

6 February 2026



**Sawston**  
Village College

Principal: Mr J P Russell

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Weekly Round Up**

Thank you to all Y9 parents/carers for attending the on-line parents' evening last night. Unfortunately, due to the third party Schoolcloud system experiencing a server outage, some appointments were disrupted. We apologise for the inconvenience caused. We have asked teachers to contact parents whose appointments were affected as soon as possible, either by telephone or email. On Thursday, we hosted our cluster Primary Heads and each met with a group of Y7 pupils from their school to reflect on the transition from Y6 to Y7. Pupils were enthusiastic and honest, helping us to plan for future induction. Today was the first of two annual Governor Days, which give our Board of Governors the opportunity to visit the school for the day, see lessons, meet staff and pupils, and review progress. It was a busy but productive day and governors wish to thank the pupils for their engagement.

### **IMPORTANT College Closed on Friday 13th February**

Please be reminded that the College is closed to all pupils on Friday 13th February for a Staff Training Day. Staff will be exploring oracy and planning developing communication skills in the classroom. In the afternoon staff will be trained on the new management information system and preparing for this transition.

### **NEW Parking on New Road**

The road in front of the school, New Road, remains very busy at pick up and drop off times. Where possible, please avoid parking near the school. Whilst recognising some pupils may have mobility needs, most pupils can be dropped off slightly further away and walk to school. Parking away from New Road would create a safer space outside of the school gates and enable pupils to see onward traffic more easily. This is especially true when additional works are being carried out on New Road, of which the school is not always informed. Construction traffic for the new build is being monitored and is instructed to avoid pick up and drop off times.

### **NEW Management Information System (From SIMS to BROMCOM)**

We have been preparing for a significant change to our management information system. This is the system that underpins the day-to-day running of the school, including timetabling, pupil information, attendance, examinations and home-school communication. The new system, Bromcom, is planned to go live on March 2nd. You may not notice a change at first as this is really happening in the background for administrative purposes. However, a new parent portal will be introduced later in the year and we are looking to



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streamline things for parents as we progress with this project. We will update you in the summer term. A great deal of planning and testing has gone into this transition and we are confident it will strengthen how we manage information and communicate with you over time.

### **NEW Safer Internet Day 2026 - Tuesday 10th February 2026**

Safer Internet Day is a global awareness day that encourages children, young people and adults to think carefully about how we use the online world and digital technology. It's a useful annual prompt to refresh conversations about online safety, wellbeing and responsible digital behaviour. The Theme for 2026 is Smart tech, safe choices – exploring the safe and responsible use of AI.

This year's focus reflects how quickly AI and smart technologies are becoming part of children's everyday online experiences. The emphasis is on helping young people develop confidence, critical thinking and good judgement when using digital tools, rather than fear or restriction. Top tips for parents and carers can be found on the UK Safer Internet Centre [here](#).

We will be sharing tips and advice with pupils in Mentor Time next week.

### **NEW Children's Mental Health Week**

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. The theme for 2026 is This is My Place, focussing on the importance of belonging. Families can find out more and engage with Children's Mental Health Week by checking out the Place2Be website [here](#). Further information will be shared with pupils through Mentor Time next week.

### **NEW Free Parent Webinar - How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory**

Elevate Education will be hosting a free parent webinar on memory on Tuesday 10th February.

As pupils progress through the year, many are now beginning to write up their notes, organise their learning, and start memorising key content — an important step as exams move closer.

Elevate works with our pupils, delivering high-impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you will learn how you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they are learning at school.

This session will help you understand how your child's memory works and show you how you can support effective note-making and memorisation now, so they are better prepared when revision intensifies later in the year.

To register for free please follow this link: <https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>

### **REMINDER Mobile Phones**

The DfE has published further guidance on mobile phones which dictates that schools should be mobile phone-free environments to reduce disruption, bullying and improve focus. Whilst we will review our current policy and strengthen our practice, it is already in line with this guidance. Mobile phones are not allowed to be seen or used at all on site during the school

day from 8am to 3.30pm. Where phones are seen, they will be confiscated. Thank you for your support on this matter.

### **REMINDER February Half Term Free School Meal Vouchers**

Cambridgeshire County Council is continuing to run its holiday voucher scheme for the February half term holiday. They are continuing to work with Wonde (E-voucher) as the voucher supplier. Each eligible pupil will be issued a supermarket voucher for £15 and further information was sent out last week. Vouchers will be delivered by email or text by the end of the day on Saturday 14th February. All vouchers must be claimed by midday on Friday 13th March. Unclaimed vouchers cannot be reinstated after this date.

Please contact [holidayvoucherscheme@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:holidayvoucherscheme@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) with any questions about the scheme.

Details of how to apply for income related Free School Meals can be found here – there is a simple application form which only requires a few details for an instant eligibility check.

### **REMINDER Vaccinations**

The Schools Immunisation Team will be visiting over the coming weeks to deliver Meningitis and DTP (Year 9, Monday 9th February), and HPV (Year 8, Tuesday 24th March) vaccination to pupils with consent. Text messages and emails with a link to the consent form have been sent by the Immunisation Team from their email address: [hct.csaiscambspb@nhs.net](mailto:hct.csaiscambspb@nhs.net). Please email the team or call 0300 555 5055 (option 4) with any questions.

### **NICE TO KNOW Not to be missed - The Audience at Sawston Cinema in the Marven Centre, 26th February 2026**

Next up just after half term as part of the NT Live programme we have *The Audience*.

Helen Mirren plays Queen Elizabeth II in the Olivier and Tony Award® -winning hit production, written by Peter Morgan and directed by Stephen Daldry. For 60 years, Queen Elizabeth II met with each of her 12 prime ministers in a private weekly meeting. This meeting is known as The Audience. From Winston Churchill to Margaret Thatcher and David Cameron, the Queen advised her prime ministers on matters both public and personal. Through these private audiences, we see glimpses of the woman behind the crown and witness the moments that shaped a monarch.

To book tickets and to see what else is coming up, go to: <https://sawstoncinema.org/>

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Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Jonathan Russell