18 March 2022



Dear Parents/Carers

Principal: Mr J P Russell

# **Weekly Round Up**

There's been a lot going on this week. We haven't been able to shake the shadow of Covid but we have not let that get in our way. The week started with our Arts Ambassadors creating a beautiful collective piece under the watchful eye of a visiting artist. We have had lunchtime activities for Comic Relief including dodgeball, basketball, beat the goalie and splashing around on the wobstacle in the swimming pool. Scientists have shown us illusions, rocket launchers and red bull- induced heart pulsations in water fleas! Our Inter Forum created an inspiring film encouraging travel and the celebration of other cultures.

## **NEW** Covid Update

Although lower than last week, we have had a number of cases since Saturday. We have been notified of 26 positive pupil cases and seven members of staff. Of these, 8 pupils have been in school at some point during the week and the distribution is 1 in Y7, 1 in Y8, 0 in Y9, 2 in Y10 and 4 in Y11. For information on self-isolation rules and when pupils should stay at home, please see our website.

## **NEW Y11 Photos: new date**

The new date for the Y11 Group Photograph is Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Unfortunately, yesterday's photograph had to be cancelled due to an accident and road closures.

#### **NEW** Sawston Stomp

We were due to end the term with the return of our Sawston Stomp, an event for the whole school that has not been able to take place during the pandemic. However, we need to move this event to the summer term. A date will be confirmed after Easter.

#### **NEW Parental support with reluctant mathematicians**

Is your child struggling with maths? Are you uncertain how to support them? The maths department have put together a poster <a href="here">here</a> (attached) with some helpful tips on how to support your child with their maths.







# **NEW** Bike Safety

Please can you encourage your child to lock their bikes and secure them in the monitored bike shed area. Pupils should check their brakes, gears and tyres routinely. To improve cycle safety, pupils should only mount their bikes when they reach New Road and be better aware of vehicles as it does get very busy after school.

## **REMINDER** Y11 Science mocks

Good luck to our Y11 pupils as they complete the spring season of mock exams in the core subjects. Biology is on Monday starting at 8.50 am, Chemistry is on Tuesday starting at 11.10 am and Physics is on Wednesday starting at 8.50 am.

## **REMINDER West Road Concert**

We look forward to returning to West Road for our annual concert next Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00 pm. There are a few last remaining tickets, please email Miss Irwin (<u>cirwin@sawstonvc.org</u>) for more details.

## **NICE TO KNOW Science Week**

Staff and pupils have been busy this week celebrating all things Scientific to mark British Science Week. Knowledge was tested during mentor time quizzes and minds were blown by optical illusions. Pupils have had a series of activities during lunchtimes from microscope work to making soap boats which were enjoyed by lots of enthusiastic young scientists. Well done to all the pupils who have been involved.

#### **NICE TO KNOW** Arts Ambassadors

Our Year 8 Arts Ambassadors were recently commissioned to make an artwork for the new public library in the Sawston Community Hub and so this week worked with print artist Ricki Outis to make a wall hanging. They were asked to focus on the themes of 'forest' and 'sky' and used silk screen printing techniques to create wonderful imagery including owls, foxes, and deer. Using the skills they learned in their workshop, the Arts Ambassadors will now go on to support younger children in Icknield and Bellbird primary schools as they also undertake a similar project.

## **NICE TO KNOW Gold Arts Award**

Next week sees the premiere of 'When the Chips are Down', a play written, directed and produced by Year 10 pupil, Izzie Allanson as part of her Gold Arts Award leadership challenge. The cast of Year 7 actors have worked hard in rehearsal, as has Year 10 pupil Ellen Arthurs, who is also completing her Gold Arts Award, and has designed all the costumes, scenery and props for the play. Performances will take place on 23 and 24 March at 6.30pm in the Marven Centre. Tickets cost £3.00 and are available from: <a href="https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sawstoncinema?sd=1">https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sawstoncinema?sd=1</a>. The Gold Arts Award is a level 3 qualification and carries 16 UCAS points.

## **NICE TO KNOW Drama Industry Trip at The Junction**

We took 32 GCSE actors to The Junction for a day's experience in the theatre industry. They took part in sound/lighting; voice and physical theatre workshops and a masterclass with a beat-poet performer. Our brilliant students were congratulated by the workshop hosts for their creativity, commitment and enthusiasm.

# **NICE TO KNOW Sporting Highlights**

The **Year 8 and 9 Girls' Football team** played against Swavesey in treacherous weather conditions but won 6-2. Although the better team in the first half scoring two excellent goals, Swavesey scored two stunning goals from outside the box to equalise at half time. Libby Unwin again was our main goal scorer with an incredible 5 goals, with Keely Cole adding the sixth. Special mentions go to Amaleigh who was solid in goal, Bea for organising the defence, Imsy and Bryony were disciplined in central midfield and Keely with some excellent driving runs to set up goal-scoring opportunities for Libby. Another excellent performance with three wins on the bounce.

On a torrentially rainy day, the **Y10 Boys' Football team** were up against one of the best teams in the area in an intense fixture. The game started with a steady tempo with both teams playing some nice but also aggressive football. However, twenty minutes in, Bottisham bagged the first goal, after missed attempts to clear the ball. Five minutes later, we equalised after determination down the wing from Barney Jones setting up Tom Unwin nicely to slot it home. An inspirational team talk from Hayden Stephens at half time set us off for a good start and after fifteen minutes of pressure, Tom Unwin put Barney Jones through on goal 1v1 against the keeper, which he tucked away. Unfortunately, a quick lapse of concentration let Bottisham score two consecutive goals leaving us one down with five minutes to go. Not giving up, we won a quick free kick and Oliver Corbett scored from the rebound. Great defensive performances from Connor McIntosh and Thomas Moody-Tipping left the game at 3-3. Ready to go again in the next fixture. (written by ace reporter, Barney Jones, Y10).

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Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Jonathan Russell