# May / June 2022 Vewsletter



Dates for	your	Diary:
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2 June One-Day Jubilee Film Festival 6 June School reopens after half term 13-17 June Activities Week

13-24 June Year 10 WEX

16 June Sawston Cinema: NT Live: Straight Line Crazy

23 June Sawston Cinema: Dark Waters

24 June Year 7 Report 3 issued 28 June KS3 Music Concert

30 June Year 6 to 7 Induction Evening 1 July Year 9 Report 3 issued House Prize Giving Evenings 5-6 July 7 July Sawston Cinema: Belfast 8 July Year 10 report 3 issued 13-16 July Sweeney Todd

20 July Cinema Club: Film Showcase

21 July Sawston Cinema: NT Live: Prima Facie

Year 6 to 7 Induction Day

22 July School closed: Training Day

# **From the Principal**



This half term, the nation will enjoy a Bank Holiday weekend to mark the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, having given 70 years of service to our country. Such an historic occasion gives us an opportunity to reflect on the contribution of so many people through time who have shaped their communities.

Sawston Village College is proud to be hosting a one-day Jubilee Film Festival

on 2 June that also features films made by us working with the community, including *Projecting the Past* (the history of cinema in Sawston), Journeys Intertwined (the experiences of three men associated with Sawston during WWI) and Henry Morris (the life and legacy of the school's visionary founder).

We try hard to encourage our pupils to see themselves as part of wider communities, to be a force for good and to support each other so that everybody can succeed. This is why at the core of our CARE values is 'Community', keeping alive the founding principles of Henry Morris whose vision for life-long learning was realised

# **English Update**

The English schemes of work have been diverse and broad this half term. Year 7s have been travelling back to the Victorian period exploring how villains are characterised in classic novels, Year 8s' new non fiction unit has been exploring the impact the patriarchy has had on males and females in order to write a persuasive speech, Year 9s have been examining Arthur Miller's portrayal of masculinity in his play 'A View from the Bridge', and Year 10s have just

begun another GCSE Literature set text: Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'. Year 11s are two English exams down now, with their Language Paper 2 and Literature Paper 2 ('Romeo and Juliet' and unseen poetry) exams to go! Underpinning all our work in English is the push for pupils to become better readers and writers, and our new library website lists our top 20 books for each year group to help support this.

Ms Goodbrand, Head of English when Sawston, the first Village College, was opened in 1930 by the Queen's uncle, the then Prince of Wales.

92 years later, we too have much to celebrate. Our pupils are involved in so many different events, activities, clubs, leadership roles and community groups. Most pupils are kind and supportive of each other, recognising that we are stronger when we thrive together.

'Education is not only the dissemination of knowledge, but an induction into a way of life... it is as members of a community that the life of action can best be realised' (Henry Morris)

#### Mr Russell, Principal

29 June



Art of Science 5 Rachel Biers Mixed, 29cm, 42cm

#### **Art Bytes**



The Art Department sends a huge thank you to everyone who viewed and placed a vote on our pupils' 'Art of Science' artwork in the Art Bytes school art programme. The most favoured piece was created by Rachel Biers, and her work, along with other shortlisted entries from this region, will now be submitted for the (East of England) Celebration Event at Wysing Arts Centre.

This event will choose one regional 'winner' whose work will be submitted to the national



exhibition. Congratulations must also be expressed to our runners-up - Anna Gardener 2nd, and Natalie Brinsdon 3rd. Well done! Mrs Day, Head of Art











## **Geography Update**

This half term has seen Year 8s looking at Russia, Asia and the Middle East. Pupils explored the seven biomes of Russia and studied the effects of Climate Change on the Arctic region. Then pupils moved onto Asia, studying megacities and the challenges facing people living in them. Pupils looked at the city of Jakarta in Indonesia and planned solutions for the major challenges. Pupils had some fantastic ideas. We might have some pupils with a future in town planning!

We have also said our goodbyes to our Year 11 Geographers and we wish them the best with their remaining exams.

Miss Evans, Head of Geography

#### **Business Studies** Year 10s have now concluded all of

their learning for Theme 1: Investigating small business, and we have started to look at Theme 2: Building a business content. I am hoping that pupils will gain some valuable insights from their forthcoming work experiences into the businesses they will be working for so that we can discuss them in future topics.

We said goodbye to Year 11 this week and they have already sat their Paper 1. In preparation for Paper 2 pupils are reminded to access the range of resources available to them on the pupil drive. After the second paper has happened in June, I will be sending out some resources for pupils who want to study this subject further in readiness for their post-16 courses. I would like to wish all of my Year 11s the best of luck in their future endeavours.

Mrs Neesam, Head of Business Studies

# **UKMT Maths Challenge**

On the 28 April, 51 ambitious pupils from Years 7 and 8, took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge in the HMH. The Junior Maths Challenge is an opportunity for pupils to problem solve, and to reason mathematically on some very interesting Maths problems. A lot of the pupils have been keen attenders at the Maths Challenge Club, which runs on Monday lunchtimes.



