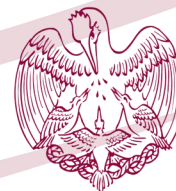


July / August 2022 Newsletter



Sawston
Village College

Dates for your Diary:

1-2 Sep	Staff training days, school closed to pupils	22 Sep	Year 7 Meet the Mentor
5 Sep	School open for Years 7 and 11 pupils only	22 Sep	HPV vaccinations (Year 8)
6 Sep	School open to all pupils	23 Sep	Post-16 Conference Day
6 Sep	Year 7 photographs	28 Sep	GCSE Drama trip - The Crucible
8 Sep	Screening: NT Live: Much Ado About Nothing	1-2 Oct	Year 10 DofE Bronze Training Expedition
13 Sep	Year 7 Fresher's Fair	6 Oct	Open Evening
17-18 Sep	Year 11 DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition	6 Oct	Screening: NT Live: Jack Absolute
20 Sep	Year 10 Hunstanton trip	7 Oct	Staff training day, school closed to pupils
		8 Oct	Year 11 Report 1 issued

From the Principal



And so we bring to a close another academic year but certainly no ordinary one. Staff and pupils, with parents' support, have achieved and experienced so much, overcoming the various challenges and making the most of the opportunities. It has been lovely to see the College's gradual return to normality and to witness the resilience, stoicism and determination of all involved. We are looking forward

to September and the promise of a brand new year, a happy year without disruptions.

As always at this time of year, we must say goodbye to those staff who are moving on to pastures new. We are delighted for the staff who have found promotion elsewhere and wish them the very best in their new roles. Whilst recruitment and retention has become a significant national issue in education and in the wider society, to which we are not immune, we are ready to go in September and excited about the new staff who will be joining us. That does not make it any easier to say goodbye: Miss Kingsley (tutor) and Mrs

Orton (TA) begin teacher training; Mr Palmer (Geography) and Mrs Vasey (Maths) leave us as their temporary contracts come to an end; Ms Fenton (HR), Mrs Finch (PA) and Mr Johnson (Clerk) move on to new posts; Mr Phoenix Holland (Computer Science), Mr Walsh (PE) and Miss Grogan (Science) are all relocating, including as far as Scotland; Mrs Wilson (Sports Centre) has been promoted to lead all Anglian Learning Sports Centres, Mr Woodcock (History) has also been promoted to Assistant Director of Education at the Trust and Ms Forsdicke (Finance) has been promoted to the central Trust team; Ms Berrisford (English), Dr Davies (Science) and Mr Cragg (Music) are leaving the profession; Miss Field (Computer Science) follows her passion in Art; Mrs Hussain (Maths) will not return after maternity leave; Miss Hunt (Da Vinci) and Mr Stuart (Earhart) have new jobs; and, Mrs Martin, our exams officer for 18 years, retires. We thank them all for being wonderful colleagues.

'People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.'

Maya Angelou

Mr Russell, Principal



Mrs Martin retires
after 18 years of loyal
service to the College.

Drama Update

Back with a vengeance, the Drama department was in full 'Sweeney' swing! Yes, folks, after 9 whole months of rehearsals and time off for GCSEs, WEX, DofE, trips, re-casting, including the recruitment of two brilliant Year 9s, we finally had a show, and the cast were a triumph. We couldn't be prouder of them. For three nights they proved their determination, tenacity and commitment to their production and one another. This incredible sense of community and the power of a group effort is what makes a show and those in it a success.

The marvellous Mrs Meikle will be directing a young cast of actors in a Shakespeare Schools version of Julius Caesar in the autumn, to be performed at the Apex Theatre in Bury. Our summer theatre trip to London to see 'Come from Away' was a wonderful treat for 70 of our theatre lovers, and we look forward to the NT 'The

Crucible' trip in September, and Theatre Centre's 'Human Nurture' in October. Thank you to parents and staff who help facilitate these experiences for our pupils. We could not achieve any of the above without you.

Ms Russ, Head of Drama



Audiences enjoyed
Sweeney Todd.



Sawston
Adult
Learning



ANGLIAN
LEISURE
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Anglian Leisure Sawston: **01223 712555** - **www.sawstonsports.com** | Sawston Cinema: **01223 712825** - **www.sawstoncinema.org.uk**

Geography Update



As we come to the end of another school year, we reflect on the fantastic Geography produced by pupils this year. From discussions on issues currently facing our world, such as climate change, to learning new skills and exploring places from around the world, pupils have continued to impress with their positive attitude to their learning. We have been able to finish the year with some fieldwork with Year 7 pupils investigating the environmental quality of the school site and their local area. In September Year 10 will visit Hunstanton to support their learning of Coastal Landscapes. We are looking forward to more extra-curricular and fieldwork opportunities in Geography next year so keep your eyes peeled!

