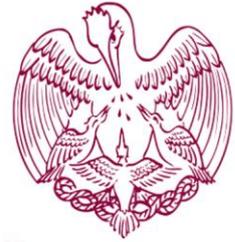


30 January 2026



**Sawston**  
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

## **Weekly Round Up**

Y11s took an additional mock exam in English Language this week and a few pupils who were impacted by a technical issue have a chance to retake next week. Well done to Y11 for taking their studies seriously; they will have one more opportunity to complete an English Literature and Maths mock paper after half-term. This week we marked Holocaust Memorial Day with assemblies all week and a very clear message that prejudice and discrimination have no place in our world. Yesterday's Drama trip to see Blood Brothers in Coventry went well and, hopefully, our pupils will take inspiration from a line in the play: 'everything is possible, the world is in your reach'.

### **NEW Punctuality revisited**

Last term we monitored punctuality to school over a four day period to help us understand how many pupils are arriving late and the reasons for this. However, despite the efforts of many parents to ensure their children arrive at school on time, during the four days of monitoring, 116 pupils were late at least once which represents around 10% of our entire College population. Many pupils said they had woken up late or had left home late or had been caught in traffic. We need to ask for your continued support in ensuring that alarms are set, that pupils leave home in time to arrive in school by 8.25am and that enough time is left to travel by car, taking traffic into account. The good news was that by the final day only 11 pupils were late for school which was a considerable improvement on much higher numbers earlier in the week.

We have noticed a rise in pupils arriving late to school in the last couple of weeks and therefore we will be monitoring punctuality at the gate again next week. All pupils should be on site by 8:25am. Any pupils who arrive at the gate after 8:30am each day next week will be expected to attend a breaktime meeting on Friday to reinforce the importance of being on time. This is an essential life skill. Of course, if buses are late or if there are extenuating circumstances for the lateness then this will be taken into account.

Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that all pupils arrive on time in order to have a positive start to their day.

### **NEW Site Update**

The old OWL building by the Sports Centre car park has been demolished this week. Tarmacking of the road between the compound and Sports Centre has removed the winter potholes, making the road and pathway safer. Temporary lighting has improved the front of school pathway. Significant work to large floor slabs took place overnight on Monday in the



ANGLIAN LEARNING



FRAMEWORK FOR  
ETHICAL LEADERSHIP  
IN EDUCATION  
PATHFINDER



Artsmark  
Platinum Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



PROUD TO BE A  
MUSIC MARK  
SCHOOL  
2024 - 2025

new build, which is now fully covered with roof slabs and work will soon begin to create the side panels. Recent wet conditions have made things a little muddier on the surrounding pathways but we are doing what we can to keep pupils to the paths and protect some of the green areas.

### **REMINDER Catering accounts**

If your child does not have sufficient funds on their catering account, reception can call home to ask for a top-up. If a parent/carer cannot top up straight away, an orange note can be provided for the catering staff, who will charge the purchases to your child's account once it has been topped up. Orange notes are valid for a maximum of **£2.75** (equivalent to a hot meal or baguette) at lunchtime (not break). A second orange note cannot be issued until the first has been repaid. Thank you in advance for checking your child's WisePay balance regularly. If you have any issues accessing WisePay, please contact [finance@sawstonvc.org](mailto:finance@sawstonvc.org).

### **REMINDER Parent Power Talk with Inger Madsen**

This term there are two free online Parent Power Talks, led by Inger Madsen, an experienced practitioner who works with families and secondary schools to support parents navigating the challenges of adolescence. Please follow the links below for more information.

#### **Parenting an anxious teenager: Go from stress to strength**

Thursday 5th February 18.30-19.30

<https://ingermadsen.com/strength-masterclass/>

#### **From Conflict to Connection: 3 steps to confident parenting**

Tuesday 10th February 18.30-19.30

<https://ingermadsen.com/strength-masterclass/>

### **NICE TO KNOW Y10 GCSE Drama trip**

On Thursday our Y10 GCSE Drama pupils enjoyed an inspiring matinee of Blood Brothers at the Belgrade Theatre in Coventry. This acclaimed musical by Willy Russell, the OCR GCSE set text, brought the story of twins separated at birth vividly to life on stage. The performance's emotional depth, powerful music and strong character portrayals helped deepen pupils' understanding of the key themes and technical aspects which we have been studying. Experiencing the live production enriched their learning beyond the classroom and will support their upcoming preparations for their mock exams. Pupils were excellent ambassadors for the school and enjoyed the show immensely

### **COMMUNITY Dr Bike Sessions coming to Sawston and nearby villages**

Dr Bike sessions are coming to Sawston and nearby villages over the next six months. The sessions in Sawston will be held in Mill Lane Pavilion car park on the below dates:

- Monday 9 March
- Thursday 9 April
- Monday 1 June

Please click [here](#) for further details.

**[COMMUNITY](#) Cambridge South Hockey Club**

Cambridge South Hockey Club train at Long Road on Tuesdays, 6.15-7.30 pm. Beginners are welcomed. The club is particularly keen for U14 Boys (year 8 and 9) to join them at the moment. Please follow [this](#) link for more information.

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Wishing you a cheerful weekend,

Jonathan Russell