

The Fountain

Sawston Village College's Termly Magazine



Summer 2024

Issue 75



Above: Year 8 pupils opting for Art during Activities Week made screen-printed banners with quotes from Shakespeare

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Year 11 Leavers' Ball 2024

Staff were sad to bid their final farewell to our class of 2024 at their wonderful ball. We wish them all the best for the future. You can enjoy some of the photographs from the occasion here.



Welcome



The new Senate has certainly hit the ground running and their enthusiasm sings from these pages. They pick up the baton at full pace from the outgoing team who did a wonderful job leading pupil voice and representing the College with aplomb. We all had an opportunity to celebrate with them at the Ball, a joyful event where maturity, elegance and glee danced the night away.

It is one of the greatest privileges of this role to watch young people develop from uncertain Y7s to more self-confident 16 year olds ready to embrace the world. Those fortunate enough to attend the Prize Giving events at the end of this term witnessed the changing of the Senate guard and will surely have been impressed with the level of composure and confidence displayed by the pupils. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the Senate, Forum, Ambassadorships, HouseMates, Sports Leaders, Peer mentoring, Paired Reading, Anti-Bullying and all leadership programmes at the College.

This half term is often one of the busiest and in these pages you will read about an array of activities. Each is a memory-maker and helps shapes the character, qualities and traits of the participants. None of this can happen without staff and we are so very fortunate to have

an exceptional team willing to give of their time, energy and enthusiasm beyond the classroom and their offices. Sawston Village College is a vibrant place in which to work and there is joy to be found in each of the articles.

Robert Louis Stevenson: *'...to find out where joy resides, and give it a voice far beyond singing. For to miss the joy is to miss all.'*

Mr Russell, Principal

Welcome from the Senate Ambassadors and Pupil Fountain Editors

Hello everyone! We are Kyryll and Vaishnavi and we have recently been appointed as Senate Ambassadors for 2024-2025, a role which involves editing this magazine. After studying previous Fountain magazines, we realise that this isn't something which is easy but we are thrilled to embark on this exciting journey of supporting and documenting all the ongoing and upcoming projects that we, alongside the forums, have begun to plan, as well as all the other activity which regularly takes place in school.

We aim to produce new and interesting articles for the Fountain Magazine, our pupil publication. These articles will cover a wide array of topics, from pupil life and college events to in-depth features on pressing social issues and profiles of inspiring individuals within our community. We aim to provide content that is both informative and engaging, reflecting the diverse interests and talents of the pupils here in school.

The former Senate team did a great job, and we hope to fill their shoes and do the best we possibly can. Together, as Senate Ambassadors, we are committed to making a positive impact. Overleaf you will find updates from the other members of the Senate team and their plans for this year, so please do read on.

Vaishnavi and Kyryll



Kyryll and Vaishnavi

Huge Congratulations to our new Pupil Senate!
We look forward to seeing what you will achieve during your final year at the College.



Pupil Senate 2024-25			
Heads of Senate	Emma Russell	Isaac Arena	
Deputy Heads of Senate	Evita Quijano	Samuel Lewes	
Senate Ambassadors	Vaishnavi Badiger	Kyryll Kuznetsov	
International Co-Chairs	Alexandra Hovsepyan	Emily Yau	Izzy Young
Equality and diversity Co-Chairs	Isabelle Jackson	Lucy Pryor	Eesha Bharatham
Eco/Animal Co-Chairs	May Sillence	Anna Bright	Lily Liu-Child
Wellbeing Co-Chairs	Storm Clapp	Catrin Arthurs	Maggie O'Brien
Ethos Co-Chairs	Ettolle Martin	Neve Roberts	Tom Sale
Arts Co-Chairs	Harry Sample	Hannah Pulford	Mara Roberts
Sports Captains	Ned Jones	Anni Sainson	Harry Johnson

A message from the Senate Heads and Deputies

Hello Sawston Village College community, we are the newly appointed Co-Heads of Senate; Emma and Isaac. We are so excited to begin this role in the Senate and first want to extend our sincere congratulations to the previous Heads of Senate for all the hard work they did. Our new duties have already begun with speeches at induction evening and awards evening, and we look forward to working together with the Senate throughout next year. We hope to collaborate with the teachers and the forums to bring some new projects into fruition focusing on more careers information and community spirit. We also want to take a look at how we can improve and distribute funding for the forums so that we can showcase a larger variety of events/opportunities that the school can offer. We look forward to getting to meet all of the new Year 7 pupils in September and hope they have lots of amazing ideas to pass on to the forums! We can't wait to make an official, proper start in September, and we hope that we, and the Senate as a whole, can make a positive impact on Sawston Village College, and its pupils, as well as the wonderful community around us!

Emma Russell and Isaac Arena, Heads of Senate

As newly appointed Deputy Heads of Senate we look forward to supporting all the ongoing and upcoming projects the forums have started to plan. It's incredibly special to us to be a part of such a versatile team, and together we will work hard to make the most of our time as the Senate! You can look forward to bigger and better charity events, new lunchtime spaces opening up and more support around finding your career.

Evita Quijano and Samuel Lewes, Deputy Heads

Update from the Senate Forums

equality & diversity forum

We are delighted to be Co-Chairs of the Equality & Diversity Forum for 2024-25! We have exciting plans for this year and began by spreading awareness of Pride Month in the pupil bulletin in June, outlining the beginnings of the Pride movement. In the future, to celebrate our differences, we plan to host a Cultural Performance/Talent day accompanied by a bake sale to raise money for charity. We also plan to have a non-uniform day for 'Show Racism the Red Card', an annual event celebrated in October for which pupils will be encouraged to wear red. These are just some of the exciting events we have planned. Please come along to our meetings to find out more and get involved.

Eesha, Lucy, and Izzy, Co-Chairs of the Equality & Diversity Forum

inter forum

As Co-Chairs of the International Forum, we aim to celebrate and explore the richness of diverse cultures and global experiences. Our mission is to foster understanding and connections across the world, to bring awareness and educate Sawston Village College pupils. This July, we were very excited to welcome 20 students from Blessed Imelda School in Taiwan for two weeks at Sawston Village College. We enjoyed showing them what school life is like in England and sharing experiences while learning about theirs. Additionally, during June, the Year 10 GCSE German class participated in an exchange with a German school. This was a great opportunity to learn the language and understand the culture better, as well as to meet new people and make friends. The visit included a bowling night, visiting Cambridge and a trip to London for the German students. It will be very exciting for Sawston Village College German pupils to visit Braunschweig in the Autumn term, as it is a beautiful city.

Alexandra, Emily and Izzy, Co-Chairs of the International Forum

wellbeing forum

As the new Co-Chairs the Wellbeing Forum, we have many exciting plans. We believe that wellbeing extends beyond Sawston Village College to our entire community, so we have decided that it is not only the wellbeing of those inside Sawston Village College that matters, but also those in the community around us and the effects we have on them. As a consequence, while we are focusing a lot of our time on the pupils and the College as a whole, we will also be trying to have a positive impact on our neighbourhood too. To do this, we are planning to organise some activities like community picnics (in partnership with the Ethos Forum) and distributing Christmas Cards to local care homes. We hope you will support and enjoy our projects, and we would love to see lots of pupils at our forum meetings!

Catrin, Maggie and Storm, Co-Chairs of the Wellbeing Forum

sports forum

We are the new Sports Forum. We all have a big passion for sport that we want to share throughout the school. Sport is so important for both our physical and mental health so we are going to spread this message in the most fun and inclusive way possible. We have many exciting plans for this year, such as fundraising for new equipment and kits, introducing new ways to praise sporting achievements and lots more along the way! We would love to hear any suggestions from pupils at Sawston so that all together we can create a vibrant, inclusive sporting community at our school.

Anni, Harry and Ned, Co-Chairs of the Sports Forum



Hi! We are the new Eco Forum Co-chairs. Our aim is to help the school environment and bring people closer together. We will try to keep the same standards as the previous Eco Forum leaders. One of our ideas is to have a day during school where we bring in old clothes and give them out between us. This will help the environment by reducing waste and form connections within our school community. Additionally, we would like to have days to celebrate our world, like World Bee Day and World

Environment Day. We would like to hold activities during mentor time to enable people to understand how important it is to help our planet. Finally, we would like to collaborate with the other forums to plan larger events.

Lily, Anna and May, Co-Chairs of the Eco Forum



Starting in the next academic year, we plan to introduce new projects, as well as promoting our usual events. We had a great turnout at our first Arts Forum this term and were able to discuss with fellow pupils our plans for the near future. Primarily, we discussed the logistics of staging an 'Open-Mic (rophone) Night', essentially a talent gig, which unfortunately was cancelled this term due to low numbers of registrations. Hence, our solution focuses on promotion of the event, with ideas such as:

free entry, advertisement design competitions, a greater notice period and running an assembly highlighting the event. We also plan to change the judging structure, aiming to allow pupils to perform without unnecessary pressure, encouraging a wider range of pupils to participate. Other new ideas are also in development, such as a pupil-curated subscription email, a musical theatre competition, and a showcase displaying the Year 9 printing project. As the year progresses, we hope to develop, discuss, plan and eventually also offer further projects and events.

