

2 December 2022



Sawston
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

Weekly Round-Up

December is upon us and we can look forward to some festive cheer. Next week, our musicians will be taking part in the King's College Chapel Christmas Carols and read on to find how a care home in Cardiff will be opening Christmas cards from Sawston pupils this year. We held our Governors' Day today. It is always impressive to see pupils in lessons so focused and curious about their learning and the world around them. Looking further ahead, our WEX evening last night set out the plans for Y10 next summer. Finally, our Y11s have been receiving their mock results and, crucially, feedback on how to improve and aim high.

NEW Year 11 Virtual Parents' Evening: Thursday 8th December

The year 11 virtual parents' evening is taking place on Thursday 8th December from 4pm. This will be an opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with subject teachers following on from the recent mock examinations. Please be aware that there are a few staff who teach in excess of 60 pupils. If you are unable to get an appointment for any subject and you wish to receive feedback on your child's progress then please email the member of staff directly who will be able to provide the feedback required. It can also be helpful to add your name to the waiting list on the booking system as it may be possible to contact you should an appointment slot become available.

NEW Christmas Give Campaign

Today, we launched our Sawston Christmas Give campaign and sent a letter to all parents. We know that 2022 has been a challenging year for many in our local community. With this in mind, we are looking to encourage pupils, who feel able to do so, to consider how we can give generously to others during the festive period. Over the last remaining weeks of term, we will be creating opportunities for pupils to collect food, clothing and gifts for those most in need. We are partnering with three wonderful local charities in their efforts, and are looking for donations that we can gather here at the College and pass on as a gift from our whole community.

NEW i3 Parent Hub Event

On Wednesday 7 December, i3 Parent Hub are holding a talk at The Netherhall School - Supporting Teens with Anxiety. They will cover topics such as: what is anxiety; the teenage brain; communicating with teens; how you can help; calming tools; and, tips for connecting. If you are interested, please follow [this link](#) for more information and to register for the event.



REMINDER Parent Workshop: Positively Supporting Self Harming Behaviours

A reminder about the Parent Workshop we are hosting: Positively Supporting Self Harming Behaviours, at 6.30pm next Tuesday 6 December in the Henry Morris Hall. We still have some spaces available, if you would like to attend but have not yet booked, please contact Miss Gregg - mgregg@sawstonvc.org.

NICE TO KNOW National Youth Choir Singing Workshops

The Music department was delighted to welcome in two practitioners from the National Youth Choir to lead workshops with different year groups last Friday. Pupils in Years 10 and 11 who are involved with Music groups in school enjoyed their sessions, while our Year 7 pupils could be heard singing enthusiastically from the Henry Morris Hall in their workshops. We are grateful to the Arts Society South Cambs for their funding support in making these workshops possible.

NICE TO KNOW Year 9 Girls Hockey Tournament

A massive well done to our year 9 girls in their first hockey tournament of the year. They had incredible team spirit and showed support and resilience throughout each match. Thank you to Emma Russell and Ceiba Zurita for volunteering as our goal keeper for the last 2 games. Player of the Match goes to Tyrihanna Johnson. Well done Sawston!

NICE TO KNOW Christmas Card mix-up brings early cheer

This week we were scheduled to take delivery of our Christmas cards. The box duly arrived and upon opening it we were surprised to find lots of cards advertising a care home in Cardiff. The print company, who realised there had been a labelling error, will deliver our cards – designed by pupils- as ordered.

Today we received a phone call from the care home in Cardiff - they'd received our cards and said they were beautiful. Rather than dispose of our cards while their order too is reprinted, they plan to give all the residents in the care home one of our cards. Many are apparently without family and never receive any cards so it will be very meaningful for them to get a card. The person we spoke to was full of praise for our pupils' designs and wished us all a jolly festive season. Isn't that nice?

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Wishing you a warming winter's weekend,

Jonathan Russell