A large proportion of pupils scored exceedingly well and ranked very favourably against their

peers in other schools across the country and also the world. Ten pupils did so well that they have qualified for the follow-on Kangaroo Challenge on 14 June, which they now eagerly

## **History Update**

It has been a busy half term in History. Our lovely Year 11s have been busy revising for their exams, while our Year 10s have been completing their mock exams. In the History department we have a Key Stage 4 google classroom to which we are continually uploading new resources to support our GCSE pupils: from revision packs, to internally-produced revision videos, past papers and relevant documentaries. We really recommend our GCSE pupils use the resources provided by the department to revise from, and this is the best place to start. Miss Jackson, Head of History

# Below: an example of the resources available in History Paper 3 - Nazi Germany revision Main revision bookle

### **Update from RE**

It has been wonderful finally to be able to invite an external organisation, 'Ignite', back into school to deliver some workshops with our Year 9 classes. These sessions provided our pupils with the opportunity to explore different views around marriage and the family and to pose questions of their own. After half term, Years 7 and 8 will be focusing on Philosophy and Ethics, and we will be encouraging them to consider some challenging questions. To start thinking about some of these big questions, we have had a Philosophy club running throughout the final week of term to encourage pupils from all year groups to come together to discuss these issues. Pupils within the group have enjoyed discussing topics such as reason, piety, virtue and knowledge, alongside the etymological roots of words.

Mrs Clover, Head of RE and Ethics



await. A big congratulations to all the pupils who participated in the Challenge. I know a lot of them are already talking about the next challenge.

Dr Tunna, Maths Teacher

Left and above: Some of the pupils celebrate



# Adult

Sawston Our Summer courses are now up and running, Learning except for our

Vegetarian Indian Delights cookery course, which begins on Wednesday, 8 June (7.00 9.00 pm), so there is still time to enrol.



We have several one-day workshops planned for Saturday, 18 June, ranging from Indian dance and cookery to drums and gardening! Visit our website to view all of

the courses on offer or to enrol.

Are there any courses that you would like us to consider running? Or do you have skills and experience you would be willing to share? We are always looking for new tutors to add to our team. We are specifically looking for a Monday evening Ceramics tutor to start in September. Please get in touch. We would love to hear from you.

www.sawstonadultlearning.org Email: community@sawstonvc.org Telephone: 01223 712424

Mrs Hayes Adult Learning Manager



To see our full programme of screenings, visit our website:

www.sawstoncinema.org.uk.

Coming up we have NT Live's Straight Line Crazy on 16 June.

Ms Morgan, Arts **Development Manager** 





Learning announced the renaming of its

sport, fitness and leisure centres under a new brand, Anglian Leisure. Aimed at uniting facilities across the multi-academy trust, this new overarching brand will help bring the six individual centres run by the Trust together. This will allow for greater accessibility, and improved facilities on offer to staff, pupils and the wider community.

Anglian Leisure Sawston is pleased to be able to offer an enhanced service to the community with the return of our Aquafit sessions, and we are delighted to reintroduce our monthly swimming membership. In July, we are hosting a National Pool Lifeguard Course and in September a level one Swimming Teachers course. For more information, please visit our website, social media pages or call our reception on 01223 712555.

Mr Wilson, Assistant Manager





Health and Social Care

The Year 10 BTEC Health and Social Care pupils have made a fantastic start on their second coursework assignment. Sixty per cent of the marks for this qualification comes from coursework assignments, so it is important that pupils work hard to achieve a good result.

In Year 10, the main topic covered is human development life events. For this second assignment, pupils have to find out how a significant life event can affect

Parents, friends and family members are being interviewed about a variety of life events: parenthood, marriage, bereavement, redundancy, starting school, moving house or moving country, and so on. The pupils aim to discover how a particular life event has affected the development of two people and the support they had to come to terms with the event.

At times, the information gleaned can be very personal and quite emotional and so all names used in the assignments are changed to ensure anonymity.

The Health and Social Care pupils and I would like to thank everyone who agreed to take part in this project. Without your help we would not be able to produce such good work.

We hope you have a great half term.

Mrs Minett, Head of Health and Social Care

#### **Food Garden**

Britain's best gardeners have been showing off their skills at the annual Chelsea Flower Show and, not to be outdone, Sawston pupils have been busy planning a new garden for the College.

This is an ambitious project to create a calm, green environment that can be used as a teaching resource, as well as a pleasant area to sit and contemplate the world. We are hoping that there will be space for herbs and maybe some vegetables that can be used in the Food department.

In the meantime, Mrs Shaw has been busy creating a modest allotment area near

the back door of the Food department. The area has already produced a good supply of herbs, as well as some edible flowers.

Pupils from several year groups are already making use of this resource - flowers were used this week to decorate dishes made by Year 10 pupils, and herbs have been used to flavour a variety of dishes.

We hope collecting these herbs and flowers from the allotment will teach pupils a little about seasonality and sustainability in a very practical way.