Harry, Hannah and Mara, Co-Chairs of the Arts Forum



This year, Ethos Forum have many ideas on how we can help with our school's fundraising efforts. One of these will be the popular 'Shoebox Appeal' at Christmas time, which we will be continuing to run. We will also be bringing up previous fundraising events for the Ball, such as the pupil and teacher leg waxing to raise funds for this important event. Additionally, we would like to further expand our fundraising by planning and collaborating with other forums in order

to achieve more for the school and wider community. To ensure all year groups are able to play a full role in our fundraising efforts, we will be considering the best ways for our younger year groups to take part. We look forward to working with you to support our school over the next 12 months.

Ettolle, Neve and Tom, Co-Chairs of the Ethos Forum



The Drama department enjoyed a glorious day at The Globe theatre this term with *Much Ado* and merriment on the sunny South Bank. Thank you to the wonderful Year 9s, and the lovely Scarlet for excellent company and exemplary behaviour, as always!

Great Progress in the Refresh Garden

Have you visited the Refresh Garden recently? Have you seen all the progress that has been made? Well done to everyone involved in transforming this space.



ROBERT HENRY CHAPMAN – killed D-Day 6th June 1944



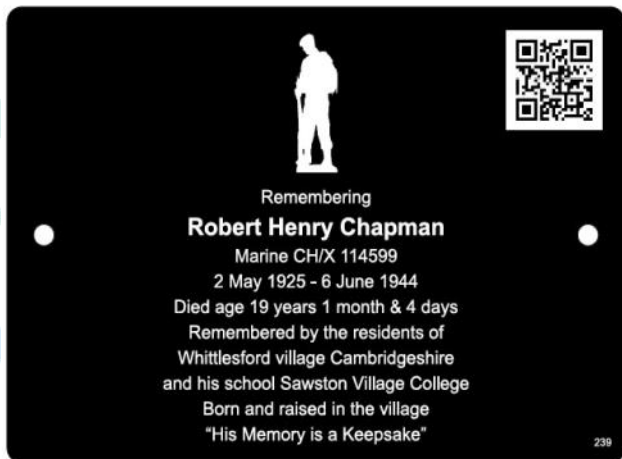
Robert Henry Chapman was a Marine aged 19 years and 1 month when he died on D-Day, 6th June 1944.

His name is on the new British Normandy Memorial in France and this year, the 80th anniversary of the landings, a new plaque was added which will tell his story and can be

seen on the following link:

<https://www.britishnormandymemorial.org/normandy-story/robert-henry-chapman/>

The plaque at the British Normandy Memorial, France, with the QR code which tells his story.



The British Normandy Memorial is the only memorial in Normandy listing all the names of the 22,442 British military personnel who died on D-Day and during the Battle of Normandy.

This year from 21 April to 31 August 2024, the British Normandy Memorial in France together with “Standing with Giants” are displaying 1,475 silhouettes of soldiers to reflect the number of British servicemen who lost their lives on D-Day itself.

Robert was born on 2 May 1925, the son of Reuben Arthur and Louisa Emma Chapman, nee Day. Louisa was born in Hildersham. Robert was the youngest of four children, having two sisters, Millicent Louisa and Olive May, who both later married and left the village. Sadly, his older brother, William Arthur George, died in 1948, aged 28. His parents and brother are buried in the Whittlesford village cemetery. His father’s sister was Alice. She married Percy Overhill, who was killed in WW1. Alice and Percy’s son Geoffrey joined the RAF, and was killed in 1943, so of the eight village residents who died in WW2 these two came from the same family.

Robert’s family had moved from Radwinter, Essex between 1861 and 1871 and initially lived in Orchard Terrace in Whittlesford. In 1890 Robert’s grandfather Reuben purchased “Sheads” in the High Street where the family were still living at the outbreak of WW2. In the book “Whittlesford Recalled”, originally published in 1977, there is a photograph of the house and it states that this is “where the first Co-op was started by Reuben Chapman”. The earliest Chapmans were blacksmiths but according to the 1939 Register, Robert’s father Arthur Reuben was a farmer and carrier in addition to being a Special Constable, and Robert was a 14 year-old newspaper boy. He attended the village primary school, now William Westley School, from 16 September 1929, leaving on 29 July 1936 to move to Sawston Village College, where he is commemorated on a memorial plaque outside the College reception. At the time of his death he was too young to vote as the age for voting at that time was 21 years.

Below: The commemorative plaque at Sawston Village College.



Robert had his 18th birthday on 2 May 1943 and joined the marines soon after. He had previously worked at Pearce Mill in Kings Mill Lane, Great Shelford, a small water mill producing flour, grinding corn from local farmers and supplying shops. Robert's job there is unknown.



THE WAR

At first Robert was posted to HMS Copra, a shore-based frigate used for admin purposes for men who had not yet been assigned to a ship. As planning for D-Day increased he was posted to HMS Turtle, another shore-based frigate, but one that was used for training personnel who would be part of Operation Neptune, the seaborne assault phase of Operation

Overlord. Once his training was complete, he was posted to 698 LCM Flotilla. The LCM (Landing Craft Mechanised) could carry a tank, up to 100 men or a large quantity of cargo. Due to its size the LCM would have made its own way across the Channel rather than being carried on one of the larger landing ships. The flotilla was part of Force G which landed troops on Gold Beach.

The landing time for the British troops on D-Day was set at 7.30am, one hour after the Americans at Omaha Beach. According to the eye-witness report of two survivors, Robert was on LCM 193, part of the 698 Flotilla. At approximately 9.00am on 6 June 1944, they were approaching King Red Beach, part of Gold Beach, and whilst trying to run onto the beach to unload beach roadway, the craft hit a mine and sank. The crew were taken off the LCM by an LCA (Landing Craft Assault) and whilst trying to get clear the LCA blew up and Robert was injured. He died of his wounds later in the day. Initially he was buried in Ver-sur-Ver but was reburied in Bayeux Cemetery on 3 February 1945. Grave XIV.L.13. British Normandy Memorial Location – Column 1.



The last line on the new plaque reads, "His memory is a keepsake". This is the first line of the inscription on his gravestone which would have been chosen by his family. You can find out more about the British Normandy Memorial Trust, which has recently announced that the King has become its Patron, by logging onto: www.britishnormandymemorial.org where it also gives details of how to become a Guardian.

Written by Karen Wright (Whittlesford resident)

We are grateful to Karen for her permission to reproduce this story here. (Karen Wright also supported the school with its Heritage Lottery-funded WW1 project in 2014-15.)



A big well done to the Year 10 pupils on completion of their successful Silver DofE practice expedition. They showed excellent planning, teamwork, and map reading skills. We now look forward to the assessed expedition next year!



Oliver Ives, year 7

Activities Week Year 7 - Bushcraft

Bushcraft is a fun experience which we enjoyed. We did lots of really fun activities! Some things we did were:

- We learned how to make fires; after we made the fires our tribe leaders cooked burgers on them.
- We played a game called **Twenty One**. This is a bit like Hide and Seek but it has multiple rounds and at the end of each round the tribe leader only eliminates the people they can see from where they were standing. The last five or six people remaining win.
- Camouflage was a skill that we learned, and one that we used in Twenty One. As part of this, we painted each other with brown and green camo sticks (which took a long time to come off)!
- We watched salmon being dissected and some people even ate the eyeballs!
- We did some whittling and made pencils we can actually use if we dip them in ink or charcoal mixed with water.

- We made paracord bracelets. They were really fun to make, and it was also fun to help others once we had finished.
- The bushcraft leaders were crazy, and we got to do shouting battles.
- We also played **Bungalow**, which is a fun dancing game. There is a leader who says, "Hey you!" while pointing at a person. The person who is pointed at says, "Who me?". Then the leader says, "Yeah, you. Show us how you bungalow! Show us how you bungalow!" then the person says, "My hands are high, my hands are low and this is how I bungalow." The person starts dancing then the others say with the leader, "Her/his hands are high, and my hands are low and this is how she/he bungalows! Bungalow, bung bungalow!" This repeats until the game stops.

All of the people at The Bushcraft Company are really enthusiastic and they helped us when we did stuff like first-aid and building shelters.

Kaitlin White and Elyse Walston, Year 7

My first Swinston village collage residential to bushcraft, it was such an amazing experience and it was very well organized. I will be sure to attend all future residential as well as school trips!!

A short journey on the coach let us to our destination, after a short briefing we head to our campsite. We get shown around then we settle in.

During our trip all the teachers help us feel safe as well as comfortable, we also played lots of fun games and ate lots of delicious food.

We did lots of activities:

- First aid practice
- Fire making
- Nature walks
- Games
- Tent time



Valentina Russo, Year 7



Activities Week Year 7

At the beginning of the week we created bug hotels and learned about different types of birds. It was very interesting. Later on in the week I went to Bushcraft, and it was amazing. We made loads of fires and created waterproof dens. The tents were nice because my friends were in mine, but the tents got cold in the night, which I didn't like. Bushcraft was enjoyable as it has created many memories with my friends for me and I learned how to survive in the wild.

