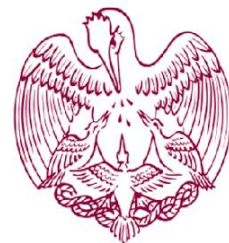


22 March 2024



Sawston
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

Weekly Round-Up

We are looking forward to our annual West Road Concert tonight, which is always a highlight of our arts calendar and a wonderful celebration of the musical talents of the College. It's a fitting end to our Arts Week, a week of activities with mentor groups creating 49 unique canvases, a photo montage and trying to keep to the rhythm in Miss Irwin's challenge. Congratulations to our amazing Science quizzers who won the inter-school competition held at the Perse School on Wednesday. We can look forward to a shorter week next week: don't forget College breaks up for Easter on Thursday 29th March at 3.05pm.

NEW Safeguarding

In all matters of safeguarding, our priority is to keep pupils and staff safe, liaising with families involved, external agencies and, where necessary, the police. One aspect of safeguarding that is very difficult for schools to manage is young people's use of social media and what they choose to say and do on-line. We encourage parents/carers to talk with their children, ensuring that young people do nothing to spread rumour, incite, inflame or encourage behaviour that puts themselves or others at risk. Equally, we ask that children are helped to understand that their language on-line, whether intended or not, can be hurtful, unkind and cause harm to themselves and others. Thank you for supporting us in helping young people to make the right choices and doing all that we can to maintain a calm, purposeful and kind atmosphere in College.

NEW Attendance Update

As we approach the end of the Spring Term we are delighted to report that our attendance remains above the national figure for England. However, we are not complacent as our pupils can only be learning when they are able to access lessons and therefore we continue to work with a number of families and pupils to provide support to enable them to do this. Punctuality continues to be a focus for us. We understand that when buses are late this can't be helped (though we are in touch with the transport provider to try to improve this) but around half of all pupils who are late don't have a valid reason. We will be writing to individual parents and carers very soon to alert them if their son or daughter has been late to school to see if there is anything we can do to help.

Finally, well over 300 pupils were awarded certificates to celebrate 100% attendance for the first half term this year and we will be awarding the next round of certificates for this half term soon after the holiday. Ten pupils were randomly selected to receive vouchers to reward their excellent attendance and punctuality, we hope they enjoy spending their prize.



NEW Year 10 exams – 22nd April to 1st May

Y10 pupils will receive paper copies of their personal exam timetables in mentor time next week. They will also receive the timetables via email.

NEW GCSE exams and BTEC Awards in this summer series

Pupils entered for GCSE and BTEC Tech Award written exams will receive paper copies of their personal exam timetables in mentor time next week. They will also receive the timetables via email. Pupils should check these carefully – allowances cannot be made for candidates who misread their timetable. They should take special note of any re-arrangements due to timetable clashes. Exams can sometimes be at a different time to other members of a subject group, therefore do not refer to anyone else's timetable.

REMINDER Y11 Group Photograph

The Y11 group photograph will be taking place on the afternoon of Tuesday 26th March. Please could you help by ensuring that your child is wearing correct school uniform, including a school sweatshirt, and is complying with the uniform policy on make-up and piercing.

COMMUNITY The Netherhall School and i3 Parent Hub Power Up Festival

The Netherhall School and i3 Parent Hub are holding a free event for children, young people and their families on Wednesday 27th March from 4.15pm to 7.15pm. Please see [here](#) for further details.

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Wishing you a peaceful weekend,
Jonathan Russell