27th June 2025



Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

Weekly Round Up

What a very busy week! Starting with the return of our Y10s on Monday from work experience, having performed so well in the workplace, and ending tonight with the highlight of the year for many - the celebration of our Y11s with the much anticipated Prom. In between, our film makers have enjoyed a magical red carpet experience mixing with Hollywood A-listers in Leicester Square and the Science trip to the Cavendish offered inspiration and wonder in equal measure. Our GCSE cooks enjoyed a masterclass with a visiting alumni chef resulting in a very tasty gremolata and lots of food for thought. Our dancers performed magnificently at the Anglian Learning Dance Festival and Isabella, in Y10, gave an excellent performance in the Speak Out Challenge final in Bury. Last night, the KS3 Music Concert filled our hearts with joy with impressive individual and ensemble performances. Many Y7s and Y8s took part in the NHS diabetes research programme - thanks to those parents and carers who gave consent for this important project. Finally, the site regeneration has begun with the erection of the first compound of the next three years. Things are hotting up - quite literally!

NEW Walk to School Week – Join Us in Cutting Carbon

Next week is Walk to School Week, and we're encouraging all pupils to walk or bike to school wherever possible. If you need to drive, consider dropping your child off a little further away so they can walk the last part of their journey.

This initiative is part of the Zero Carbon Schools project that our Eco Club has been working on. As part of the project, pupils have calculated the school's carbon footprint, including carrying out a travel survey – and we discovered that travel is currently the biggest contributor to our carbon emissions at SVC.

By taking part in Walk to School Week, you'll be helping us to cut emissions, reduce traffic congestion, and improve air quality around our school and in the local area. Every small change makes a difference!

NEW Site Regeneration

The small compound at the front of the school prepares the way for work to begin on the bus bay. This will have limited impact on the horseshoe and car park at the front of the school until work begins in earnest when the school holidays start. There will be no work or compound on the playground or field until the summer holidays. There will be no impact on the curriculum this summer term and no changes to access to or around the site. We will update more when we are able to do so.

















NICE TO KNOW Trip to the Into Film Awards

Pupils from Junior Cinema Club enjoyed a trip to the Into Film Awards in London this week. Their film, Daydreaming, had been shortlisted in the Best Film 12-15 category and so they were excited to support their entry. While the film didn't win in its category, they all had a wonderful day out; seeing a still from their film up in lights outside the Odeon Luxe in Leicester Square is quite a claim to fame, as is collecting autographs from people like James Norton and Andy Serkis. Everyone returned inspired, and there was much talk of ambitious filmmaking plans on the train home.

NICE TO KNOW Anglian Learning Dance Festival - Stage 25

Two dance groups from Sawston participated in the second Anglian Learning Dance Festival at Bottisham VC this week. Our GCSE dancers were represented by a trio, while a larger group of dancers from SVC Dance Club also took part. Both groups performed brilliantly, contributing to a very successful Festival, with one Year 7 participant commenting afterwards, 'We had a really great time, and we hope we can do it again next year!'

NICE TO KNOW Food masterclass

Our Y10 Food GCSE students thoroughly enjoyed a masterclass with Isaac Jager, a former SVC pupil who is now working as a private chef after experience at a Michelin-starred restaurant. They took part in a lively Q&A, asking thoughtful questions about his job, career path, and school life, which made the session engaging and inspiring.

In the practical session, our Y10s pickled shallots, made gremolata, chiffonaded basil leaves, julienned Granny Smith apples, and precisely cubed cucumber to prepare an elegant tomato and mozzarella salad. This experience provided valuable insight into post-16 career options and will benefit both their Food GCSE and future cooking.

COMMUNITY BOATS Theatre (Based On a True Story)

BOATS Theatre (Based On a True Story) are presenting an evening of Sawston History on Saturday 12th July at 7.30 pm in the Marven Centre.

The evening is called YOUR PAST PERFORMED and is presented by BOATS Theatre (Based on a True Story). The evening will consist of two plays both by Sean Lang, an award-winning local playwright. They will be presented as rehearsed readings - i.e. performed script-in-hand. There will be a chance to discuss afterwards and to share memories of Sawston History.

The two plays are:

THE VICAR'S TALE - the tragedy of Edwin Swann Daniel, a Victorian vicar of Sawston who fell victim to the schemes of his ruthless brother-in-law, Thomas Evans.

THE LADY MARY - the story of how the Huddlestons of Sawston Hall foiled the coup attempt of Lady Jane Grey and so changed the course of English history.

Tickets are available through Eventbrite (https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/boats-theatre-company-presents-your-past-performed-sawston-village-tickets-1420836392899?aff=oddtdtcreator) or on the door.

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Wishing you a glorious weekend,

Jonathan Russell