27 July 2022



Dear Parents/Carers

Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Weekly Round Up

Our celebration assemblies were a wonderful way to end the term, especially for those in Mandela who won the House Cup 2022! It was a record-breaking start to the week with the hottest days ever but we are grateful to the majority of pupils who attended College and the sense of community spirit shown by all to manage the exceptional circumstances. It's been lovely this week to look back on all that has been achieved despite the impact of Covid this year. Pupils and staff have put on so many different events, thrown themselves into the life of the College and created long-lasting memories. We are very fortunate to have such talented, committed and enthusiastic people at SVC and, as ever, are grateful for the tremendous support of our parents and carers. We wish you the best of summers.

NEW Start of the new academic year

College is now closed. There will be very limited staff presence on site and reception will not open again until 1st September. Emails may be monitored but please do not expect a response until the academic term starts. Second hand uniform can be requested using the website form. Results Day is Thursday 25th August when we will be open for Y11 pupils to collect results and seek advice on post-16 offers.

We have staff Training Days on Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September. The College is open to Y7 and Y11 pupils only on Monday 5th September. The College is open to all pupils on Tuesday 6th September. We look forward to seeing everyone back in full uniform and excited for a new term.

NEW Newsletter and The Fountain magazine

The newsletter, which includes those staff leaving us, is now on the website: https://sawstonvc.org/category/newsletter/. The Fountain magazine will be available on the website from Monday: https://sawstonvc.org/category/the-fountain/.

NEW Parents' Survey response

Earlier this term, we asked parents/carers for their views on various aspects of our work. This new annual survey helps us to make improvements and has offered some valuable feedback. Thank you to all who took part. Results of the survey and some comments on the more commonly raised points can be found in the attached document.

NEW LA SEND Newsletter for parents

The LA has produced a newsletter for parents of SEND pupils with some useful advice and information, which can be found here.













NEW Y11 Parents and Pupils: LA September Guarantee and Annual Activity Survey

The LA (Local Authority) is required to track year 11 and year 12 pupils as part of their statutory duty set out by the DfE. All year 11 and year 12 pupils that either live or are educated in the LA area will be tracked; much of this tracking is done through information gathered directly from schools, sixth forms and further education colleges.

However, some pupils do not appear on the information (highly unlikely for SVC), which means that the LA may need to make contact by telephone, email, letter or in person to find out the young person's plans for September (this is done during July and August) and then to find out what they are actually doing (this is done during September, October and November). If a member of staff from the LA makes contact this is the reason. In addition to tracking, the LA can also check if the young person requires any support with finding education, employment or training for September. If any parents have any questions about this process, they can contact the Countywide NEET Manager, Mark Cowdell by email — mark.cowdell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

NICE TO KNOW Celebrating Arts Award Success

This week saw 159 Year 7 pupils complete their Bronze Arts Award portfolios and gain this award. The moderator was impressed with the wide range of arts activities pupils had participated in and with the interesting array of arts inspirations they had chosen to research. We were also delighted to have four pupils achieve their Silver Arts Awards, a level 2 qualification, with the moderator describing their portfolios as 'first class'. And, in a first for the school, Year 10 pupil Ellen Arthurs achieved the Gold Arts Award, a level 3 qualification with 16 UCAS points. Ellen had been working on her Award since Year 9 and submitted over 400 slides in her impressive digital portfolio, which the moderator described as 'excellent'. Well done to everyone who achieved an award! (The certificates will come into school over the summer holidays and will be presented to pupils in the autumn term.)

NICE TO KNOW Red Carpet Film Premiere

Cinema Club members donned suits, ties and bowties this week to present their films to family and friends at their annual Film Showcase. The programme of films evidenced growing knowledge and understanding of the film production process and were impressive to watch. For those who missed the event, all pupil films will be posted on the Sawston Cinema website in the next few days and will be available

here: http://sawstoncinema.org.uk/cinema-club-2/our-films/. Congratulations to all our pupil filmmakers - we look forward to seeing what you produce next.

COMMUNITY National SEND Parents and Pupils' Survey (via Gov.Uk)

The Health Outcomes for young People throughout Education (HOPE) team at the University of Cambridge have designed three types of survey that aim to explore and highlight any variations in SEND identification and provision across all Local Authorities in England. One survey is aimed at children and young people, and asks about their experiences with SEND (aged 11-27). The second type of survey is aimed at parents and carers of children (of any age) with SEND. The third type is aimed at wider stakeholders (including those working in education, for the health services, and for local authorities). All surveys are anonymous, and the study has been approved by Cambridge Psychology Research Ethics Committee, study

ref: PRE:2021.058. Should you wish to take part, the three types of survey can all be accessed via this link: https://redcap.link/HOPEsurvey

COMMUNITY Talk to Healthwatch and make care more equal for everyone

Tackling health inequalities is one of the top priorities of our local NHS and care services. And hearing your views and experiences can help them design services that work better for everyone.

Our local NHS and care services want to know how they can make services better for you.

They invite you to a focus group in Sawston on the 11th of August 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at the Free Church Free Church, 1, High Street, Sawston CB22 3BJ. You won't be identified in any feedback to the NHS. Book your place by speaking to the Health Champion volunteer, Lorraine Lofting: lorraine.lofting@yahoo.com. You may also book your place via Healthwatch Cambridgeshire's website at: https://www.healthwatchcambridgeshire.co.uk/equal-care, or you can call Healthwatch on 0330 355 1285 or text 0752 0635 176 to book your place.

You will receive a free £20 Love2Shop voucher as a thank you for taking part.

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Wishing you a safe, enjoyable and relaxing summer,

Jonathan Russell