Miss Evans, Head of Geography

Business Studies



In Business Studies, Year 10s have started to work on Year 11 topics, and we have almost completed one section of the Year 11 content. We have been investigating how businesses grow and operate on an international scale. The topics have brought up some interesting discussions in relation to current affairs, such as the impact of conflict, supply chains, inflation, takeover bids and Brexit. It has been lovely to hear about pupils' work experience placements and how they have considered some of the theory we have covered over this year. I wish all my Year 10s a restful and enjoyable summer and see you in Year 11.

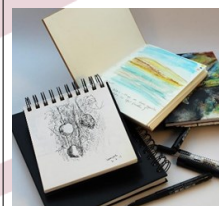
Mrs Neesam, Head of Business Studies



Sawston Adult Learning

Courses for the autumn term are now on our website, and we

hope there will be something to interest everyone. In addition to our usual popular courses, new courses for September



include Sketchbook Experiments, Exploring Mixed Media and Table Tennis. Our termly Saturday Workshop will be held on the 26

November, when you can participate in Bollywood dancing, learning to play the drums, cooking an Indian feast, exploring sketch-booking or making some willow decorations for Christmas.

To book, or to find further information on our full range of courses, please visit the Adult Learning section of the website <https://sawstonvc.org/adult-learning/>, email community@sawstonvc.org, or call 01223 712424.

Mrs Hayes Adult Learning Manager



Maths Update



During activities week Year 9 pupils put their scale drawing and budgeting skills to the test by designing a theme park prior to their Thorpe Park visit. We also had more success with the UKMT Maths Challenge competitions. From the 50 pupils who took part in the Junior Maths Challenge, we had 14 pupils go on to compete in the Junior Kangaroo competition. A huge well done to Neri Emerson (Year 8) and Ziyu Ong (Y7) who were our highest scorers.

And finally, the Edinburgh block is also getting a bit of makeover. Our fabulous new artwork



celebrating mathematicians past and present from across the world will be up on the walls soon – we cannot wait!

Miss Cook, Deputy Head of Maths

Arts Award Success

We were pleased to welcome an Arts Award moderator into school on 20 July to look at pupils' work. 159 pupils in Year 7 had completed work to satisfy the requirements of the Bronze Arts Award, while three pupils in Year 8 and one in Year 10 achieved their Silver Awards, a level 2 qualification, with the moderator describing their work as 'first class'.

We also had our first pupil achieve the Gold Arts Award, a level 3 qualification with 16 UCAS points. Well done to Ellen Arthurs in Year 10. The moderator said she had produced an excellent Gold Arts Award portfolio. Ellen has been working on her Gold Arts Award intensively over the last 18 months and should be very proud of her achievement.

Well done to all!

Ms Morgan, Arts Development Manager



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

www.sawstoncinema.org.uk

Next up is NT Live's Much Ado About Nothing on 8 September. Please come and join us then.

Ms Morgan, Arts Development Manager



Anglian Leisure Sawston says farewell to Sports Centre

Manager, Michelle Wilson, as she leaves to begin her new position as Anglian Leisure General Manager. Michelle has worked at Sawston for over 17 years and has helped develop the Centre from strength to strength.

From Monday 11 July we are pleased to announce that we will be increasing our opening hours on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday to include lunchtimes: Monday 7.00am-10.00pm / Wednesday 7.00am-10.00pm / Friday 7.00am-9.00pm. From Monday 25 July we will be reintroducing our lunchtime swim at 1.00-2.00pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

For more information please visit our website, social media pages or call our reception on 01223 712555.

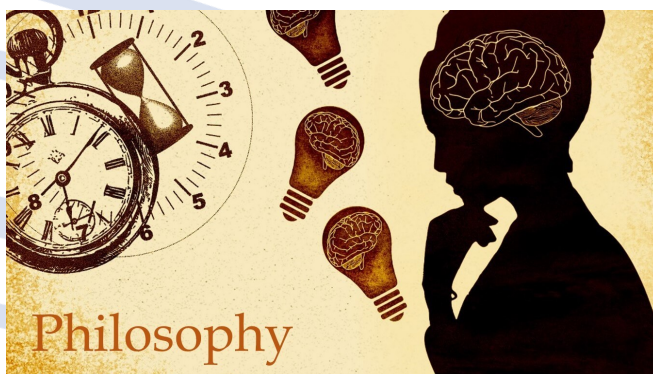
Mr Wilson, Assistant Manager

Update from RE

This half term, all year groups have been responding to some challenging philosophical and ethical questions. Does God exist? How do I live well? What is reality? What do we mean by truth? Is it ever right to end a life? The questions and thoughts expressed by pupils have been insightful and challenged everyone's thinking. These discussions within lessons have led to a new Philosophy Club forming, showing how keen

pupils have been at exploring these different ways of critical thinking. We hope they have enjoyed their year and have a wonderful summer break.

