

9 December 2022



Sawston
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

Weekly Round Up

Congratulations to all of our pupils who took part in the Cambridgeshire schools cross-country race and Rugby fixture earlier this week. There were many impressive performances and several pupils will be going through to the regional round for the cross-country. Just as those pupils were running, our KS4 choirs and GCSE musicians were singing in the King's College's service of lessons and carols, enjoying the beauty of the surroundings. It was certainly a good warm up for Great St Mary's on December 20th. On the same busy Tuesday, we had many pupils involved in the PISA tests and are very grateful for their participation. Since then, cold winds have swept in and we are all bracing ourselves for plummeting temperatures. Thankfully, the energy and enthusiasm of our pupils will keep us all warm.

IMPORTANT Last Day of Term – Wednesday 21st December

To enable staff to prepare for the term ahead and to come together ahead of the Christmas holiday, College will close early on Wednesday 21st December for pupils. We will have lessons as normal before break followed by our bumper Christmas inter-House quiz and finish at 12.20pm.

NEW Self Harming Behaviours Workshop

Thank you to all who attended the Parent Workshop this week. It was an informative and supportive evening. We are very grateful to NESSie (www.nessieined.com) for delivering this session. If there are any parents/carers (whether or not you attended the workshop) who require further support around self-harming behaviours, [this poster](#) outlines the current offer of free support from NESSie.

NEW Safer Schools Newsletter

December's Safer Schools Newsletter can be accessed [here](#). This month's newsletter contains information about how to avoid scam websites and purchase items safely when online shopping, as well as the CEOP Christmas Countdown (with online safety tips) and information about e-scooters.

NEW Year 9 House Ambassadors

A leadership opportunity was launched yesterday for pupils in Year 9 via assembly. We are seeking to appoint a new group of 'House Ambassadors' who will work closely with the Heads of House to plan and deliver House competitions, celebrations and activities. This is



a chance for our KS3 pupils to step up and play a leading role in the College Community. Pupils can find more information from Miss Gelder, and access to the application form, via their school email; the deadline is 6th January. We look forward to seeing what this group can achieve.

NEW Absences

As with many schools, we are experiencing a very high level of staff and pupil absence due to illness. Pupils are reminded to practise good hand and respiratory hygiene at school and at home. During the cold spell, please can we also encourage pupils to wear coats to and from school, and during social times. A reminder, please, that hoodies are not allowed.

NEW Christmas Market

On Friday 16th December our pupil Anti Bullying Ambassadors will be holding a Christmas Market at lunch time for pupils and staff. The purpose is to kick start a series of 'Feel good Fridays' with Christmas music and festive spirit, and to raise money for the ambassadors to put on further events and run campaigns. They will be selling homemade cakes, biscuits, sausage rolls and other surprises made and donated by staff and pupils. It will be cash only and therefore please do send pupils in with what they may need to purchase a treat or a present.

REMINDER Carol Service, Great St Mary's Church

There are still a few in person tickets available for the Carol Service at Great St Mary's Church on Tuesday 20th December. Links to purchase in person or livestream tickets can be found below.

In person tickets

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/sawstoncinema/t-nojqanp>

Livestream ticket link

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-xmdqenp>

REMINDER Scarlet Fever/Strep A guidance

Earlier this week, we sent a [letter](#) with advice re Strep A. Here are some further information resources that may be useful regarding scarlet fever:

- A fact sheet that covers what scarlet fever is and other frequently asked questions: [Factsheet \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674447/factsheet-scarlet-fever-2020.pdf)
- Scarlet guidance on symptoms, diagnosis and treatment: [Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/scarlet-fever-symptoms-diagnosis-and-treatment)
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NICE TO KNOW Cambridgeshire Inter Schools Cross Country Competition

A fantastic result from all of those involved in the Cambridgeshire Inter Schools Cross Country Competition on Tuesday this week. A gruelling hill for those to scale each lap meant for a tough and muddy route for all to conquer. Some star performances came from Natalia Smith, Torin Jones and Oliver Seaborn, who all qualified for the next regional round in St Ives. Sawston's top performance goes to Matthew Smith who came 3rd in the Inter Boys 4500m race. Well done to all of those who ran. A great result!

NICE TO KNOW Year 7 Girls Rugby success

Our Year 7 girls had a fantastic time at their recent Rugby Festival, which was hosted by Shelford Rugby Club. They showed amazing character, determination, teamwork and skill levels, despite the extremely cold conditions. We entered two teams into this event, and both teams performed wonderfully throughout the afternoon, showing brilliant enthusiasm and scoring plenty of tries too. All the girls showed that they have been working hard recently in their PE lessons and their tenacious defence and speed in attack proved too much for the opposing teams – well done to all the girls involved, who were a real credit to the school throughout the afternoon of sport.

NICE TO KNOW King's College Service

Sixty KS4 pupils took part in the prestigious Kings College Carol Service for Cambridgeshire secondary schools on Tuesday. Their behaviour was impeccable and their singing of the hymns beautiful. It was an honour for the College that the Principal was asked to be the Headteacher Reader for this year's service.

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Wishing you a peaceful weekend

Jonathan Russell