Southchurch High School

Friday 06 November 2026

The Southchurch Way

A community of opportunity, learning and aspirations

Issue number: 08

Message from the Headteacher

Intervention Sessions Over Half Term

Thank you to our Year 10 and 11 students who attended intervention sessions over the October half-term break. I would also like to thank the staff who kindly gave up their time to support our students.

These additional sessions provide valuable opportunities for students to revisit key learning, address any gaps in knowledge and build their confidence as they continue their preparations for future assessments.

Year 7 Road Safety Presentation

On Monday afternoon, our Year 7 students attended a Road Safety presentation delivered by The Riot Act.

Students watched a short film, *The Pre-Frontal Cortex and Road Safety*, followed by discussions around risky behaviour, how the brain influences our behaviour and decision-making, and how this changes as we get older.

Students learned that the pre-frontal cortex is the part of the brain that plays an important role in decision-making and assessing risk. As this area of the brain is still developing during adolescence, young people can experience and respond to risk differently from adults, which can sometimes lead to greater risk-taking behaviour.

The presentation also explored the dangers students may face near roads, including stopping distances for vehicles travelling at different speeds. Road traffic incidents remain one of the leading causes of death and serious injury for young people in the UK.

Please take some time to speak with your child about road safety and the importance of making sensible decisions to help keep themselves and others safe near roads.

Professional Learning

This week, our staff have continued to focus on deliberate practice of our teaching and learning non-negotiables. This provides staff with the opportunity to practise and refine key aspects of their teaching, ensuring that we continue to develop consistency and provide the very best learning experiences for our students.

Remembrance Parade and Service

This Sunday, our Head Girl, Heidi, and Head Boy, Kayden, will be representing Southchurch High School at the City of Southend-on-Sea's Annual Act of Remembrance, taking place at the Cliffs Cenotaph.

This important occasion provides an opportunity for our community to come together in remembrance of those who gave their lives in the service of their country during the two World Wars and subsequent conflicts.

The Mayor of Southend-on-Sea will be accompanied by civic dignitaries and distinguished guests.

We are very proud that Heidi and Kayden will be representing our school at this significant event.

Word of the Week

Our **Word of the Week** for next week is **"estimate"**.

Estimate *(verb)* – to make a careful guess or an approximate calculation of the size, cost, value or amount of something without knowing the exact number.

Example: Can you estimate the value of 47.8 × 3.91?
Students who successfully use the word in conversation or during their lessons will be rewarded with a Class Charts point.

School Photographs

A gentle reminder that students will have their individual school photographs taken next Tuesday, 10 November**,** by Jennifer Wathen Photography Ltd.

Remembrance Day Service – Wednesday, 11 November

We shall be holding a whole-school Remembrance Day Service on Wednesday, 11 November, at 10.40 am.

The service will provide an opportunity for our school community to commemorate the armistice signed between the Allies of the First World War and Germany, bringing an end to hostilities on the Western Front.

Following the service, the whole school will observe a two-minute silence as we remember and reflect on the sacrifices made by members of the armed forces and civilians in conflicts past and present.

Children in Need Day – Friday, 13 November

In support of the BBC's annual Children in Need appeal, students may wear odd socks on Friday for an optional donation. This will also provide an opportunity to promote the important message of individuality and inclusion ahead of Anti-Bullying Week.

Our Student Leadership Team will also be running fundraising activities during both breaktimes, and we hope that as many students as possible will get involved and support these worthwhile causes.

Mrs Airoll
Headteacher

Menu

SWAN'S RESTAURANT **WEEK 1**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal	Halal Chicken Korma Curry Served with Boiled Rice & Naan Bread	Homemade Beef Lasagne Served with Garlic Bread	Pork Sausages Served with Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Gravy	Halal Chicken Fajita Served with Diced Potatoes	Halal Chicken Burger In a Bun Served with Potato Wedges & Coleslaw
Vegetarian Meal	Vegan Vegetable Sweet & Sour Served with Boiled Rice & Spring Rolls	Vegetable Pasta Bake Served with Garlic Bread	Vegan Sausages Served with Mashed Potatoes Peas & Gravy	Vegan Nuggets Served with Diced Potatoes & Baked Beans	¼lb Vegan Burger In a Bun Served with Potato Wedges & Coleslaw
Extra's	**Jacket Potato with Cheese ,Baked Beans or Tuna Mayonnaise Available Monday - Thursday** **Small Pasta & Sauce Available Monday - Thursday**				

Key Dates

10 November	School Photos
11 November	Remembrance Day service and minute silence
12 November	Year 8 HPV vaccinations
13 November	Children in Need Day
19 November	Year 8 Celebration Evening
26 November	Year 10 Parents' Evening
03 December	Year 9 Celebration Evening
04 December	Christmas Fayre
10 December	Year 10 Celebration Evening
17 December	Year 7 Parents' Evening

Children in Need



Year 8 Celebration Evening

We would like to invite parents and carers of Year 8 students to our Year 8 Celebration Evening on 19 November.

A letter will be coming home with your child today.



