

September 2022



Sawston
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

Weekly Round-Up

We hope that everyone has enjoyed the break and look forward to meeting the pupils again next week. We are particularly pleased to be welcoming our new intake on Monday and wish them every success for the five years ahead. Staff have been busy preparing for the new term over the last two days, with our new staff settling in really well and sharing our excitement at meeting their new classes. Buoyed by an excellent set of examination results, especially given the challenges faced by our Year 11s over the last few years, we can be optimistic for the year ahead. Success will only be achieved by working in partnership with parents and carers and gaining your support in our aim to deliver high quality provision, with high standards and high expectations, whilst providing excellent care and abundant opportunities for all. Thank you for all that you will do and have done to prepare your child for the start of the term.

NEW Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th September

The College is only open to Year 7 and Year 11 on Monday 5th September. This gives our new pupils an opportunity to orientate themselves and time for staff to get to know our newest pupils whilst also ensuring our senior pupils are set for the start of an important year. The College is open to all other year groups on Tuesday 6th September. There will be slightly extended mentor times on both days to allow for administrative tasks and each year group will have an assembly to welcome them back. All school buses will be operating as normal from Monday 5th September.

NEW Examination Results

We are delighted for our 2022 cohort who demonstrated resilience and determination to secure excellent exam results this summer. Pupils at all levels made good progress and have secured their preferred post-16 pathways. All should be congratulated. We saw record attainment at grades 7-9 with 44% of results at this highest level. 80% of pupils achieved grade 4 in English and Maths and 63% at grade 5. Particularly pleasing is that all key measures either exceeded or were in line with targets although the true picture won't be clear until the national context is published later in the year. Regardless, we feel all pupils can be proud of their achievements and thank parents/carers for helping them every step of the way.



NEW New Staff

We welcome a number of new staff to our team this year. Should you need to contact Year Leads to update with any safeguarding or pastoral concerns, the appropriate person to contact is as follows: Year 7 – Mrs Fane or Mrs Fink; Year 8 – Mrs Riordino; Year 9 – Mr Davis; Year 10 – Mrs Wombwell; Year 11 – Miss Jackson. For significant safeguarding concerns, please contact Miss Gregg.

Mr Bond	PE (2 nd in Dept)	Mr Fernando	TA	Ms Minks	Science
Mrs Cook	Science	Mrs Gilbert	Music	Mr Morson	Computing
Miss Daniell	RE	Mrs Goodwin	Maths Tutor	Miss Munroe	TA
Mr Davis	Year 9 Lead	Mr Hamlin	Premises	Mrs Roberts	Music
Ms Dean	English	Miss Haque	English	Miss Stevens	PE
Mrs Fane	Year 7 Co-Lead	Miss Jackson	Year 11 Lead		
Mr Ferguson	Science	Mr Kelly	Computing	Ms Tang	TA
		Ms Mason	Geography	Mr Unsworth	Art

NEW Vacancies

Like the national picture across many industries, we are facing recruitment difficulties. Whilst we are happy to have a full complement of teaching staff, we still have many vacant support staff roles. Our jobs are published on our website and we would welcome all applications. Currently we are recruiting for HR Admin, Finance Admin, Caretaker, Teaching Assistants, Exams Officer.

NEW WisePay Issue

Please be aware that there is currently a technical issue affecting the WisePay app. This issue is mainly impacting cardholders of Halifax and Lloyds. On the WisePay app, at the 3DS approval screen you may find that the continue button is not visible. If this is the case, please **scroll down** within the inner window of the page to reach the continue button. Unfortunately, the contents of the inner window on this page are provided by your bank and are not controlled by WisePay or Opayo.

Opayo is working on a resolution with work scheduled to start on the 31st of August 2022 and be live week commencing 5th of September. The work will look to improve the layout of the 3D Secure approval page, so the continue button is not obscured.'

NEW Catering

Pupils will be able to use their catering cards from last year. We will be enabling biometric fingerprinting as an alternative this term and issuing cards to new pupils as required. If pupils have their cards from last year, please encourage them to bring them into College from Monday. Please also be reminded that we have a new catering company working for us this year: Innovate. Menus and more information can be found [here](#).

Biometric fingerprints for those pupils with permission, will be done in the following order:

Year 7 – Monday Year 8 – Tuesday Year 9 – Wednesday

In the meantime, please remind pupils to bring their catering cards with them.

REMINDER Punctuality

As per the letter sent by the pastoral team yesterday, we require all pupils to attend College and lessons on time. Lateness not only disrupts lessons but also means pupils miss learning or important information. Pupils who are late to school by more than five minutes without a valid reason will be issued an after-school detention. Thanks for helping reduce disruption and lost learning.

REMINDER Uniform

As per the letter sent by the pastoral team yesterday, we expect all pupils to be in full school uniform on their return to College. We have reviewed uniform to minimise costs and reduce branded items in line with national guidelines. We also have second hand uniform and can provide further assistance as necessary. However, all pupils are expected to adhere to our uniform policy with particular reference to ensuring there are no fake nails, nose piercings, excessive make-up, unnatural hair colour, hoodies or trainers. Thank you for helping to uphold our standards.

NICE TO KNOW Gold Arts Award

Well done to Year 11 pupil Oishani Goswami on the success of her evening of Indian Dance, which she organised and put on in the school's Marven Centre over the summer break. Oishani had secured funding from the Henry Morris Memorial Trust to support her ambitious event, which forms part of the activities she is undertaking to complete her Gold Arts Award. Oishani both performed and organised other performers for her event, which was well received by an appreciative audience.

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Wishing you a wonderful last weekend of the summer holidays

Jonathan Russell