timetable in school. We are very proud of our students for their commitment and approach to remote learning. Teachers needing to self-isolate have been teaching many of their classes from home successfully. The teacher is on the screen at the front leading the lesson and questioning the class, and another colleague is present making sure everyone is on-task and providing supervision for them. Whilst we look forward to running a school in more normal circumstances again, many of us have learnt new skills which will continue to benefit us longer term.

One of the things that you can see in this newsletter is the way we are preparing for Charities Week. As always, our Sixth Form lead the way!

Polly Lankester

Armistice Day 2020 :

This Armistice Day, all students and staff observed a two-minute silence to remember and honour all those who have fallen.

Sixth Form students met to pay their respects with a COVID safe assembly outside on the school field. The war poem *For The Fallen* by Binyon and the hauntingly powerful *Last Post* and *Reveille* were performed beautifully by two Year 13 students.

The event was a moving tribute and an important reminder that we can still collectively remember all those who have given their lives in war.



Sixth Form Application information for Year 11 students:

Usually, at this time of year, we would be welcoming students and their families into school for the Sixth Form open evening. This year, however, we had to approach our open evenings in a slightly different way by inviting our prospective students to access a wealth of information on our Virtual Open Evening website pages.

This includes, a welcome message from Amy Kennedy, Director of Sixth Form, a virtual tour of the Sixth Form and the opportunity to learn about SWCHS from current Sixth Form students, instructions on how to apply to our Sixth Form and subject information videos from both teachers and students.

Each evening from Monday 2nd to Thursday 4th November, the Sixth Form team held live Social Media Takeover sessions. Students were able to watch these sessions live on Facebook and Instagram and ask questions about the school, the applications process and life as a Sixth Form student.

Applications are open until the end of the day on **Monday 30th November**. Click on the link below to view the Virtual Open Evening Pages on our website where you can also watch recordings of the Social Media Takeover Sessions.

[Click here to visit the Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening Pages](#)

[Click here to start your online application](#)

Please email admissions@swchs.net if you have any questions or if you would like us to post you a copy of our prospectus.



Face Coverings in school:

From Monday 12th October, a face covering **MUST** be worn by all students in shared spaces inside the building, including corridors.



They **must be of a plain, single coloured design** and are not required to be worn during lessons, whilst eating or whilst outside.

Have your contact details changed?



It is extremely important that you inform us of any changes to your contact details. In case of emergency we may need to contact you urgently.

Please email office@swchs.net to advise us if you have recently moved house, changed email addresses or changed any of your contact telephone numbers.

Charities Week Message from the Sixth Form Committee

Charities Week at SWCHS has been an integral part of the school calendar for many years now and it never fails to bring festive joy to the school community. We take pride in the fact that, as Sixth Formers, we contribute to putting on such an incredible week to raise money in support of local and national charities. This year, we have faced new challenges, but we feel that it is more important than ever to overcome these and come together to bring some joy this Christmas. Our Charities Week this year will be virtual to bring a safe yet fun week to the school.

Our chosen charities for this year are national charities Winston's Wish and Cystic Fibrosis Trust, and local charities Home Start Essex, Accuro, and the Uttlesford Foodbank. Videos with more information about our supporting charities and how the week will work can be found on the school's website as well as various social media platforms.

As parents/carers, you can support us by donating to the fundraising page. We also encourage you to bear us in mind when doing your family shop, through buying a few extra bits for your child to give to the food bank collection, which will be in reception and run from 30th Nov until the end of term. [Click here to visit the Just Giving fundraising page.](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Tim Lane and Malwina Kozłowska
On behalf of the Student Sixth Form Committee



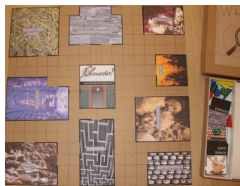
Year 7

Cambridge University Ovid Competition:

Year 7 English students have been producing videos, animations, artefacts and creative writing for the Classic Tales Ovid Competition run by Cambridge University.

Students were inspired by their work on *The War With Troy* and a Latin lesson in which they translated part of the tale 'Daedalus and Icarus' written by Ovid. A range of excellent work has been submitted from across the year group, and four school winners have been chosen with many others being judged 'Highly Commended.'

The winners will attend a virtual prize-giving ceremony in December, hosted by Cambridge University, where they will enjoy activities linked to Classics and learn how they have fared against entries from schools across the UK. The judging panel includes Caroline Lawrence, the best-selling author of numerous books for children.



OAP Christmas Buddy Scheme:

This year, in lieu of Saffron Walden County High School's annual Christmas OAP Party, Sixth Form students are setting up a Christmas Buddy system.

Sixth Form Students will be paired up with an elderly member of the Saffron Walden community and will be calling them up on a weekly basis over the Christmas period to get to know them and share some festive joy.

The Sixth Former will also deliver a Christmas card and hamper to their buddy.

There are still spaces available on the programme so if you, or someone you know, would like to be involved, then please contact the school on 01799 513030 or get in touch via email at

OAPPartySWCHS@hotmail.com

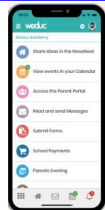
We would also be hugely grateful for any appropriate donations to include in our hampers. If you think you might have something to offer, please contact us via the above details.



Weduc is our new home communication tool.

If you have not yet accessed Weduc, further information is available on our website - [click here to visit our website](#)

Please note that you can access Weduc via their website if you do not wish to use an App on your phone - [click here to visit the Weduc Website](#)



Hartley Learning Centre News:

If you are a member of staff or a student at SWCHS and you would like a book delivered to your office or form room please go to your

TEAMS Page and fill in the form for 'Portable Magic'

'Portable Magic'

Bringing the magic of books to students and staff at SWCHS



You can follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) click on the symbol and follow the link. Please note that many of our subject areas also have their own Twitter account. Reporting Absences: Please call 01799 513030 when reporting your child's absence, do not use the email address info@swchs.net. Sixth Form students - email 6formabsence@swchs.net before 8.40am. Please email each of your subject teachers for that day.

Term Dates 2020-21

Autumn Term:

Friday 4th September 2020 - Friday 18th December 2020

Spring Term:

Tuesday 5th January 2021 - Friday 26th March 2021

Half Term 15th February 2021 - 19th February 2021

Summer Term:

Monday 12th April 2021 - Wednesday 21st July 2021

Half Term 31st May 2021 - 4th June 2021

May Bank Holiday 3rd May 2021

School Closed for Staff Training Days

Friday 27th November 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

Monday 7th June 2021