Aiden Williams, Year 7



Learning about Trees



Building Bug Hotels



Pitching Tents



Learning First Aid

Litter picking at Deal Grove



Congratulations to 7S2 on the community litter pick of the week - collecting a whopping 192.4 kg of litter.

Year 7 Activities Week Trip to Milton Country Park

Milton Country Park was a really fun experience, and it was nice that we had this trip considering we also went to Bushcraft. The trip kept us laughing and smiling all day. First we did an activity where you used a map of Milton Country Park that had numbers labelling different areas in the park. The task was to go past as many of those areas as possible. It was a nice activity that was mostly about using maps to find your way, and there was a nice teamwork element, with joint decisions on whether to go right, left or forward, etc. It was a great opportunity to be with nature and wildlife, to smell the nourishing air around us and to hear the birds, insects and calming water next to us. We were also very lucky as the weather was very sunny and it matched the atmosphere really well. We had lunch on benches next to greenery, which was also very nice. And some of us even enjoyed an ice cream. We then had the chance to do some den building with the natural items around us, such as logs, leaves, rocks, and sticks, etc. This was also a competition, and we had to nominate a person from our group to talk about our den and what was included. The teachers and pupils then went from den to den to hear what it was about and what it had. The teachers were the judges and eventually had to pick a winner. My group produced a den with a bowling alley that we made using sticks and logs and rocks as the balls, and a pool. Also a cooking area. All of which resulted in my team winning and receiving the prize of four Celebration

chocolates each. And to end the trip, we played a game which was a fun ending to the magnificent day we experienced. We thank the teachers for preparing this amazing day.

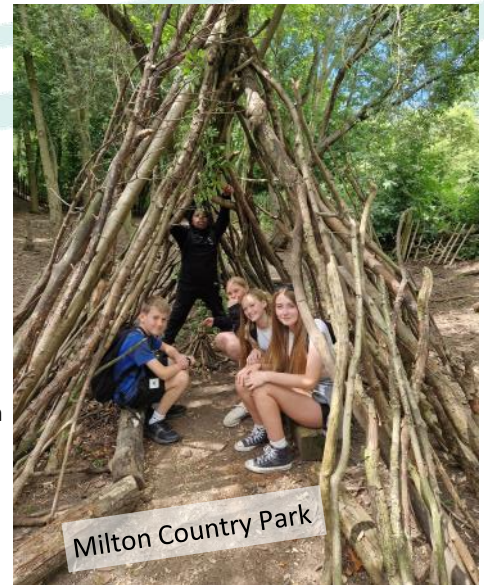
Alma Al Hayek, Year 7

I liked Activities Week because I got to see the people who aren't in my normal classes. I liked when we went to Milton Country Park. It was fun to see everybody singing and smiling. The den building was great - our den had a bowling alley, a pool and a living room! I also liked seeing the dogs walking around the park.

Maryam Faye, Year 7

I liked Activities Week because I wasn't stuck in a classroom all day. My favourite part of Activities Week was the Milton Country Park trip because I got to walk around and I wasn't sitting down all day.

Maisie Pearson, Year 7



Activities Week Year 7 - Orienteering

We love these photographs!



The photograph on the far left is from Oran, Noah, Trinabha, Grzegorz and Nathan.

The photograph on the left is from Amelia Frost.

Year 7 responses to Nature during Activities Week

Nature acrostic poem

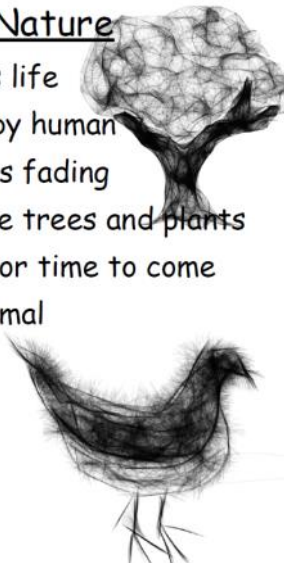
Never ending cycle of beauty, dying & regrowing.
 Always beautiful & always pretty
 There are millions of things to see & experience
 Under an apple tree gravity was named
 Recreating nature, the beautiful environment
 Even when it dies new life ~~begining~~ begins

by Thomas W.



Nature

Nature is life
 Altered by human
 The life is fading
 Under the trees and plants
 Resting for time to come
 Every animal



Silver Arts Award Dance Project



Alyssa and Sia practise their steps at Bottisham Village College before performing in the Anglian Learning Dance Festival.

Well done to Year 8 pupils Alyssa Bruce and Sia Nair who delivered a dance project to Year 3 and 4 pupils at Stapleford Community Primary School. The girls choreographed a dance for the primary children to perform at the first Anglian Learning Dance Festival, which was held at Bottisham Village College on 11 July. As well as attending the Dance Festival to support their young pupils, Alyssa and Sia also performed at it, showcasing a wonderful mix of ballet and Indian dance. Alyssa and Sia delivered the Dance Project at Stapleford as part of the leadership section of their Silver Arts Award.

Congratulations to Sawston Youth Drama Juniors on their wonderful production of Frozen Jr



Year 8 Activities Week Trip to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and the Tate Modern

We went to London on the Monday of Activities Week and we went to the Globe and the Tate Modern. At the Globe we looked at the stage and sat in the theatre. Then, at the Tate we looked at some art. I enjoyed the trip because it was very sunny in London and we ate lunch by the river. Also, the buildings were pretty. The coach home was fun because there was free food from the school lunches.

Chloe Rushby, Year 8

One of my favourite parts of Activities Week was the London trip and that we get to go see all the art and the theatre. The paintings are all different and the other parts of activities week was getting to paint the set for a play.

Malachy Davies-Train, Year 8



Year 8 Art and Drama in Activities Week

The Drama, Art and Music departments joined forces in Activities Week to put on a public performance of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, with pupils choosing which of the three areas to focus on. Drama rehearsed and performed the play. Music composed the accompanying music (see next page), while Art created props and silk screen printed Shakespeare banners.



Perfecting sword skills



Learning lines



Making props



Silk screen printing



Pupils worked with professional print artist Ricki Outis to make banners with well-known Shakespeare quotes.

Year 8 Music in Activities Week

I really enjoyed being part of the making of the music for the play. It was really nice to see it all come together and make all the music ourselves. My favourite part was being part of a team to come up with things and the performance because I really enjoyed showing our work to others.

Alyssa Bruce, Year 8

During Activities Week, I was one of the many Year 8 pupils still in school, and we had to put on a play in a week. On Monday we all went to London to tour the Globe Theatre and the Tate Modern museum, which were both interesting in their unique ways. On Tuesday we had two visitors come in and lead a singing workshop. This wasn't as fun as when we composed our pieces. For the rest of the week, we kept practising and adjusting our compositions. The best part of the week was saved until last, the performance. This was the best because we got to show off our talent alongside the drama group to all the people who came and watched. Another reason it was the best was because we managed to pull off a play in a week, which I thought was incredible.

Eli Caroe, Year 8

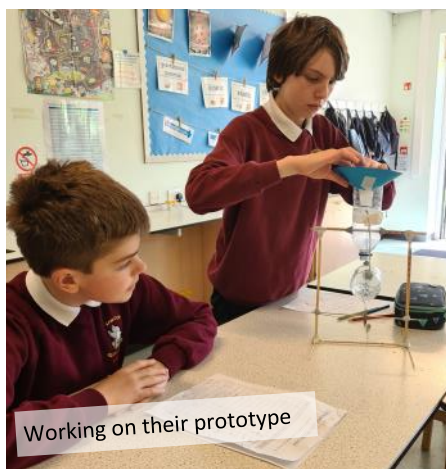


Year 8 Performance - *The Tempest*

Well done to the actors, musicians and artists involved in putting on this play. Everyone's contribution was brilliant. Bravo to all!



Science CREST Award for Year 9 in Activities Week



During Activities Week, we worked to achieve a CREST award. To do this, we designed and built a prototype device which collects the rain to provide a constant source of safe and uncontaminated water for a primary school in Kenya. Our model works by collecting rainwater in a funnel and then filtering it through some filter paper. The water then flows down into a trough and when the cap is unscrewed the water pours out for accessible use. We also created information slides to tell people about different types of diseases, such as typhoid and cholera, which can be spread through a lack of sanitation. These slides also raised awareness about the importance of handwashing and good hygiene.

Arthur Meredith and Zac Shelton, Year 9

Year 9 Food in Activities Week

During Activities Week, we made cupcakes, naan bread, and pizza pinwheels. My favourite was the pizza pinwheels as they were quite easy to make and tasted the best. I really enjoyed all the activities because I got to do them with my friends. I also enjoyed making the flaky puff pastry from scratch as it was a bit of a challenge, but I managed to do it quite well. It was also interesting to learn about the different raising agents used in the food we made.

Joe Banks, Year 9



Year 9s work in the Refresh Garden in Activities Week

During Activities Week we went to the Refresh Garden and we started to paint some tyres white. This was so we can make tyre chairs for the seating in the outside classroom area. Then we split into two groups, and one group started adding a solar-powered pump to the bird bath to create a water feature with sound in the sensory garden. As group one did that, group two continued with the tyres. After break, some people left the garden, while others finished off other bits and bobs that still needed doing. Then this final group of people also left the garden and went in to chill out.