Christmas Fayre

There is now just 4 weeks to go until our Christmas Fayre on 4 December and we have lots planned!

We will have some fantastic stalls with gifts and decorations available to buy, festive refreshments and Christmas Karaoke to get us in the seasonal spirit!

Our Student Leadership team will be running tombola stalls and there really is something for everyone!

We would love to welcome you all to this fun evening!



What's Next? Event

Parents and carers of Year 10 & 11 students are invited to our What's Next? Event, on Monday 23 November.

Students will receive a letter today, please reply as soon as possible. We hope you can join us!



Design and Technology

Next week, we have an Interhouse competition within the DT Department to design a Bug Hotel!

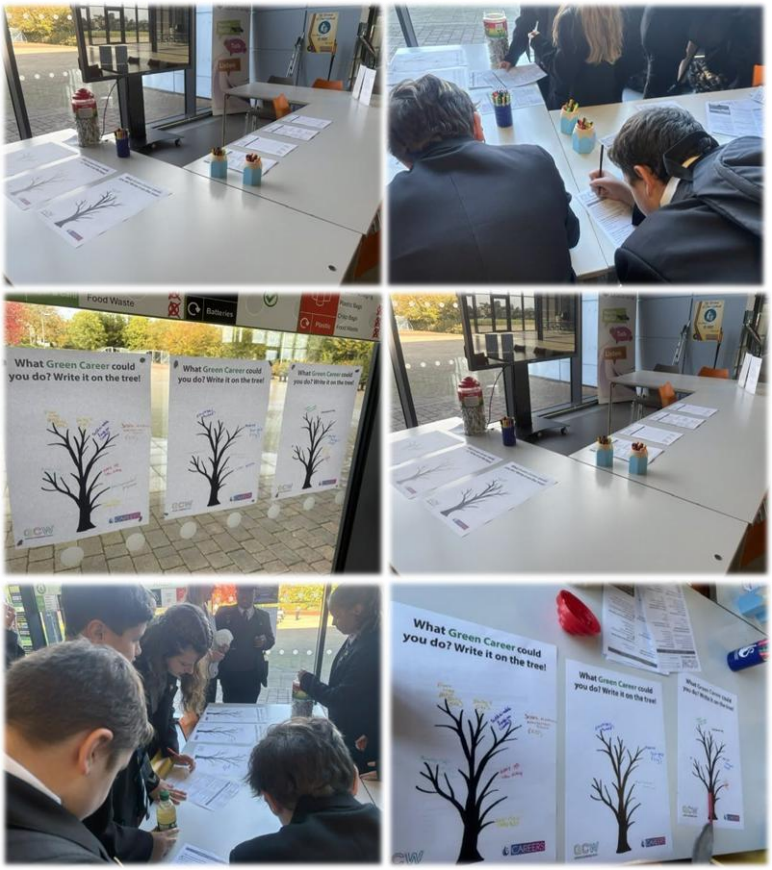
Designs need to be submitted by 13 November.



Green Careers Week

This week, we celebrated Green Careers Week - a chance to explore the exciting opportunities in sustainability, the environment, and the future of green industries.

Our students took part in activities at breaktime and can continue to explore green careers by visiting **https://greencareersweek.com/** for more details.



SPORTS NEWS

Fixtures



congratulations

Congratulations to the first Jack Petchey recipients of the year Roman, Navjot and Riley for their fantastic achievements.

All three have shown outstanding commitments to their studies and extra participation in the school. Navjot and Riley have also taken part in events and organisations within the local community.

These students receive £300 each from the Jack Petchey Foundation which they can spend in an area of the school they choose. They have decided to donate the money to PE, the library and the SEND department.

This isn't the end for them as they will also be invited to an awards presentation later in the year to meet winners from across the borough.

Once again congratulations! We are so proud of everything you have accomplished.

Mrs Langdon

Jack Petchey Foundation
Inspire • Motivate • Achieve





"If you think you can, you can"

Word of the Week

Congratulations to Mrs Zareba, who was our staff Word of the Week winner for the week before half term, with PARTICIPATE or PARTICIPER in French.

As a French teacher, she awarded a huge 168 points across the week!

Who will be this week's winner with COMMUNICATE?



Diwali

To recognise Diwali this weekend, we will be hosting activities on Monday during breaktime and there will be Indian food available at lunchtime.



WELLBEING

Taking a moment to feel grateful for what we have helps us to lift our feeling of wellbeing. This is particularly poignant next week as we remember the soldiers who fought for our freedom in the World Wars and other conflicts.

Should you wish to attend, a Remembrance Sunday Service will be held in Southend on 08 November 2026

Date: 08 November 2026
Location: Southend Cenotaph, Southend Cliff Gardens, Clifftown Parade, Southend-on-Sea SS1 1DL
Cost: Free
Time: 10:30am - 11:30am

The Mayor, Cllr Tony Cox, invites you to join him in remembrance of all those who gave their lives in service to our country during the two World Wars and subsequent conflicts.

