

17th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

May I take this opportunity, to thank all parents and carers, in yet another hugely pressured and worrying period within the pandemic. I hope the Sutton House Academy Newsletter goes some way to shed light and positivity in these unsettling times. We have worked extremely hard to ensure pupils continue to be happy, safe and make the expected progress across the curriculum.

We have a few important messages to finish:

Sutton House Academy uphold the government guidelines in relation to Covid and the new variant Omicron and plans have been drawn up to be vigilant on testing pupils on our return in January. Should anything change over the Christmas period, where further restrictions apply, we will be in touch.

Please see our plans below:

Tuesday 4th January 2022: Staff INSET Training Day.

Wednesday 5th January 2022: AM Hub pupils in for testing and return home. Parents/carers to bring pupils in 9:30-11.30am. Tutors to confirm times.

Wednesday 5th January 2022: PM Hub pupils in for testing and return home. Parents/carers to bring pupils in 12:30-2:30pm. Tutors to confirm times.

Thursday 6th January 2022: ALL pupils return to timetable without the Supra curriculum.

Supra Curriculum will return Monday 17th January 2022.

Can I absolutely express the importance of regular testing and the need to test prior to returning in January to ease the process for the Academy; equally, the importance of vaccinating pupils who are now eligible: Vaccination centres are promoted on the Sutton House Academy website.

Cont.



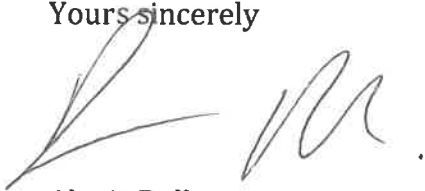
Please also be reminded that all pupils will be expected to return in full school uniform. Additional items can be picked up from the main school office.

In relation to mobile phones; phones are not allowed in the school when sessions are underway. Pupils are expected to hand items in when entering the building. Should mobiles be brought in and not given over, pupils will be in isolation until such items are handed in. Please refer to our Mobile Phones policy.

Leading on from the Ofsted Inspection, the Academy is working very hard to address low level inappropriate behaviours including swearing and the goading/mocking of others: We are an inclusive Academy and uphold respect and tolerance of self and one another. I ask all parents/carers to continue their support of these values and use the Christmas period as a time of reflection.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alexis Bull', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Alexis Bull
Headteacher



Sutton House Academy Newsletter

www.suttonhouse.org.uk

Autumn Term 2021

Message from the Head Teacher



As we reach the end of another Covid turbulent year, we use this wonderful forum to praise the hard work of pupils and staff including the continued support from our parent and local community.

Pupils have achieved phenomenal results in the 2021 summer exam series (100% Yr11 5+ 1-9 qualifications) and many have moved on to local colleges. Pupils across the board have achieved well in English and Maths and have thoroughly enjoyed their football and boxing experiences within the Supra Curricular offer. Within the Supra Curricular offer, pupils have successfully accessed group counselling, dog therapy, Build a Bike and Life Skills.

We now welcome a careers link with London Southend airport who will return in the New Year with presentations of job opportunities and interview and CV writing workshops which will be available for Y8-11. We have honoured charity days and national issues throughout the term raising £90 for Children in Need and raised additional awareness in Anti Bullying week. Our recent Ofsted report celebrates many areas of the Academy stating:

“Pupils say they feel safe in the school. They build positive relationships with staff and trust them to sort things out”

“Pupils enjoy practical subjects such as food technology. This helps them to build life skills.”

“Pupils are supported effectively to take their next steps in education at the end of Yr11. Many go on to further studies, training and/or employment when they leave”

Where further developments have been outlined in the report, Sutton House Academy is acting swiftly to address them.

We look forward to the term ending in a festive and safe way and take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Message from the Deputy Head Teacher



As another term comes to an end, Sutton House Academy would like to thank you all for your continued support in making sure our pupils receive the best approach to their education. There have been many

successful elements to the previous term and we would like to thank the following staff members who support Sutton House pupils in their personal development, including such events as:

- Year 11 careers day, Karen Tinnams, Sarah Fenn and Andrew Harper
- Southend Combat Academy – Simon, Alanna and the Supporting coaches.
- 121 therapy – Lisa Sheppard and Alison Bradford
- Speech and Language – Kerry McCrory
- SUFC – Southend Coaches
- Build a Bike – Matt Witt
- Social Skills – Jake
- Dog Therapy - Teri

Moving into the new year, Sutton House Academy will continue to develop and make sure we are always looking to improve as an academy and the life opportunities that our pupils receive. With a final message, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and please do stay safe over the Christmas holiday. Have a happy new year and we look forward to seeing you all in January.

Star Class

During November, star class learnt about



Remembrance Day. They participated in a two minutes silence to respect those that fought for our country and made silhouettes of soldiers.

Rainbow Class

Primary have had a busy half term learning about nouns, verbs and adjectives in English. The pupils have



been learning all about these word families through games, activities and clips. Our Maths lessons have focused on measuring and fractions. We have

measured everything from the corridor to each other and enjoyed using different apparatus to help us. Our science topic has been light, we have been interested to discover which materials are most reflective and how mirrors reflect light. We have also taken part in fun activities such as litter picking and making cakes and Mini Pudsey bears for children in need!



