

15 September 2023



**Sawston**  
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Weekly Round-Up**

The Sports Hall was abuzz with activity on Tuesday at Freshers' Fair with so many Y7s signing up for lots of clubs. One such opportunity for the older pupils is Duke of Edinburgh and this weekend 21 Y11s are hiking in the Peak District on their silver expedition. We have 96 Y10s working on our Bronze Award programme, which is a record number. It's lovely to see so many embracing the opportunities we have to offer.

### **NEW Disruption to Phonelines**

Much to our frustration, we still do not have operating phone lines for which we can only apologise. There is an external fault, outside the control of the College or Trust, which we have been working with our provider to have fixed. Openreach have classed this as a major outage and have engineers trying to resolve the fault. We will keep you updated and inform you as soon as the lines are operating again. In the meantime, please contact us via [office@sawstonvc.org](mailto:office@sawstonvc.org).

### **NEW Attendance**

Earlier in the week, we sent out some information regarding attendance. You may find the DfE guidance helpful such as [Is my child too ill for school?](#) to aid in making judgements about mild illness or [how to seek support with attendance challenges](#). The Chief Medical Officer and other health leaders have just written to schools on this: [letter](#).

### **NEW Y7 Meet the Mentor Evening**

Y7 Meet the Mentor is taking place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Appointment times can be booked through the School Cloud system. Log in information was communicated home earlier this week, if you have any difficulties making a booking, please contact Mrs Swinburne.

### **NEW Open Evening**

We will be holding our annual Open Evening for prospective pupils moving into Y7 on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October from 5-8.30pm. If parents of pupils in Y6 would like to attend, please follow the below link to book a time for your visit.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sawston-village-college-open-evening-2023-tickets-716563760497?aff=oddtcreator>



ANGLIAN LEARNING



National Support School  
designated by  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership



Artsmark  
Platinum Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

TRINITY  
COLLEGE LONDON  
Trinity Champion Centre 2021/2022



### **NEW Anglian Learning Chess Academy**

In partnership with the highly successful Linton Chess Club, we are delighted to be introducing a new Anglian Learning Chess Academy hosted by us at Sawston Village College on Friday evenings. This is an ideal opportunity for any intermediate and advanced players from Y6-Y11 to enjoy the game, receive expert coaching and take part in national competitions. It is free and begins on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 6-8pm on Friday nights. More information to follow.

### **NEW Free online event for Y11 GCSE pupils and their parents/carers this Sunday**

We would like to make you aware of a free online event for parents/carers and pupils. The 2023 GCSE Summit is hosted by the ParentGuidetoGCSE and, according to their marketing, brings together experts from the world of education. We are not endorsing this event because we have not attended previously but offer you the information in good faith without any commercial interest. If it proves to be really useful, do let us know. We will be running our own events later in the year.

The online event is on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September from 2-6pm and has information and tips on what they brand 'the biggest game-changers' for pupils, as well as how parents/carers can best support their child. Topics for pupils include: what really scores marks on GCSE papers; unlocking your motivation; and, how to excel in English language. Topics for parents include: are revision guides worth it?; the Magic 3: Making exams a breeze; protecting your teen's mental health through their GCSEs; and, future-proof decisions: How to avoid mistakes that could affect your child's future.

To book your free place on the event, you can register at: [thegcsesummit.com/register](https://thegcsesummit.com/register)

### **NEW Safer Schools Newsletter**

Please find the September edition of the Cambridgeshire Constabulary Safer Schools Newsletter [here](#). The subjects covered in this newsletter are:

- Return to school: Safety tips to protect pedestrians and cyclists.
- Cannabis Edibles: Awareness message for parents/carers
- NSPCC: Report Remove Campaign

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Wishing you a glorious weekend,

Jonathan Russell