Evan Silley, Year 9



Year 9 Activities Week Trip to the Science Museum

Visiting the Science Museum in London was an exhilarating experience, especially interacting with physics exhibits and exploring how rockets work. The hands-on displays allowed us to experiment with fundamental principles, making learning both fun and engaging. Seeing actual rocket models and understanding the science behind space travel was truly inspiring, offering a unique glimpse into the complexities of physics and engineering.

Cam Dishaw, Year 9



When we arrived at the Museum we had to climb 60 stairs but it was worth it as we saw a show about how rockets were made, and it was amazing. The instructor was funny, but when they made the rocket go boom, I think my heart almost left my body for a second. The high explosive sound of the rocket launching into the air was so loud. When the instructor asked us a question, I was so nervous, and I didn't know the answer, but there were kids there who were in primary school and they immediately answered correctly. My first thought was that they will be future top set people! After the show, we looked at some cool gadgets. An interactive one nearly made me angry because I couldn't write my name in Morse code.

Jack Varghees, Year 9





Year 9 DT in Activities Week

Activities Week brought about the chance for Year 9 pupils to try something a little different in DT. Flight was the topic, and we looked at some aspects of aeronautical engineering. Pupils then designed their own paper planes and eventually used the experience to design and make a glider. There were two categories for success: form and function. The Year 9s got to work with all sorts of marvellous prototypes. The afternoon session was dedicated to the acid test...the flight! There were some wonderful maiden voyages, although comically, some vessels didn't quite survive the flight. The best recorded was a formidable 32m!

Mr Bannister, Subject Leader of DT



More fun in Year 9 Activities Week

at Water Sports (non-residential)
and at Thorpe Park.



Year 10 GCSE Devised Pieces: A Showcase of Talent and Creativity

The Year 10 GCSE devised pieces this year truly showcased the remarkable talent, creativity, and dedication of our pupils. With a captivating mix of comedies and serious dramas, the performances highlighted the diverse range of skills and perspectives within the class. Each piece was a testament to the hard work, passion, and commitment that the pupils had poured into their projects, resulting in an unforgettable evening of theatre.

This year's showcase featured a vibrant array of devised pieces, from laugh-out-loud comedies to deeply thought-provoking dramas. The comedic performances were filled with wit, humour, and cleverly constructed punchlines, skillfully delivered by pupils who demonstrated impeccable timing and a natural flair for comedy. In contrast, the serious pieces tackled complex themes such as mental health, social justice, and personal struggles with remarkable depth and sensitivity. The diversity in genres not only kept the audience engaged but also highlighted the versatility and range of the pupils. The performances were met with enthusiastic applause and glowing comments from the audience, including parents, teachers, and peers. Attendees were thoroughly impressed by the quality of the performances and the professionalism displayed by the pupils. Many remarked on the creativity and originality of the pieces, as well as the maturity and confidence exhibited by the young performers. One parent noted, "The level of talent and dedication these students have shown is truly remarkable. Each performance was unique and engaging, and it's clear that a lot of hard work went into creating these pieces." This positive feedback boosted the pupils' confidence and underscored the success of the showcase.

Overall, the Year 10 GCSE devised pieces were a resounding success, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended. Well done to everyone involved!

Vaishnavi Badiger, Year 10

Chef Masterclass for Year 10

Our Year 10 Food GCSE pupils thoroughly enjoyed attending a masterclass with chef lecturers Jake and Graham from Cambridge Regional College. They prepared soused and blowtorched mackerel with triple-cooked chips, fish velouté, and courgette and carrot ribbons. This experience provided our pupils with a glimpse into post-16 catering courses and will be invaluable for their Food GCSE and future cooking.

Pupils said: **Johann Jarin:** it was a really good experience. The triple-cooked chips tasted nice. We learnt how to fillet a fish, which is an important skill for Food GCSE.

Alba Garman: I really enjoyed the master class and I feel like I have learnt really useful skills that will help me in my GCSE and in the future. I had a great time and it has inspired me to do more cooking .

Will Green: I really enjoyed the master-class as I got very involved in cooking. It felt very professional since I did everything from scratch, and I got to use a blowtorch!



German Exchange

In June, there was a German exchange with students from Braunschweig, a city near Berlin. They stayed in England for just over a week and came into school. There was a bowling night - with lots of friendly competition - which was a great experience as it was just after a trip to Cambridge to see Kings College and the Fitzwilliam Museum. Not only was it a great opportunity to meet new people and make new friends, we got to experience German from an entirely different view and learn some words we would have not learned without the visit. It was a really enjoyable experience and very worthwhile, even before we visit Germany ourselves in September, which we are very much looking forward to.

Emily Yau, Year 10



Cinema Club Update

Recently, in Cinema club, we have been creating short, silent films in small groups. We have been doing this independently with all the equipment and editing ourselves. It has been very enjoyable to do some independent acting and filming, and truly making the films ourselves. People's different talents and

abilities are showcased throughout the project, and everything is coming together nicely.

We will be sharing our films at our Cinema Club Showcase in the Marven Centre on 16 July. At this event we will be showing all the films we have made this academic year. This will include our VFX films we made in the autumn term and our main film project from the spring term when the Year 7 & 8 Club made a film called 'Nothing Ever Happens'. Everyone is welcome to join us for a fun evening of film.

Oliver Ives, Year 7



Silver Arts Award Photography Exhibition

Congratulations to Eli Caroe in Year 8 who set himself a photography challenge for Unit 1 of his Silver Arts Award. He improved his skills and knowledge and completed his challenge with an exhibition of his photographs in the Art department. Thank you to Mr Unsworth for his support with this challenge.



Year 10 Work Experience

From 17-28 June, I did my Work Experience at Saunders Boston Architects on Newmarket Road. This was an enlightening opportunity that enabled me both to get a better understanding of work in the wider world and of my own interests.

For my placement, I had been given three projects to choose from to work on over the fortnight and deliver a final presentation about. During the first week, I went on site visits, did a site analysis, made scaled sketches and physical models and edited my model into a site photo using Photoshop. During the second week, I transferred my drawings onto a computer software called Revit, experimented with materials, made a 3D walkthrough, and did a presentation on my final design.

I found it a very enriching experience as I was able to see how each of my curriculum subjects is used in real life jobs, as well as which elements I thrived in the most. I thoroughly enjoyed the artistic parts of this Work Experience, less so the desk-job element but, nonetheless, I still gained a lot from it in terms of IT and software skills.

Not only did I learn from the work content itself, I also learned life skills such as how to take the train independently, as well as better understanding the pedestrian geography of Cambridge.

It was a placement that I feel I've learnt a lot from and thoroughly enjoyed, learning both workplace and day-to-day skills, undoubtedly helping me to get a better idea of my dreams for the future!

Izzy Young, Year 10



Election at Sawston Village College

We held an election to tie in with the General Election to see if our choice of local MP matched the public's. This followed assemblies focused on the different candidates' manifestos.

We are pleased to say that our choice of a Liberal Democrat MP matched the actual local results.





STAFF IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Ms McIntyre, MFL Teacher

When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?

When I was at school I had a part-time job in the evenings at the greyhound stadium in Catford, close to where I grew up in South-East London. That was really great as a teenager. But I never really thought too much about proper careers until I left university, when I went into book publishing, wanting to stay close to the literature I'd loved during my degree. I started at Bloomsbury. At that time the offices were in Soho Square, which was a brilliant place to work as a young graduate. I worked in publicity, which was fun - lots of book readings and launch parties. I also worked at the Festival Hall doing marketing for the live literature and talks programme. Again this was an amazing place to work - on the South Bank in London and the opportunity to hear famous writers reading live every week. But it all started to feel a bit insubstantial and far from the languages I had studied, so I started a PGCE to become a teacher.

What are your main hobbies or interests?

Reading is the main thing I make time for when I'm not at work. I mainly read lots of fiction but also some non-fiction and poetry. I did a History of Art MA at University College London whilst I was working part-time in museum education in London in my 30s and so I like to read about art. I keep up my languages by reading in French, German and Spanish too. Otherwise I like getting outside and doing plenty of exercise and I love travelling during the school holidays with my teenage children.

What's your most embarrassing moment?

In my early 20s, soon after I started as a publicity assistant for Bloomsbury Publishing, my boss sent me in a taxi with a famous American author to the interview she had booked for him with the Observer newspaper. While the author was talking to the literary editor, waiting for the interview to start, he mentioned that he had done an interview for the Guardian the day before. As the papers share the same publisher and readership the literary editor wasn't at all pleased and, knowing nothing about the schedule or the job really, being so new to it, I had to deal with a very annoyed important journalist whilst keeping the equally important author happy. And all of that in a very open plan office!

What's your favourite part of your job?