Mrs Clover, Head of RE and Ethics



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Unlocking Potential | Creating Opportunities | Achieving Excellence

History Update

This term Year 7s and 8s have been exploring lots of local History. Our Year 7s have been looking at Denny Abbey and thinking about what the layers left of the Abbey can reveal about the Medieval World. Through the Abbey, they have been exploring the diverse histories of the Knights Templar and Marie, Countess of Pembroke (who also founded Pembroke College in Cambridge). Our Year 8s have been looking at the records of a local slaveholder, John Tharp (of Chippenham Park near Newmarket), and thinking about what the sources left behind can reveal about the experiences of those connected to the slave plantations.

Miss Jackson, Head of History

Update from English

Shakespeare features heavily in the English department this half term with Year 7 studying *The Tempest* and Year 9 exploring *Romeo and Juliet*. Year 8 are just finishing some narrative writing targeting the creation of atmosphere and subtle characterisation in their writing inspired by Shaun Tan's beautifully illustrated graphic novel *The Arrival*. Year 10 are rounding off their first year of GCSE performing persuasive speeches to their peers while also following the journey of Macbeth as Shakespeare warns what dangers 'vaulting ambition' holds for our tragic hero. We hope all of our pupils enjoy reading the top 20 books during well-deserved breaks!

Ms Goodbrand, Head of English

Everything stopped for tea...

Some 30 members of Sawston Village College's teaching staff enjoyed a sumptuous afternoon tea recently, thanks to the culinary efforts of six members of the College Senate.

The event, organised as an end-of-term thank you for teachers and to raise money for charity, took place on Tuesday 12 June in glorious sunshine on the cafe patio outside the Food rooms.

The Year 11 Senate members, supported by Mrs Minett and Mrs Shaw, had worked hard to produce a range of professional-standard cakes, scones and sausage rolls to serve at the event. Thanks to their efforts, around £120 was raised for charity from ticket sales. A decision on which charity will benefit has yet to be made.

Staff were full of praise for the pupils' efforts, saying how much they had enjoyed their afternoon treat and expressed the hope the event could become a regular feature of the Sawston Village College social calendar.

Mrs Minett, Head of Health and Social Care

Update from Art



During Activities Week this year, the Year 8 cohort were engaged in a hive of creative activities within the Art department. Pupils had the opportunity to work with a visiting printmaker, Ricki Outis, who led them through the technicalities of screen printing. They produced a stunning set of banners which were used to support the Drama department's production of 'The Tempest'. Pupils finished the week creating personalised papier-mâché 'Funky Chickens', which now adorn the art block entrance hall with a riot of colour and humour.

Mrs Day, Head of Art

Update from Music

It has been a noisy and busy term for the Music department. We have been delighted to be able to put on lots of events and perform around the county, we have so missed this in the last few years. Samba Band have toured Sawston, Shelford, Stapleford, Waterbeach and Whittlesford this summer performing and parading brilliantly. The Lower School Concert allowed our younger pupils and Year 9 soloists to shine. We picnicked in the sunshine to the sound of the bands at the Outdoor Gig, and our singers sang absolutely from the heart at Stapleford Granary. As I type we are finishing our run of Sweeney Todd, and we have just auditioned some new singers to join our senior upper voice choir, Madrigals. Congratulations to all who have performed this term, and we can't wait to have even more pupils involved in September! Bravo!

Miss Irwin, Head of Music



Year 11 Ball

We were delighted to see our Year 11 pupils at their Ball recently and wish them all the best in for the future.



Our leavers enjoyed a wonderful evening together.

Photograph courtesy of Sandra Finlay

Update from Computer Science

Out with the old, in with the new. This is my final newsletter at SVC, and reflecting on my previous contributions, I'm proud of what Miss Field, former colleagues and I have achieved over the last eight years. We've got record numbers of girls taking CS, incredible achievements with both CS and Creative iMedia exams and coursework, strong participation in the diverse range of clubs (and a couple of Y8 pupils are about to introduce a Memes club....), and the autumn term introduces Digital Photography. The department will be the youngest in the school in September, with two fantastic new teachers leading the way. I hope my custodianship of the department will be remembered for establishing the first steps from the Gove CS revolution: long may it continue.

