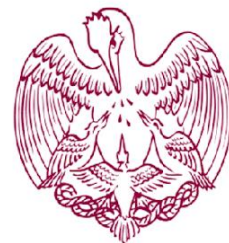


15 March 2024



**Sawston**  
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Weekly Round-Up**

Congratulations to our Y11 Drama pupils for their GCSE scripted performances this week. As ever, they put on an excellent show and all that rehearsing has paid off. Food practicals have also gone very well with delicious smells emanating from the kitchens. This week has been British Science Week and each morning there has been a mentor activity encouraging curiosity and promoting the Sciences culminating in our Science Quiz today. Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported Comic Relief on WisePay today. Non-uniform days are always for good causes and we hope the pupils have used the day to reflect and think of others as well as enjoying themselves.

### **NEW FSM Easter Holiday Vouchers**

The Local Authority will be running a holiday voucher scheme for the Easter Holiday. For each eligible pupil, they will issue a £30 supermarket voucher using Wonde (E-voucher). Eligible families were sent a letter earlier this week. Every eligible pupil will receive their voucher by the end of the day on **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March**. If you think you may now be eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the office.

### **NEW Y11 Group Photograph - new date**

We had to postpone our Y11 group photograph on Tuesday due to the wet weather. The new date for the photograph is Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March during period 5.

### **NEW Arts Week**

Next week in school is Arts Week, and the Arts Forum has planned a range of activities relating to different art forms for completion in mentor time each morning. One of the initiatives is being led by our Y8 Arts Ambassadors who aim to create a collaborative artwork comprising canvases completed by each mentor group. We can't wait to see what the final result of this ambitious project will be.

### **NEW Support for Parenting a Child with Anxiety – workshop on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March for Parents and Carers**

We are delighted that Inger Madsen has offered to run a free workshop for parents about anxiety and how to support an anxious child or teenager. We have offered this workshop in previous academic years and received positive feedback. You will learn what anxiety is about, how it affects your child and why it sometimes comes out as anger instead. You will come away with strategies to support your parenting and learn a simple tool to help yourself and your child.



Please click on the link below to book a place. The workshop runs on-line from 6.30pm to 8.30pm and places are limited. If you book a place and then are unable to attend, please do cancel as there may be a waiting list. All contact regarding the course should be directly through Inger Madsen [inger@ingermadsen.com](mailto:inger@ingermadsen.com)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/svc-parenting-an-anxious-child-or-teen-online-workshop-19th-march-2024-tickets-845848504647?aff=oddtcreator>

### **NEW Grand Union Orchestra**

We were delighted to welcome Grand Union Orchestra into school today. They started the day with a concert for pupils from our local Icknield and Bellbird Primary Schools, which was much enjoyed. They then joined our GCSE musicians for a workshop in composition and improvisation before finishing the day with a concert for our Y7 pupils. This final concert will support our Y7 pupils with completing a section of their Bronze Arts Award.

### **NICE TO KNOW Y11 Food GCSE Practical Exams (Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> to Wed 20<sup>th</sup>)**

Our Y11 Food GCSE pupils have been producing some stunning dishes for their whole day exam. One pupil commented afterwards, "it was challenging but really fun, and learning new cooking skills has been exciting". Not all of our pupils have finished, so expect some bustling activity in your kitchens this weekend! We hope their lucky families will enjoy tasting their dishes and give valuable feedback.

### **NICE TO KNOW National Science Week**

This week was National Science Week. Throughout the week there have been activities and quizzes in the bulletin for pupils to participate in. A local company, River Labs, taught some Y8 and Y9 classes how to pipette indicator into 96 well and 384 well plates. Pupils enjoyed wearing white coats and developing their transferable technical skills. At lunchtimes, pupils made Telluriums and Nocturnals, entered a Science Escape room and solved scientific puzzles. We all appreciate Sawston's unique position in the country and how many of our pupils may find future employment with local science companies.

### **NICE TO KNOW World Book Week**

Thank you to pupils for their enthusiastic engagement with our World Book Day celebrations. We were astounded by the creativity and enthusiasm shown in the Mentors in Wonderland competition. Congratulations to the winning mentor groups, who won with literary interpretations including a poetry tree, and tableaus from Alice in Wonderland, Harry Potter, and the Wizard of Oz.

Miss Allen, our fantastic librarian, organised a well-attended programme of activities; our congratulations to the Y8 boys who triumphed in the book quiz. Our Friday bake and book sale raised £70, all of which will be reinvested into library stock. Finally, we extend huge thanks to parents and carers who purchased a book on our Amazon Wishlist; your support is very much appreciated. The Amazon Wishlist will continue to be live and updated regularly: [Sawston's Amazon Wishlist](#).

### **COMMUNITY Astronomy Open Day at the Institute of Astronomy**

The Institute of Astronomy are holding an [Open Day](#) on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March from 2pm to 6pm.

Over the course of the afternoon, members of the public interested in learning more about astronomy can visit the Institute at the Madingly Rise site, and enjoy a range of events including virtual stargazing; interactive black hole; exoplanet travel agency and arts and craft.

**COMMUNITY Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan**

A consultation for the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan will run from 9am on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 until 4pm on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Further details are available in [this leaflet](#) and you can review the draft Plan and its supporting documents at <https://www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/sgsnplan/> and complete an online or paper feedback form, which are available from the website or the Great Shelford Library.

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Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Jonathan Russell