

19th September 2025



**Sawston**  
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

## **Weekly Round Up**

Now that we have had a full cycle of our two week timetable, pupils are settling into the routines and expectations of learning and homework. We all know that hard work reaps reward and we can all look forward to the successes that will come. The drama pupils this week enjoyed a devised performance workshop and our Y10 physicists were treated to a day at the Cavendish Laboratory. All of our silver Duke of Edinburgh passed their weekend expedition, returning safely and probably a little tired. In house assemblies for Y7-10 we have been exploring their namesakes and Y11s have begun the process of thinking about applications for their post-16 pathways. To cap it off, the sun has come out.

## **NEW Open Evening and College Closure**

We are holding our Open Evening on Thursday 2nd October for our prospective Y7 pupils. If you have a child currently in Y6 and would like to attend the Open Evening, please follow [this](#) link to reserve a space. We look forward to sharing the College with prospective families. As always, it is often the pupil helpers who make such a difference on the night and we are looking forward to lots of volunteers signing up to help. The following day, Friday 3rd October, is a teacher training day with the College closed to all pupils.

## **NEW Site update**

Work continues on the attenuation tank on the field - due to be completed this term, this part of the field will then be returned to normal use. Preparing the foundations for the temporary changing rooms also continues next week with pupils likely to be making use of them in early October. This means that there remains limited car parking at the Sports Centre but there are ample spaces in the compound car park during out of school hours.

## **NEW Sawston Cinema**

We were delighted to begin our screenings for the autumn term this week and look forward to showing NT Live's Inter Alia (Thursday, 25th September) next week. To see the full film programme and to book tickets, check out: [www.sawstoncinema.org](http://www.sawstoncinema.org).

## **NEW Catering services**

Catering services at Sawston Village College are provided by *Innovate*. To view the latest menus, please click [here](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page.



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### **NICE TO KNOW Duke of Edinburgh's Award Silver Qualifying Expedition**

Congratulations to the 27 pupils from Y11 who braved the autumnal mix of high winds, heavy downpours and cold nights to successfully complete their qualifying expedition for the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award over the period 12th-14th September. The expedition was held in the White Peak area of the Peak District over hilly terrain with participants walking a minimum of seven hours per day carrying all of their expedition equipment. Having completed the expedition section of their award our participants are now able to focus on their work towards completion of the volunteering, physical and skills sections. We wish them well for their continuing adventures.

### **NICE TO KNOW Library Volunteers**

This summer, three pupils very kindly volunteered to assist the staff at Sawston Library with the promotion and delivery of their Story Garden, Summer Reading Challenge. The Summer Reading Challenge is a national reading campaign to encourage children aged 4 – 11 years to read lots of books during the school summer holidays.

Volunteers have helped in promoting and delivering the Reading Challenge to children, their parents/carers and assisting with supporting events and activities. This summer almost 7,000 children took part in the Summer Reading Challenge across Cambridgeshire Libraries, and the support of young volunteers has been invaluable.

The staff, and indeed many parents and carers, were very impressed with the enthusiasm, commitment and maturity shown by Emmanuel, Abbie and Emily who volunteered. Well done to them!

### **NICE TO KNOW Y11 Physics at Work exhibition**

On Tuesday, the Science Department took 57 Y11 pupils to the "Physics at Work" exhibition, held at Cambridge University's new Ray Dolby Centre. We saw a mix of exhibitors from both research and industry. The exhibition focused on inspiring pupils, showing them the range of career opportunities that are made available by studying physics and the possible examination choices they might consider for Y12. One of the highlights of the trip was a hands-on demonstration of the practical uses of superconductors: using liquid nitrogen to operate a model maglev train on magnetic rails.

### **NICE TO KNOW Y10 devised performance workshop**

This week, Y10 Drama took part in a full-day devising workshop facilitated by Richard James-Neale—a distinguished actor and director with credits including Frantic Assembly, Shakespeare's Globe and The National Theatre. Our newly formed GCSE classes hit the ground running, working both as a full cohort and in smaller groups, engaging in physical theatre, devising research, storytelling through movement and script writing. They collaborated in a professional manner, using industry-standard methods to generate innovative and creative material. The workshop has left them with a wealth of ideas to launch their devising process, and we look forward to seeing their examination pieces in May 2026.

### **COMMUNITY SENDIASS**

SENDIASS provides information, advice and support to parents, children and young people around special educational needs and disabilities throughout their educational journey. They

offer support to children, and young people aged 0 – 25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, their families and carers, in line with the requirements of the Children and Families Act 2014.

They are a free, dedicated, confidential and impartial service with staff who are independently trained and qualified to deliver information, advice, and support on special educational needs and disability. Please see [this](#) flyer for further details.

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Wishing you a warm and pleasant weekend,

Jonathan Russell