September 2022



Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

Due to a county wide issue with InTouch school information via email cannot be sent at this current time. County is trying to rectify the issue. It may be that emails that have been sent today will come through once the issue has been resolved. We will resend any communications that fail to send next week.

Weekly Round-Up

In our assemblies this week we have paid tribute to HM Queen Elizabeth II and shared with pupils a celebration of her life of service and dedication to the country. With the College closed on Monday, we will all have an opportunity to reflect on an historic moment and to think on those values which are dear to us all and which unite us. As a school community, it is only through respect for each other and our daily acts of kindness that all are enabled to thrive.

We have now completed the first cycle of our two week timetable, so pupils will have met all of their teachers and established good routines for the year. Freshers' Fair was a great success on Tuesday and, hopefully, will have inspired pupils to find something for each of them to enjoy at lunch or after-school. With 69 Year 11 pupils heading out on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award qualifying expedition in the Thetford area this weekend, it's beginning to feel like College is in full swing. We wish them all the best.

NEW Parent Governor Elections

Next week, we shall write to parents to invite nominations for the position of parent governor on our Local Governing Body. This position has become available following the resignation of Mr Huw Thomas, whose children have now left the College. We thank him for his loyal service as a governor, for his support, humour and warmth.

NEW Parents' Event

We will be inviting parents and carers to visit the College on 28th September from 11.45am-1.45pm to meet pupils, governors and senior teachers. This is an opportunity to see the College in action and hear about some of our work as well as to have lunch with us. Later in the year, we will offer a similar event after-school for those unable to make a day time visit. Details have been sent to parents in a separate letter sent by our Governors.

NEW Extended Schools' Offer

Following the Freshers' Fair on Tuesday and with most clubs now up and running, you may like to read the extended schools offer which is posted on the website and can be accessed















NEW Year 11 Post-16 Conference Day - Friday 23rd September

Next Friday, all year 11 pupils will take part in the post-16 conference day. This is an opportunity to hear from multiple post-16 centres about the different types of qualification available to pupils once they leave Sawston Village College. This will include sessions on A levels, the International Baccalaureate, Apprenticeships, Advanced Applied and Vocational Qualifications, as well as Higher Education. Pupils will also begin to write their personal statements in advance of completing the online post-16 application process.

NEW Our reading programme

The College is putting a spotlight on reading this year and pupils in Years 7 to 9 are visiting the library for the first of their fortnightly reading lessons. The library has been completely reorganised by Ms Wilson-Owen and stocked full of fantastic new books.

Pupils will have the support and guidance of their English teachers in selecting books to read and setting themselves the challenge of reading for 100 minutes per week at home. Information about how you can support your child in this important endeavour can be found on our dedicated parent webpage, which includes some very helpful videos. The link is here.

REMINDER Year 10 Hunstanton Trip

The Year 10 Geography trip to Hunstanton will take place on Tuesday 20th September. Pupils should arrive at school between 7.30 am - 7.40 am for departure at 7.45 am. We expect to return to the College at 5.00pm. Pupils can wear non - school uniform. They must be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions. We would suggest wearing trainers and bringing a coat just in case. Pupils will need to bring water and food for lunch. However, there will be an opportunity for pupils to purchase lunch if they wish to do so. Pupils will also need something to write with. If you have any further questions please email nevans@sawstonvc.org.

REMINDER Unexpected absence

If your child is not able to attend school on a given day, please do make sure to call or email our attendance office before the start of the day on 01227 712623 or email attendance@sawstonvc.org. If you child is absent for more than one day, please contact us on each day of their absence.

REMINDER College closed on Monday 19th September

Monday 19th September is a Bank Holiday to mark the State Funeral of HM Queen Elizabeth II. The College and the Sports Centre will be fully closed. Normal school resumes on Tuesday 20th September. As per the calendar there are two other dates when the school will be closed, Friday 7th October and Friday 18th November for Staff Training.

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Wishing you a peaceful weekend

Jonathan Russell