I really like working with GCSE French and German pupils here at SVC during the two years of these courses. It's so impressive to see the effort and creativity that so many pupils put into their work in order to learn and do well. And the best thing of all is when some of these pupils decide to carry on with languages at A-level. This year I have really enjoyed planning a German exchange for the current Year 10 GCSE German group. We hosted the visiting students in June and we are looking forward to the return trip to Braunschweig in Germany in September, during which we will also spend a day in Berlin.

If you didn't have your current job, what would you like to be doing?

I would like to be writing my second novel from the large house in the South of France that I bought with the royalties from the first one!

Trip to France

During Activities Week, the Year 8 North Band's trip to France began with a trip to an orchard, where pupils learned how to make apple juice and tasted various juices. On day two, we crossed the border to Belgium and went to one of the best zoos in the world, Pairi Daiza, where we saw lots of different animals from around the world, including a baby orangutan swinging on a rope, a giant panda eating bamboo and a polar bear swimming in the water. We spent the third day at Parc Astérix Theme Park where we enjoyed going on many rides. On our final full day, we tasted snails and saw how Flemish waffles were made. Before we got back on the ferry for our return to England, we visited Boulogne-sur-Mer, a coastal town, where we managed to do a bit of shopping.

**Mrs Deleplanque Head of Languages
and Mis Hobourn, Deputy Head of Languages**

During Activities Week I went to France and we went to a theme park called Parc Asterix. We were allowed to go anywhere in the park but had to check in with the teachers every two hours. There were lots of big rides that my friends and I went on. On the first one you had to be in a pair and keep hold of your bag on the ride, and your bag always went over your head, and you would keep banging your head, so it was likely you would have a headache when you came off the ride! On another ride the teachers (Miss Cook, Mrs Hall, Mrs Custins and Mr Russell) were behind us and I think I could hear screaming coming from that direction! It was an exciting day at the theme park. Also, during that week we went to a snail farm where we could eat some snails if we wanted, and some people didn't like them but some people did. We also went to a waffle factory and we learned how waffles are made and we tasted some to see if we liked them or not.

Nicola Ward, Year 8

My favourite part was the theme park as the roller coasters were thrilling, and I now have some scary and funny memories that I will remember forever. My favourite ride was the Pégase Express as it was very creative and fast. Another great ride was the Tonnerre de Zeus as it was wooden roller coaster, which was very fast and with scary drops, but soooooo good.

Luke Warner, Year 8

For Activities Week I went to Amiens in France. There, we went to an apple farm, Pairi Daiza, Parc Asterix, Snail Farm and to the coast for shopping. The Pairi Daiza is the best zoo in Europe: there were some animals just walking around. Parc Astérix was really fun as there were so many rides. I went on all the water rides with my friends and we got drenched. We also went to a snail farm and got to try snails. I tried one and it wasn't too bad! They gave us snails, snail lemonade, snail biscuits and snail jam.

Holly Van Dok, Year 8



Trip to Barcelona

La semana pasada fui a Barcelona en avión con mis amigos y mis profesores. El primer día fuimos al mercado y saqué fotos. Luego, *tomaron mis amigos ~~tomó~~ el sol y yo descansé sin embargo no jugué al fútbol en la playa. El último día visité la Sagrada Familia. En mi opinión fue un poco aburrido pero no fue un desastre. También escuché música. España fue estupenda. ☺

Nicole Padayachee, Year 8

In Activities Week some Year 8 South band pupils flew to Barcelona after a very early morning start and hit the ground running by visiting the most famous street in Barcelona, Las Ramblas, and the Boquería market. On Tuesday, we were lucky enough to visit a local secondary school and interact with Spanish pupils to practise our Spanish before relaxing on the beach for the afternoon. On Wednesday, pupils enjoyed the interactive displays and the submerged forest in CosmoCaixa, the science museum, before heading off to Park Güell to stroke the famous "Salamanca" for luck. On Thursday, pupils enjoyed a whole day trip to PortAventura, a theme park with very impressive rollercoasters. We saved the most breath-taking sight for last, when we visited the Sagrada Familia cathedral on Friday morning before our journey home.

Mrs Deleplanque, Head of Languages and Miss Hobourn, Deputy Head of Languages

Also: All the pupils who went on the French and Spanish trips were very well-behaved and practised a lot of French/Spanish. Well done to everyone for making it such a great week and for representing the College so well!



Biology Challenge

Back in May, 19 Year 10 pupils competed in the International Biology Challenge, along with over 45,000 pupils from around the world. The results are now in, and we are proud to report that 16 pupils received a Commended or higher, including 6 pupils who ranked in the top 5% and secured a Gold award. Thank you to all the pupils who took part for their enthusiasm and love of Biology.

Mrs Cook, Science Teacher

Gold

Shan Malik
Izzy Young
Wensea Lee
Neri Emerson
Finley Bruce-Grady
Emma Russell

Silver

Lily Liu-Child
Naomi Payne
Ray Lee
Amy Cletheroe
Isaac Arena
Isabelle Jackson

Highly Commended

Yuemeng Xing
Vaishnavi Badiger

Commended

Daniel Bilson

Participation

Nicolas Alfred
Felix Leaton-Gray
Johan Jarin

Lower School Concert

The Lower School Concert is a concert where only Key Stage 3 pupils are invited to perform. I took part in it this year with my groups, Guitars and (no) Ukuleles and the Steel Pan Band. I felt that this was an excellent opportunity to perform without the help of the older years, although of course there were a few Year 10 pupils there just to support us. It was quite amazing to hear the range of styles that people were playing, for example, Guitars and Ukuleles played *Sweet Child Of Mine*, while the Friday Band played *Stand Up And Swing*.

Overall, I think that it was an amazing concert, and it was made better by the fact that you could sit and listen with your friends. And as always, Miss Irwin and all the other Music teachers organised it amazingly.

Eli Caroe, Year 8

Outdoor Gig

Bad weather meant that our annual Outdoor Gig became a mostly Indoor Gig, with only our very loud Samba Band braving the elements. Well done to everyone who took part in this wonderful event.



Year 7 Trip to Denny Abbey and Ely Cathedral

I really liked this trip because it was interesting seeing the layers of Denny Abbey and seeing how the building had changed through time and who had lived there. We had to spot pieces of architecture, for example doorways and arches, that had changed and been added by the different groups of people who had inhabited Denny Abbey. We also learned about medicine in medieval times and some cures - quite a few worked but some were quite strange! One example is getting whipped as a cure for the plague! Ely Cathedral was also very interesting because we did a trail about pilgrims and what the cathedral would have been like for them in medieval times, and we learned about the monks who lived there. We also found information about St Etheldreda, the Anglo-Saxon princess who started her own abbey and was the abbess of Ely, who we had learnt about earlier on in History. It was a really good trip and we learned lots of things!

Emily Ford, Year 7



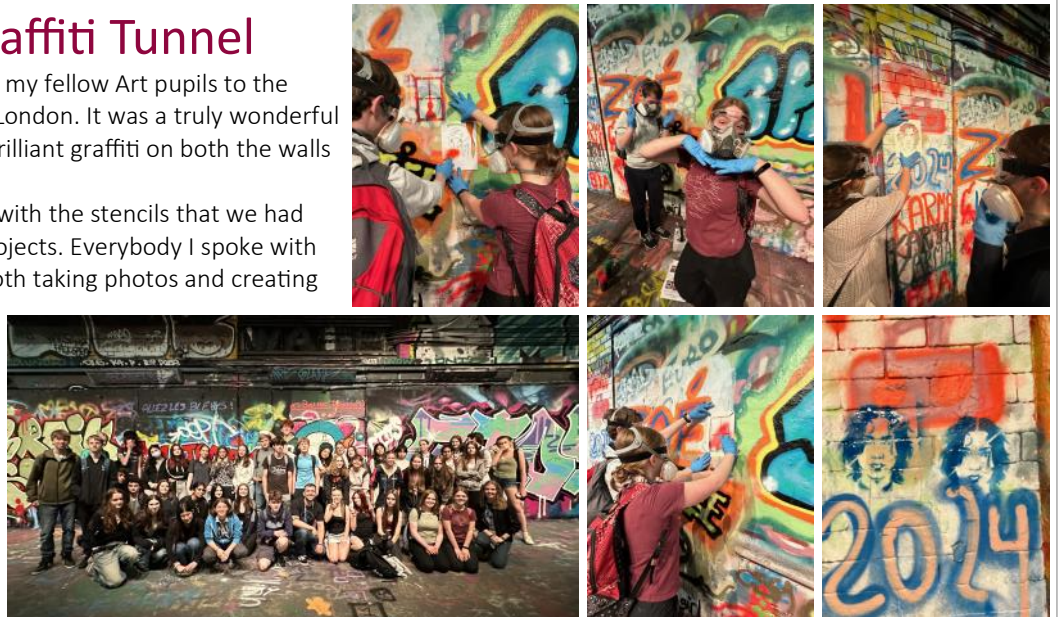
Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel

On Monday, 8 July, I went with my fellow Art pupils to the Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel in London. It was a truly wonderful experience, looking at all the brilliant graffiti on both the walls and the ceiling.

We created some amazing art with the stencils that we had made in class, based on our projects. Everybody I spoke with had a great time on the trip, both taking photos and creating graffiti, alongside some light sketching we did of the Thames skyline towards the end.

