

1 December 2023



Sawston
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

Weekly Round Up

We certainly know it's winter now. As well as the biting cold, winter brings flus and colds and increasing staff and pupil absence as a result. Whilst we have opened up warm spaces for social time, please do encourage pupils to wear coats and, to stop the spread of bugs, to practise good hand washing hygiene at school and at home. Thanks to all Y10 parents who were able to attend our Work Experience Information last night. Good luck to all those taking their LAMDA exams this weekend.

NEW Swimming Pool boilers to be replaced

We have had to postpone our curriculum swimming lessons due to the temperature of the pool. We are replacing the two boilers that heat the pool and we have fixed the heating of the room itself. We are waiting on the parts to arrive for the boilers.

NEW Year 11 Photography Exhibition

On Tuesday 5th December from 6pm to 8pm we will be holding an evening showcasing the innovative work of our year 11 Photography pupils in the Walnut Gallery.

The work is an exploration of a portrait photography project under the title of 'Disguise'. Pupils have experimented with a range of camera techniques as well as the use of photoshop editing software to distort, manipulate and disguise their images. Pupils have been given the freedom to explore a range of topics such as surrealism, mental health and the psychology of colour under the theme of Disguise.

NEW Year 11 exams

Pupils and parent received an email this week containing the link to the Exam Handbook and other important exam information. Pupils also received their mock exam results letter in mentor time.

NEW Vaccinations

In line with the National Immunisation Programme, the Community School Aged Immunisation Service offers Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio and Meningococcal ACWY vaccinations to all pupils in Year 9. It may also be offered to older pupils who missed the vaccinations. The immunisation team will be in school on **Friday 2 February**. To consent to or decline vaccination for your child, please use the link

<https://imms.hct.nhs.uk/dtp/2023/cambsandpeterborough> before Thursday 1 February.



The team would also like to remind you that all children and young people are recommended to have 2 doses of MMR. If you are not sure whether your child has been fully immunised against MMR please contact your local CSAIS Team on 0300 555 5055 or hct.csaiscambspb@nhs.net.

NEW Year 7 and Year 8 Unifrog online careers platform

In their Computer Science lessons this week, Year 7 and 8 pupils have been introduced to Unifrog, an online tool designed to help them to think about possible future pathways. Each pupil now has their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them; find information on a range of work-related topics such as managing their workload, developing good study habits and writing successful applications and CVs; and begin to record activities they have completed and skills they have developed. We would encourage you to use the platform with your child so you can support them through the process of deciding their next step.

You can also have your own Unifrog account. You'll be able to research careers, attend webinars delivered by employers and universities to learn more about their opportunities, and compare pathways so you can support your child in making an informed decision about their next steps. The sign up code you need is: **SWVCparents** and you can sign up by visiting www.unifrog.org/code. You can also sign up to Unifrog's parent / carer newsletter when you first sign in to get advice and guidance on supporting your child with their next steps.

REMINDER Anglian Learning Parent/Carer Survey

The Anglian Learning parent and carer survey is open until Friday 8th December. The survey is completely anonymous and confidential and should take no more than 15 minutes to [complete via this link](#). We really appreciate your feedback.

COMMUNITY U12 Girls' Rugby at Shelford

The Shelford U12 Girls' Rugby team is on the lookout for players of all abilities to join their rugby team. To motivate girls to give rugby a try they are hosting a free 'Girls Open session' at Shelford Rugby Club on Wednesday 13th December from 6pm to 7pm.

COMMUNITY Free Mental Health Webinar

The YMCA is running a free webinar for parents and professionals, entitled "Managing significant change in families: how to help your child during challenging times" This will run on December 13th, 2023 from 19:00 - 20:00 with a Q & A session afterwards, from 20:00 - 20:30. Follow this link to register in advance for the webinar: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KO-F_K1GT7q4Yuu_oEcf3A. If you have any queries about the webinar get in touch by emailing mentalhealthtraining@ymcatrinity.org.uk. As always, if you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing that you would like to discuss with school, please don't hesitate to contact your child's mentor directly.

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Wishing you a cosy weekend,

Jonathan Russell