Mr Phoenix Holland, Head of Computer Science



Community
Take part



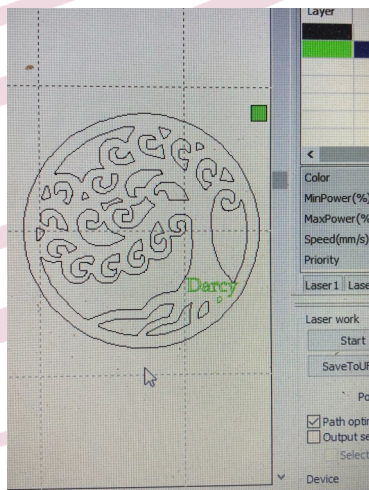
Ambition
Aim high



Respect
Be kind



Endeavour
Work hard



End of year CAD/CAM challenge

As the academic year draws to a close and many practical projects become complete, the Year 7-9 classes have accepted an extension task challenge. The challenge: To design and make a keyring for a chosen audience using CAD/CAM using a sustainable material. The CAD part refers to Techsoft 2D design, the CAM part refers to our new laser machine.

We have seen some fantastic responses. Pupils have been finding out why plywood carrying the FSC stamp can be such a sustainable manufactured board. It's great to see the younger pupils embracing the new processes and really developing knowledge and understanding

Mr Bannister,
Subject Leader of DT



House News

Well, here we are... fast approaching the end of the academic year again. We have just said farewell to our Year 11s at their Leavers Ball, where they arrived in classic cars, sports cars, vintage buses and horse drawn carriages, to name just a few. The community and staff came out to wish them well for their future and to mark the end of their time here at Sawston Village College. We have Olympic days to look forward to and the end-of-year House Celebration assemblies, which will finally return to live events. We wish you all a very happy and relaxing summer break!

Mrs Fink, Head of Turing House,
on behalf of the Heads of House



Bravo to all pupils

Bravo to all pupils for their effort and work throughout the year. Year 7 pupils end the year with a strong knowledge of key verbs and key vocabulary.

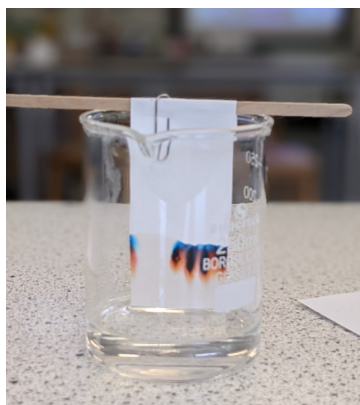
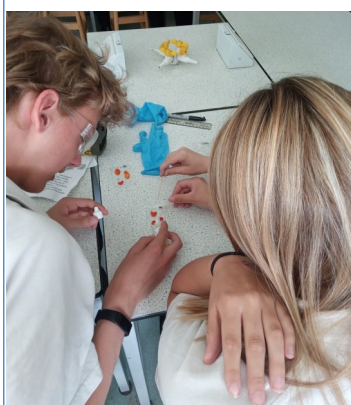
Year 8 pupils are now able to recognise and use three tenses.

Year 9 pupils are currently consolidating their knowledge and application of key grammar and vocabulary, ready to take their studies further at GCSE or at a later stage in their life.

Year 10 pupils have made very good progress towards their GCSE examination and are continuing to develop their knowledge of vocabulary and grammar in a range of topics.

We wish all our pupils and their families a happy and restful summer break.

Mrs Deleplanque, Head of Languages



Crime Scene Investigation

During Activities Week, our Year 9 pupils used their skills to solve a crime in the Science department. They found evidence at the 'crime scene' and pieced together the clues to work out which of our suspects had stolen Miss Gelder's laptop. Pupils analysed 'blood' and 'urine' samples, made plaster casts of footprints and used chromatography to work out which suspect's pen had been used to write a note left at the scene. We're really grateful to our fabulous Science Technicians for all the hard work they put into making this such a fun day!

Mrs Lloyd, Acting Deputy Head of Science



Dalguise Watersport Trip 2022

The week commencing 13 June saw 120 Year 9 pupils undertake a 5-day 'Adrenaline Adventure' to Dalguise PGL centre; a fantastic forested site overlooking the River Tay, in the heart of Perthshire's 'Big Tree Country'. Pupils had the opportunity to experience a range of activities, including Paddle Boarding, Kayaking, Canyoning and White Water Rafting. Pupils also got to experience some local culture, participating in 'Highland Games' and visiting the beautiful city of Edinburgh. The Year 9 pupils took all of the activities in their stride, and their character and resilience were fantastic throughout - well done to all involved!

If you would like to see more pictures from the trip, or subsequent PE events, please follow us on Twitter @SawstonVCSports or on our Instagram page.

Mrs Harvey, Head of PE



Year 9s enjoyed a 5-day 'Adrenaline Adventure'.



And finally:

We wish everyone a relaxing summer break. We look forward to welcoming Years 7 and 11 pupils back to College on 5 September 2022. The school will then be open to all year groups on 6 September 2022.

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