Overall, it was an extremely fun trip and I would highly recommend it to next year's Year 10 GCSE Art pupils.

Safiya Hull, Year 10



Ardèche Trip

I went to the Ardèche for Activities Week. It was very enjoyable. My favourite activity was definitely the canyoning, where we slid down the natural waterslides, especially when we did it on our backs, head first! Sometimes it was scary, and I thought I was going to hit my head on a rock, but luckily that didn't happen to anyone. There was also a 6-metre jump into the water near the end. After the jump, we climbed up stairs onto the side of the canyon, and there was a zipline crossing the canyon that we HAD to do to get back to the coach. In the line up most people were very nervous, but when we were clipped on and then lifted our feet off the ground, it was great.

George Clark, Year 9

In Activities Week, as a Year 9 pupil, I went to the Ardèche region in France. It was very exciting when we got there but the 18-hour coach ride was rather gruelling. In my opinion the most enjoyable activity was canyoning (where you jump and slide down a rocky river). The highest jump we did was 6 metres high and was incredibly enjoyable. We also had to slide down an old metal pipe suspended above a natural pool at the bottom of the river, which then dropped us 4-5 metres into the water. After finishing the canyoning, we had to climb a small hill in our wetsuits and then take a zipline over the river, back to the coach. Overall the week was very enjoyable and I would definitely recommend it for anybody currently in Year 7 or 8 looking to have a brilliant time once they get into Year 9.

Louis Kourpa, Year 9

Alice - School Production

We recently rehearsed and performed a production of the musical play Alice based on episodes and characters from Lewis Carroll's books *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There*. The cast came from Years 7, 8 and 9, while the live instrumental accompaniment and tech and backstage team included pupils up to Year 11. In total, nearly 40 pupils were involved in this wonderful production, which took place over three nights and also included a matinee. We are very grateful to the Drama and Music departments who led this ambitious production and to the other adults who supported this, including former Head of Art Mrs Day for the beautiful set and Eleanor Clapp for the amazing costumes.

As the Principal commented in his weekly round-up, 'This show was joyous, leaving the audience in Wonderland.'



Our Taiwanese Visitors

From 1-12 July, we hosted 20 Taiwanese students from the Blessed Imelda's school. This was a wonderful opportunity for both the English and Taiwanese students to learn about each other's cultures, lifestyles and school systems. Throughout the two weeks, the Taiwanese students attended classes alongside their Sawston buddies and participated enthusiastically. Many students formed deep connections with their buddies and remain in contact. Not only did this opportunity allow for friendships to be made, but it also encouraged an appreciation of different cultures and ways of life. On our visitors' final day, we held an emotional farewell celebration, where we received certificates from the St Neot's English Centre, enjoyed a range of artistic performances and said our final goodbyes. The programme was an invaluable and memorable experience for both the Taiwanese and English students. We are deeply grateful to everyone involved and look forward to seeing the programme return again next year!

We asked Taiwanese student, Heidi, for their impressions of Sawston. See their answers below.

What was your favourite part of your time here?

My favourite part was the twenty minute break. My buddy and I would join our friends at a big table and everyone would stand around the table and chat. Sometimes we would also share our snacks with our friends. That time also let me have more time to meet new friends - it was a really lovely time.

What was your least favourite part about school here?

I can't think of one.

Were there any surprising differences about life or school in England compared to Taiwan?

The most surprising difference is that, in Taiwan, we don't have to change classrooms for each subject. We just stay in the same class all day. So, at break time, if we are too tired, we can just have a nap in our classroom, but in England, you have to change classrooms for every lesson, so it's really different.

How is your school different from ours? What does your school day look like?

In Taiwan, our school day is really long. We arrive at school before 7:30 am. From 7:30-8:00 am we will have a quiz or reading time, and start the first class at 8:05 am. We have 50 minutes for each class and a 10-minute break time. After four classes, we have a 30-minute lunch time and a 30-minute nap time. After the rest, we have another four lessons. When the eight lessons are done, most students will choose to do homework or study that day's lessons at school until 8:40 pm.

Were there any new experiences for you at our school? Any new subjects?

In England, you can choose to do some of your favourite subjects (except English, Maths and Science), but in Taiwan, the school makes the schedule for us, and tells us which classes we will have for the whole semester. My English buddy chose to do French and German, two languages I haven't learnt before. I was really surprised when I discovered that.

Were there any experiences/subjects that you particularly enjoyed or wanted more of?

In Maths lessons, I really enjoyed that the teacher gave the students time to discuss with their classmates before we got the answer, and sometimes the teacher used games to help us learn Maths. In our school, we just listen to the teacher and write it down. This teaching method means I need to spend more time learning by myself, so I really enjoyed the Maths lessons here.

Would you recommend this visit to other pupils from your school?

Yes, I would, because it is really different to Taiwan. I think everyone should try the new school and teaching method in England. My 10 days learning in Sawston really broadened my horizons and I hope I will have a chance to come back again next year.

This page is by Izzy Young and Alexandra Hovsepyan, Year 10



Business Studies Trip to Stansted Airport

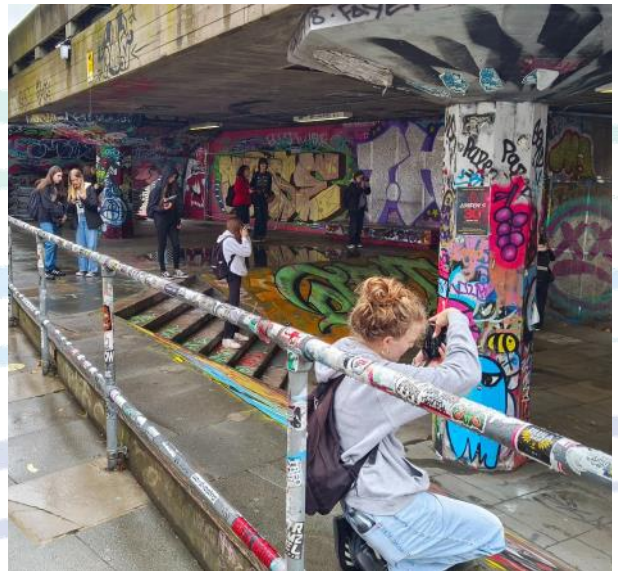
The highlight this term has been the successful visit to Stansted Airport, where pupils were able to get a behind the scenes look at how an airport operates in terms of Strategy Management, Security, Human Resources and Career Development. Pupils also got the opportunity to stand on the viewing area that is exclusively accessed by the Aerozone. The pupils were also able to dress up in specific job roles uniforms e.g. pilots, police or fire fighters. There were also a number of STEM activities they had access to during break-out times and also flight simulators. A popular talk included the introduction of the latest canine recruit to the Police force at Stansted, Stan the 13 weeks-old Labrador puppy. Pupils were also informed about career options and routes available to them including Stansted's very own sixth form college that offers a variety of different Post-16 courses and Apprenticeships.

Mrs Neesam, Head of Business Studies



Photography Trip

Year 10 pupils enjoyed a trip to London recently to build their portfolios.



The yoto Carnegies

On Thursday, 20 June, Book Club was fortunate enough to get tickets to see the Yoto Carnegie Awards in London. The Yoto Carnegie Awards are shadowed by schools across the UK. They have four awards; two shadower's choice awards and two judge's choice awards, with one each for illustration and writing. Each shadower can vote for who they want to win the shadower's choice award for illustration and writing. All the shadowing groups (including us) are put into a lottery to go and see the awards live, and this year, we got in! On Thursday we set off with Mrs Dean and Ms Allen to the Matilda Theatre, where the awards were being held.

Waiting at school

We met up at school. We were at the main car park waiting for everyone to arrive before leaving school in the minibus at around 8:30 am.

At the train station

We arrived at the car park. The minibus was too big to fit in just one parking spot, so we parked horizontally across five spaces! We paid for parking, got the tickets, and waited for a while for the train.

On the train

The train arrived. On the way, some of us were playing card games, and some of us were chatting. About half-way there, Mrs Dean and Ms Allen passed round a sheet of paper to write down our predictions for the winner of the shadower's choice and the judge's choice awards. Most of us thought that *Crossing the Line* by Tia Fisher and *Away with Words* by Sophie Cameron would win one or both of the awards, though on which one our opinions differed. We carried on with this until we arrived in London.

Heading to the theatre

We arrived in London! We were put into pairs, and went on the London Underground. After arriving back above ground, we walked in our pairs to the theatre. We were given lanyards to show we weren't allowed to be photographed, and after a brief wait, we were allowed inside!

The Awards!

The awards were hosted by Manjeet Mann, the author of *Run Rebel* and various other books. The authors at the start shared interesting facts about themselves, and we learnt that Tia Fisher, author of *Crossing the Line*, was excluded from school, and that Aaron Becker, author of *The Tree and the River*, did not like to read! We all loved the trip, and were (mostly) happy with the winners. It was brilliant!

The Winners!

