

September 2022



Sawston
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

After an historic and poignant day on Monday, we have enjoyed the slightly shorter week. Last night, at the first of our Meet the Mentor Evenings this year, teachers had the pleasure of talking about the superb start our Year 7 pupils have made. It was good to have such a high take-up by parents and lovely for staff to hear the stories of new friendships, starting new clubs and how Y7s are already beginning to feel like they fully belong to their new school. Next week, we start with European Day of Languages, so a good day to challenge your child to have a conversation with you other than in English. With a theatre trip to The Crucible in London, a visit from the BBC as part of their centenary celebration, our new parent event 'Engage', our SEND Coffee Morning and a themed week on fitness, we can look forward to another exciting week with lots of opportunities to demonstrate our CARE values: take part, aim high, be kind and work hard.

NEW Courses for parents - Finance

With external support from the Abstract Foundation, Anglian Learning Trust schools are running courses for parents/carers. The first is an on-line money course (which starts Monday 26th September) designed to help anyone to get more in control of their finances irrespective of the size of income. Flyer [here](#).

NEW Grade 5 Music Theory course

As part of the Extended Schools programme a new Grade 5 Theory course is available on Thursday evenings from Thursday 29 September. Further details can be found [here](#).

NEW BBC's centenary celebration visit

'BBC100 Share Your Story' is part of the BBC's centenary celebrations visiting around 400 secondary schools across the UK in 2022. We are fortunate to be part of this with a BBC visit next Friday to 'share their story' with our Y7-10 pupils. In each session, a carefully selected BBC Ambassador will share their inspirational journey with pupils, in a bid to inspire them through the power of storytelling. Please follow this link for more info: <https://www.bbc.com/mediacentre/2022/bbc-100-staff-and-stars-visit-half-a-million-students>

NEW Sawston Stomp

With the additional Bank Holiday this week and the planned school closure for our Training Day on October 7th, we have decided to postpone our charity walk, 'The Sawston Stomp', which was on the school calendar for October 21st, until the Spring or Summer term (date TBC).



The Stomp is a sponsored walk involving the whole school, which we introduced pre-pandemic and involves collapsing our normal lessons for the day. Postponement will mean less disruption to the curriculum at this time and also give us the best chance of having better weather in late Spring.

REMINDER Parents' Event, Wednesday 28th September

We look forward to meeting those parents who have signed up to our parent engagement event on Wednesday 28th September, 11.45am – 1.45pm. We have now reached our limit of 50 parents but if you are especially keen to attend and have not yet registered, please do contact our reception team and we will create a reserve list should anyone no longer be able to make it. Details, for those coming to the event, will be shared next week.

REMINDER SEND Parents' Coffee Morning, Friday 30th September

The SEND Department would like to invite parents who are interested in learning more about SEND support at SVC to a coffee morning in the Student Centre on Friday 30th September at 9.30 am until 10.50 am. Dr Erika Payne our link Educational Psychologist will also be available to answer your questions.

The morning will focus on introducing the interventions on offer at SVC and how we support young people identified as having SEND in mainstream classes. Dr Payne will be presenting on statutory and non-statutory work in schools, the Cambridgeshire Dyslexia Guidance and how we support a range of needs. If you would like to attend, please contact mgrigoli@sawstonvc.org by 12 pm Thursday 29th September.

NICE TO KNOW Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition

Pupils and staff enjoyed an excellent - somewhat colder than anticipated - DofE expedition in Thetford last weekend and we are delighted to report that all 69 of our Y11 participants who attended have now successfully completed the expedition section of their Bronze Award. For one of the participants, Jack Journeaux, this was the final section of his Bronze Award to complete and he has now been presented with his certificate. Congratulations on being the first of the cohort! Expeditions like this would not go ahead without the willingness of staff to give up their weekend in support of our participants so we extend our gratitude to them. As always, our pupils were a credit to the College and we are all delighted the DoE programme continues to go from strength to strength.

COMMUNITY Foster Carers needed

Cambridgeshire County Council are looking for Foster Carers. To find out more about becoming a Foster Carer please follow this [link](#).

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Wishing you an enjoyable weekend

Jonathan Russell