10:30 – Parade forms and leaves from Prittlewell Square to the Cenotaph for a Service of Remembrance.
11:00 - The start and end of the two minutes silence will be marked by the firing of a Royal Artillery Gun courtesy of Shoeburyness and Southend Essex Branch Royal Artillery Association Gun Team.

Remembrance Day - 11 November 2026



RBL Poppy Appeal

Our Student Leadership team have been busy selling poppies at breaktimes.

Please send your child to school with some change if they wish to donate to the appeal and purchase a poppy.



GCSE Results

Celebrating the fantastic GCSE results of our Class of 2026!

We are incredibly proud of what our students achieved. Compared with five similar schools across the borough, Southchurch High School delivered some exceptional outcomes:

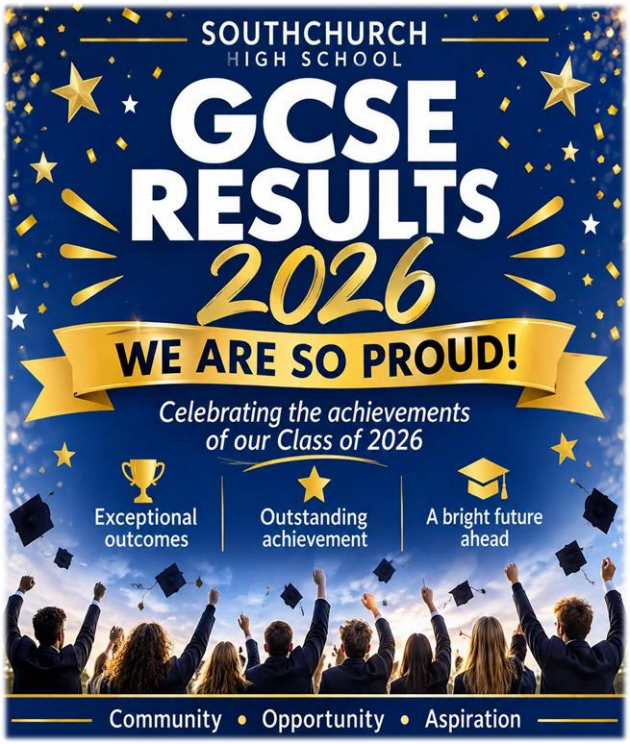
The highest-performing school for EBacc outcomes, including students achieving Grade 5+ in both English and Maths.

Among the highest-performing schools for students achieving Grade 4+ in both English and Maths.

Among the highest-performing schools for the top grades achieved by our students.

These results reflect the hard work and determination of our students, alongside the commitment of our dedicated staff and families.

At Southchurch, we believe in high expectations, genuine care and supporting every child to achieve their potential.



Community ▪ Opportunity ▪ Aspiration

Library Corner

Word of the Week:

Communicate

Verb

Definition: To share information with others by speaking, writing, moving your body or using other signals.

This week's theme is:
Diwali | 8th November

Did you know?

- The word 'Diwali' derives from the term for "row of lights" in Sanskrit, the sacred language of Hinduism.
- It is believed that the goddess of wealth and prosperity, Lakshmi, was born on Diwali.
- Another popular Diwali tradition is Rangoli, where colourful patterns are drawn from powders and flowers at the entrance of people's homes.

	8	1	6					
4		7	9	3		8		
	3	6					9	7
	6		7					
	1		3	4	8			
		9	5					
	9	4	2			6		
6								
8		3	4	6	7			

Fill in the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 9 by 9 box contains the numbers 1-9

Words can go in any direction in the wordsearch puzzle.

Community
Diwali
Festival
Giving
Happiness
Hope
Light
Rangoli
Tradition

G I V I N G U G Z C S J D
J P L W E I I N H O K U X
V L T V Q D Y A J M R K O
Y S A R B H P V O M O N N
I P V V A P O M Y U W A P
I L A W I D E P K N E U M
H L C N E T I M E I R V I
W B E P C I S T X T I P E
F S M B J X Z E I Y F T T
S W C O B P F G F O H N I
Y M I R Y W V E U G N G O
R A N G O L I X I S G Z A
R U D F P B Y L D M U V X

LIBRARY INITIATIVES

Welcome to the Library

Welcome back to the library, we hope you all had a great half term and enjoyed all the Halloween fun!

We hope you read some great books over the holidays and are ready to quiz on Accelerated Reader to gain some extra class chart points.

Chess Champions

Do you want to learn a new skill that improves your logic, concentration and problem solving? Then learn how to play chess! Chess runs every day during our opening hours. If you decide to play a competitive game, the winners are added onto our Chess Champions leader board!

After School Club: Monday-Thursday

The library is open to students after school to enjoy the same activities that we have running at break & lunch. These activities run until 4.30pm.

Please note that we are closed after school on Fridays.

Important Information

Accelerated Reader
Remember to quiz each book you finish on Accelerated Reader to add to your word count. There are prizes for all students who climb our ladder and reach the word count goals. See the librarians for your login details.

Teams Page
Remember to check the library teams page for updates and announcements, news articles and Accelerated Reader leader board information.