Judge's choice for illustration: *The Tree and the River* by Aaron Becker

Shadower's choice for illustration: *The Tree and the River* by Aaron Becker

Judge's choice for writing: *The Boy lost in the Maze* by Joseph Coelho

Shadower's choice for writing: *Crossing the Line* by Tia Fisher

Comments on the trip

"I had fun at the Yoto Carnegies. It was cool seeing all the authors in person."

"Surprising, fun, entertaining. We had lots of fun moments on the trip. I would recommend!"

"I am very pleased that *Crossing the Line* won the Shadowers' Choice. I liked it because it's so different to any other books I've read."

Ellie Lovewell, Year 8



Macbeth: Alternative Ending

Dunsinane: inside Macbeth's Castle; enter Macbeth, and Lord Seyton with drum and colours.

Macbeth:

Duncan's army marches forth to our
proud walls to rent the stone asunder
whilst snivelling traitors assail our throne,
with hideous lightning and ominous thunder

Seyton:

Most gracious sovereign, my loving liege,
there art too many of them,
what are we going to do?

Macbeth:

We shall fly the white flag,
no more violence this day shall be had.

Enter Lady Macbeth.

Lady Macbeth:

Our enemies advance, what is thy strategy my lord?

Macbeth:

I must surrender my crown,
or else this fair land will be torn down.

Lady Macbeth rips off her mask, revealing herself to be a Fourth Witch!

Fourth Witch:

(menacingly)

Grr! This wasn't part of my scheme!
(moving her hands as if weaving a spell)

I shall now delight in hearing your vile death scream!

Macbeth:

Foolish Apparition, no one borne of woman can hurt me.
Your own prophecy predicts it be!

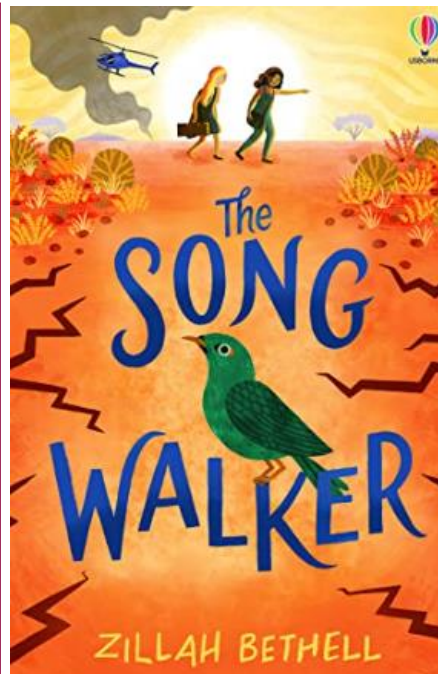
Macbeth walks away, trips over a brick and dies. Enter the other Three Witches.

First Witch:

Sisters, what an excellent trick,
the great Macbeth falls to an inanimate brick!

The witches cackle.
Exeunt.

Arthur Meredith, Year 9



Year 9 Reading Journal

Diary Entry:
The Song Walker

Date: ?

Location:

Somewhere in
the Australian
Outback
(Northern
Territory)

We came across a
road today. It is
the first
manmade
structure I've

seen since I woke up. A straight, flat, smooth strip of tarmac cutting through the desert from one horizon to the other like a crack in a pane of glass. It was completely empty. As far as I could see, there wasn't a single vehicle on the road. I could stand in the centre of the hot tarmac and stare into the distance, squinting against the sun, and the only movement was the steady wobble against the skyline from the heat.

A long, long way down the road I could see a gas station, a dusty, rusty square of a building sticking out against a dark background of rocky canyons. A single car was parked outside of it, the sunlight catching blindingly on the dented metal.

We could have gone there. I could have asked for help, but I still don't know who I am, or even what my name is. So perhaps I'm too scared to go there, without knowing why I'm here, or what I've done. Instead, we stood for a while under the harsh sun in the blue, cloudless sky, as if waiting for something, (Although even I'm not sure what.) before walking on, leaving the empty road far behind.

Lois Glover, Year 9

Arts Ambassadors Print Project

As one of the Arts Ambassadors, I got invited to a screen printing workshop to make a banner about the arts. Screen printing is where you make a paper stencil and place it under a wooden frame that has thin silk woven screen on it and then the paint goes on. Once the paint is on, we use something called a squeegee which spreads the paint over the silk screen.

It was really fun because we got to come up with ideas for the banner and we each got to choose what we wanted to be printed on it. This banner is going to be placed in the new building to represent the importance of the arts. This was such a great experience and I would totally do it again.

Eli Caroe, Year 8



Sawston Village College Chess Club

We have enjoyed another successful year of players developing their skills and were pleased to add to the Anglian Learning Chess Academy when it was established at Sawston Village College this past year.

Our players engaged in the De Lancey Chess Challenge. About 30 players engaged in the school level of the competition and five of them enrolled into the Megafinal. The Megafinal was again held at the Perse School, Cambridge, on 9 June.

Here are some of their comments:

Walt: A day full of the full strategy game known as Chess – five star.

Daksh: Lots of fun, where you can play chess with friendly people and compete to get yourself a place in the Gigafinals.

Ruben: Lots of great fun to play people, powerful players, and friendly people.

Linhao: A fun day, full of chess. Lots of people, lots of tears. But ultimately everyone wants a spot in the Gigafinals, and I got one!!

We completed this year with our Games Night. On 11 July family and friends were invited to join us for an array of fun and games.

Our thanks go to our players for their support this year. We look forward to next year as we develop friendships and playing skills, and we welcome new players to join us.

Mrs Lloyd and Mrs Sheridan

Winning a Dance Competition at the Royal Academy of Dance

Sanskriti School of Dance was invited to take part in the Love Dance Live (LDL) Competition at the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD), London on Sunday, 28 April 2024. We performed both Bharatanatyam and Bollywood dance styles under the category Junior Group Performance.

Since the venue was all the way in London, some of my dance peers had to wake up early at 5:30 am to catch the train! Luckily for me, I was going by car so I could wake up at 7:00 am.

Most of us signed up for the workshops organised by LDL on the same morning before the competition show. We had three different workshops. The first workshop was on Street dance style, the second was a mixture of Commercial and Hip Hop and the last one was a combination of Lyrical and Ballet. I loved how we did different dance forms per workshop as it was an amazing, strong contrast!

When we finished our final workshop, we went to have lunch in the cafe at RAD. After lunch, we were taken to our greenroom and we were sharing it with other dance schools, including a dance school from Spain. Generally, for Bharatanatyam, it takes some time to put on the costume, jewellery, hair and makeup whereas the makeover for Bollywood is much less.

The competition was nearly 3 hours long! There were so many performances to get through with 50 entries! While waiting for our turn, our Bharatanatyam and the Bollywood groups continued practising backstage to make sure that we were all synchronised. But of course, we made sure that we did not tire ourselves out before going on stage.

Finally, it was the turn of entry number 32 - our Bharatanatyam group - to go on stage to perform! We were going to show the judges a dance based on the Hindu story of Krishna. The song was called Swagatam Krishna. The moment I was on stage, all my stress was forgotten and I made the most of my performance. The judges were quite friendly and had big smiles on their faces which definitely boosted my confidence! Before I knew it, it was over in a flash! I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of going on RAD's stage to present Bharatanatyam!

Feeling high after our Bharatanatyam performance, I had to rush back to the green room for a quick costume change to get ready for our Bollywood dance performance. The Bollywood act called "Bollywood Beats" was number 39 in the competition.

Having performed once on the stage, it was a familiar zone for me

to go back and perform the Bollywood dance style with my Bollywood dance mates. Yet, as the dance style is very different from Bharatanatyam, the stage dynamics were different this time as we had more space covering movement in this act. And once more, before I realised it, our second dance performance was over too! Weeks of rehearsals and preparation, an early start to the day to find ourselves living a lifetime moment for a few minutes on stage; this is the essence of dance! Now that we were done with the performances, it was time to unwind in the greenroom, which was filled with lots of laughter. Even though we wanted to remove our make-up and change into some comfortable clothes, we stayed in our costumes so that we were still in form when the judges announced the results. With the remaining time left until the show would end, we sat with the rest of the audience to watch the rest of the performances.

When it reached the last performance, everyone grew tense and excited! All the dance schools walked onto the stage waiting for the judges to speak. The moment the judge held the microphone, everyone went silent. They announced all the winners of each category one after the other and they spoke about the results of the junior group performance. In the first place... Sanskruti Cambridge School of Dance! I was stunned. I couldn't believe what had just happened. After a few more results, he announced the winner of the best costume, The winner was... Sanskruti Cambridge School of Dance! Finally, the judges made an award exclusively for one very special dancer that lifted their souls! It was for a six year-old girl called Ekta from our school's Bollywood group! She danced with confidence and with a beautiful smile! Our hearts were buzzing all at once! Then everything went so fast as soon as the results were over.

Children ran to their parents and cameras flashed all over the place. The judges gave us wonderful feedback. They told us that "Stole my heart away" and "Such beautiful expressions on their faces" After the chaos, we had to be quick to empty the greenroom as soon as possible! We then stepped out of the building and gazed up at the sky after being in the building the whole day.