Mrs Minett, Head of Health and Social Care



## **Update from Music**

The Music Department is busy getting ready for a final summer half term of concerts and gigs. We have just said goodbye to our Year 11s who have submitted all their coursework and are now listening intently preparing for their final exam. Years 7, 8 and 9 have been enjoying playing steel pans, composing animal pieces, escaping the vernacular and heading to Rio Carnival with samba. Speaking of samba, samba band (for Years 9s-11 Friday afternoon MU1) are getting ready for a host of gigs in the local area. Look out for us in Stapleford, Whittlesford and Shelford - new members welcome! Some dates for your diary; Tuesday 28th June - KS3 Concert, HMH. This features all our younger pupil groups such as Pop Choir and some soloists from Year 9. Friday 8th July - Outdoor Gig, Fountain Court. Bring a picnic and rug and enjoy listening to the bands of SVC. ABRSM exams will be taking place in the final week of term. Finally, a big thank you to all our Year 11s who have been fantastic members of the Music Department. It has been a turbulent few years but we hope you leave with wonderful musical memories!

Miss Irwin, Head of Music

#### **Farewell to Year 11**

We were sad to say goodbye to our Year 11 pupils this week. We wish them all the best in their remaining exams and for the future.



Left. Some Year 11 eligug enjoying leavers' day.

# **Update from Computer Science**

With an increasing sense of normality, the memberships of our clubs and activities are waning as the summer term progresses and the weather is nicer. I was amazed this lunchtime to watch a Year 8 pupil morph a plain grey torus into a perfectly textured, coloured, shaded, glazed donut in our Blender Club.

This has been a brutally intensive term, and reminded me of the annual pressure cycle before Covid: Year 10 exams, Year 11 coursework, Year 11 exams. The loading is anticipated, but always exhausting: I hope the efforts our pupils have invested in Creative iMedia and Computer Science are rewarded with the grades that the pupils deserve.

The donut, if I may, is the cherry on the cake!

Mr Phoenix Holland, Head of Computer Science









### **Working SMART**

The Year 10 Design and Technology classes have started a short project based around Smart and Modern materials. The given brief is to design and make a thermometer for an environment of their choice. The thermometer must be made from Acrylic, include a thermochromic strip and be designed and manufactured using CAD/CAM. We have had some incredibly creative iterations which are now being transferred to CAD ready for production in our CAM suite using our brand new laser

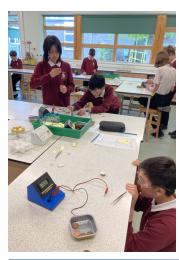
machine. Pupils are really getting to grips with the new CAD software. Next time I will update you with some examples of the outcomes.

Mr Bannister, Subject Leader of DT





# **Junior STEM Club**





#### **House News**

As we approach the end of another busy half term we are preparing to say a fond farewell to our Year 11 pupils. The hard work and determination they have shown for their exams so far has been outstanding, and we send them off on study leave with our best wishes.

For the rest of the school we are looking forward to Activities Week for KS3 and the exciting return of Work Experience for Year 10 early next term. We hope you all have a restful break and the sun stays shining over the long bank holiday weekend.

Miss Hunt, Head of da Vinci House, on behalf of the Heads of House





#### **Fond Farewells in MFL**

This half term, we have said goodbye to our two wonderful foreign language assistants. Teresa and Pauline joined us at the beginning of October and worked closely with the Year 10 and 11 pupils on developing their listening and speaking skills in Spanish and French respectively. Pupils have valued the opportunity to work in smaller groups and develop their conversational skills with native speakers and have enjoyed finding out more about the culture of Spain and France in the process.

We will be welcoming new assistants next academic year.

Mrs Deleplanque, Head of Languages

Junior STEM club was amongst the 4,520 participants making 2,038 batteries as part of the Royal Society of Chemistry's (RSC) annual Global Experiment. Over two after-school sessions, we made dozens of cells out of copper coins, kitchen foil and paper soaked in different electrolytes and recorded the voltage as we stacked up an increasing number of cells to make batteries, all part of this year's global experiment looking at sustainability. Along with other young scientists worldwide, we recorded our results on the website, which you can take a look at here: <a href="https://edu.rsc.org/global-experiment">https://edu.rsc.org/global-experiment</a>. If you are in Year 7 or 8 and this sounds interesting to you, or you enjoy STEM, come along after-school every Wednesday. Great for your pledge passport; Year 11 helpers welcome too!

Ms Friesner, Science Teacher, Mr Thomson and Philip Jena (Year 7 pupil)

# **Sports Leaders**

Congratulations to all of the Year 9 Sports
Leaders who attended their multi-sports activity
session at Shelford Primary School on Tuesday, 24 May.
All leaders delivered high-paced and interactive sessions
for 60 Year 4 and 5 pupils.

The wet weather meant last minute adaptations to an indoor event in a reduced space, but through quick thinking and adaptive strategies, the leaders managed to reorganise their plans for this.

Over the year, pupils have become able to communicate with participants positively, and all participants were able to enjoy and thrive at all of the activities they took part in across the afternoon. This is the final section of the course which will allow our Year 9 Sports Leaders to achieve their Level 1 Qualification in Sports Leadership in the coming months. They all did a fantastic job at representing Sawston Village College. Well done!

Mr Trent, PE Teacher



# **And finally:**

We hope everyone has a good half term break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday, 6 June 2022.

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