Sia Nair, Year 8





CHAMPIONS Under 16 Girls - District Cup Final v. Swavesey Village College

Congratulations to the U16 girls football team who were made this year's champions of the Cambridge District Cup against Swavesey Village College. The girls were lucky

to play at Newmarket Town Ground Stadium with a crowd of 80 friends and family creating an amazing experience for the girls. With a final score of 8-3, the girls had plenty of goals to celebrate with Keely (5), Libby (2) and Alex (1) contributing to the scoreboard. Some stand out play from Bryony, Mia and Molly kept Swavesey from causing too many issues and allowed for the team to build on some brilliant plays.

The girls have had plenty of success throughout the academic year, and this was a super finish to the end of the season. As our Year 11s from the team, we are looking forward to our Year 10s moving into the 2024-25 season. Well done girls, your teamwork paid off.

RUNNERS UP

Under 13 Boys - District Cup Final v. Swavesey Village College



Additionally, our U13 boys played in the final for the Cambridge District Cup, again, against Swavesey Village College. A strong Swavesey performance kept the boys on their toes, but with an early goal from Sawston putting us in the lead. The game was steady throughout with lots of attacking plays from both teams, with a last minute equaliser by Swavesey to put them into extra time. Resetting into the final 10 minutes of play, Sawston conceded an unlucky goal leaving Swavesey on top. The final whistle blew leaving Sawston as runners up. The boys should hold their heads high with a stronger result than the previous year. In addition to their success in the National Cup, the year 8 boys have had plenty of success throughout the year. You have all represented the school in a professional manner. Good luck for what next year brings.

Henry Morris Awards

Project Experience: Crete

In May, my friend Eesha and I, Vaishnavi, embarked on a project-based trip to the beautiful island of Crete with our aim to learn about the archaeology and architecture of this place. Our journey was filled with fascinating historical sites, engaging conversations with locals, and a deeper understanding of the island's rich heritage and contemporary challenges.

Our adventure would not have been possible without the generous funding from the Henry Morris Trust. This remarkable organisation is dedicated to supporting educational travel and providing opportunities for students to explore the world and learn about different cultures. The trust's financial assistance allowed us to embark on this enriching journey, covering our travel expenses and enabling us to delve deep into the history and culture of Crete. We are immensely grateful for their support and the incredible experiences it facilitated.

Our visit to the Knossos Palace was undoubtedly the highlight of our trip. Situated near the modern city of Heraklion, Knossos is the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete and is considered Europe's oldest city. The palace is famously linked to the legend of the Minotaur and the labyrinth, which added an air of mystery and excitement to our exploration. Walking through the ruins of Knossos, we were struck by the complexity and sophistication of the ancient architecture. The palace was a sprawling complex of over 1,000 rooms, intricately designed with multiple levels connected by staircases and corridors. We marvelled at the advanced features such as the aqueducts, drainage systems, and the famous "Throne Room," where the ceremonial seat of the king

was housed.

We also discovered that Crete, like much of Greece, has been significantly affected by the country's economic crisis. The local people spoke candidly about the high levels of debt and the austerity measures that have impacted their daily lives. Despite these challenges, there was a sense of resilience and optimism among the Cretans, who expressed hope for a brighter economic future driven by sustainable tourism and innovation in agriculture. Our trip to Crete was an unforgettable journey through time, offering a blend of ancient history and modern realities. From the awe-inspiring ruins of the Minoan palaces to the engaging conversations with the island's residents, we left Crete with a deeper appreciation for its rich cultural



Eesha and Vaishnavi touring sites in Crete

heritage and the enduring spirit of its people. Knossos Palace, in particular, stood out as a symbol of the island's glorious past and its enduring allure, making our visit a truly enriching experience.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Henry Morris Trust for their generous support. Their commitment to fostering educational travel made our journey possible, and their dedication to empowering students to explore and learn is truly commendable. The experiences and knowledge we gained on this trip are invaluable, and we are profoundly grateful for the opportunity to have embarked on this adventure.

Vaishnavi Badiger and Eesha Bharatham, Year 10

Year 7 and 9 Athletics Fixture

On Wednesday, 15 May, 32 Year 7 and Year 9 pupils took part in a district athletics fixture against seven other schools at St Bede's. For their first ever athletics event, the Year 7s took everything in their stride and took part in their events with enthusiasm and determination, all contributing to our overall placing in the competition. Meanwhile, the Year 9s also stepped up to the challenge, competing in as many events as possible. Some Year 9 pupils took part in four events!

Overall, Sawston Village College came an impressive **2nd** out of seven schools!

Some stand out performances from the afternoon were;

Sophie Christmas in the 800m, Ilinca Balanescu in the long jump, Archie King in the 200m, Sam Pryke in the 800m and high jump, Fedor Glushkov in high jump, James Linzell in 1500m, Amelia Arnold in 200m, Caitlin Bullock in 800m, Oliver Seaborn in 1500m, Ted Silk in Javelin.

WELL DONE SAWSTON VILLAGE COLLEGE!

Jubilee Cup 2024 - Cambridge District Schools Athletics Annual Competition

We want to congratulate every single one of our athletes who attended the athletics competition on Wednesday, 25 June at Cambridge and Coleridge track. Your behaviour, enthusiasm, and determination on the hottest day of the year was incredible.

Pupils who received new PBs:

Ned Jones - High Jump 1.65m

William Stephenson - High Jump 1.45m

Victoria George-Grajales - High Jump 1.30m

Evie Park - 1500m 5:53

Charlotte Will - 1500m 5:44

Tyrihanna Johnson - 200m 27 seconds

Pupils who placed in the top 3:

Sam Pryke - 1st 800m and 1st discus

Sophie Christmas - 2nd 800m + 1st Long Jump

James Linzell - 3rd 1500m



Archie King - 2nd 200m

Keira Hancock - 1st 200m + 3rd Javelin

Evie Park - 3rd 1500m

William Sweeting - 1st 300m

Emilia Arnold - 2nd 200m + 1st Triple Jump

Caitlin Bullock - 2nd 800m

Oliver Seaborn - 2nd 1500m

Ted Silk - 1st Javelin

Tyrihanna Johnson - 1st 200m + 1st Shot

Ned Jones - 2nd High Jump

Roy Burrell Awards 2024

Eighteen Year 11 pupils were amongst those honoured at the annual Roy Burrell Awards. The event is held annually at The Perse Performing Arts Centre to recognise sporting excellence across schools in Cambridgeshire, and this year saw Laura Sugar, Welsh Hockey player, Paralympic 200m Sprinter and Paralympic gold medal Canoe sprinter, hand out the awards.

16 Year 11 pupils from Sawston were awarded medals for competing at a high level in their chosen sport (pictured): Harrison Crabb (Badminton); Dominic Hines (BMX); Holly Welford (Dance); Keely Cole, Felix Harris, Alex Shelford, Lily-May Short (Football); Neysa O'Brien (Gymnastics); Sunny Brown and Ben Journeaux (Hockey); Ava Henry, Abi Pearce and Emma Quinnell (Netball); Keira Collinson, Phoebe Herbert, Isobel Smit, Jack Vaughan (Rugby), Isla Cowling (Trampolining).

Isobel Whitton and Phoebe Silk were also recognised for their contribution to Sports Leadership at Sawston VC and their local community, with Phoebe Silk picking up the prestigious Sports Leader of the Year title. Congratulations to all involved!



Sawston Village College in the Community

Sawston Village College is delighted to run an Adult Learning programme, Anglian Leisure Sawston and Sawston Cinema for the community. Please check the relevant website for current programme and activity updates.



Sawston
Adult
Learning

Sawston Adult Learning

Please check www.sawstonadultlearning.org for up to date information.
You can also email community@sawstonvc.org.



ANGLIAN
LEISURE
SAWSTON

Anglian Leisure Sawston

Please check www.sawstonsports.com for up to date information. You can also email fharrower@anglianleisure.co.uk and follow Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AnglianLeisureSawston/> and Twitter: https://twitter.com/al_sawston.

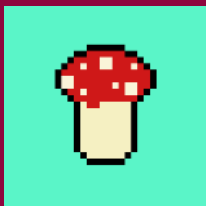


Sawston Cinema

Please check www.sawstoncinema.org.uk for up to date information.
You can also email cinema@sawstonvc.org.



Leonie Seaman



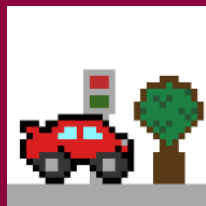
Jessica Collings



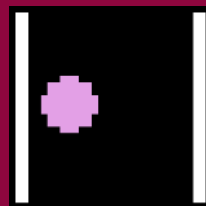
Len Turner



Lucy Campbell



Kwok Yee Lee



Daniel Bojanowski



Emily Chatwin



Dima Sears

In the final few weeks of this academic year, Year 7s have been learning about pixel art, onion skinning and key frame animation. We have been very impressed with their creativity in producing some marvellous work!



Sawston
Village College



Community
Take part



Ambition
Aim high



Respect
Be kind



Endeavour
Work hard



PART OF
ANGLIAN LEARNING

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