Springboard

Springboard pupils paid their respects on Remembrance Day by visiting Shoeburyness Cenotaph. Janine Willett (Higher Level Teaching



Assistant) wore her uniform from when she served in the Royal Air Force before pursuing a career in education. Pupils learnt about the importance of

the day and wrote acrostic hero poems and made poppies.

Nurture

Here in Nurture, the Christmas spirit is on its way! Today alone we have made a fire place (and each created our own personalised stocking to hang above it), made enough paperchains for the whole school, put up and kitted out the Christmas tree, made glittery bird ornaments and even had an impromptu, makeshift concert - with much singing, dancing (and turn-taking being the class DJ)! Although we are clearly so excited for the holidays, we cannot believe the term is nearly over... and what a term it has been! We have all achieved so much academically and personally, from mastering fractions and doubling, to creating poems and recipes (using similes, adverbs of time, imperative verbs and adjectives!), to exploring microhabitats and rainforests and how light reflects, to building boats, being photographers and making omelettes – and let's not forget how well we have embraced three new students (and how well they have embraced us too); watching students (and staff) laugh and play together has been a joy! So, here's to a new term just like this one. Well, done to all!

Food Technology



This term in Food Technology we have been learning about eating foods that are in our growing season. Eating seasonal foods is ordinarily cheaper and better for our environment and has less carbon footprint. Pumpkins were drawn on for Halloween so our students could use them for their holiday treats. Happy Holidays from the Food Tech team.

Maths

I'm very proud of my students and their recent mock exam results. They have done so well that they will be entering GCSE exams later in the academic year. They have all worked hard to achieve these results and you as parents/carers should be proud of them too.

English - Key Stage 3

This term, Year 7s have studied two popular novels. 'Inky Stevens the Great School Detective' is a comic mystery that kept them guessing... right to the bitter

end. We also read the witty, poignant and at times heart-breaking, Louis Sachar's searing story set in the Camp Green Lake juvenile detention centre. Years 8 and 9 engaged brilliantly with their studies of Orwell's 'Animal Farm' and Michael Morpurgo's 'Private Peaceful', two very emotive books. Both books are full of jealousy, grief, joy and anger (basically all emotions). Pupils loved the history behind both books, the way they can be used to teach rhetoric and the links that can be made to what's going on in the world right now.

English - Key Stage 4

Year 10s and 11s have drawn upon a range of texts as reading stimulus and engaged with creative, as well as real and relevant contexts. Year 10s are using their critical thinking skills that encourage genuine enquiry into the topic of 'crime and punishment'. Year 11 students worked hard to complete their Functional Skills exams and we eagerly await their results. This month proved to be a challenging, yet eye opening, month where Yr11 students had another taste of an intense examination period. It was a mini taste of what will take place for real in a few months. Many of them coped very well with the exams and should be proud of the effort they put into them.

PE

Sutton House academy would like to welcome Alan to the PE department for this term. Alan has supported



all pupils in using and understanding the skills required to participate within invasion games. Over the previous 12 weeks pupils have

enjoyed games and lessons in football, rugby, basketball, netball and handball while applying the knowledge and skill level needed to perform and see positive outcomes. Next half term, will see pupils enjoy further PE lessons within the subject of net sports and gymnastics. The PE department would like to take this opportunity to wish the whole community of Sutton House Academy a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Build-A-Bike

During our sessions students are allocated a size



appropriate mountain bike, broken down to just a frame, a set of wheels and a box of components. We then show students

how to build their bikes, how to service it and then they get to keep that bike to take home to look after as their own. This has many benefits including increased confidence and motor skills and a method by which to stay active.

RHSE Relationship, Health and Sex Education

In RHSE across the year groups we have been focusing on a range of topics from anger management, first aid, healthy living and building confidence. All pupils have shown resilience in their lessons as well as a



great understanding of their specific topic. The Year 7's have particularly enjoyed

incorporating role play in their anger management lessons. Pupils across the school have participated in 'Anti Bullying Week'. They had fun writing kind words on post it notes and giving these out to people around the school. It was fantastic to see pupils willingly engage in spreading kindness!

Message from G Strawford - SEND Manager



Gemma has been working with children with additional needs for over 10 years in a variety of settings; she believes a child's wellbeing is at the forefront of everything we do and a big part of this is working with

you as parents and carers to create positive change for your child. If you haven't had a chance to meet with Gemma yet and would like to book a time, please contact Reception.

Message from J Smethurst -Designated Safeguarding Lead



Dear All,
Christmas can be a magical time for children and adults - family get togethers', indulgence and treats. However, we know that this isn't always the case – Christmas can be hard, lonely, frightening and a miserable time. We have had a very difficult year with Covid 19 effecting every one of our lives. On behalf of Sutton House Academy, I hope you all keep safe and wish you a Merry Christmas. Should you need support over the school holidays – please see the following options:



FAMILY LIVES (all aspects of parenting)

www.familylives.co.uk

0808 8002222



CHILDLINE

www.childline.org.uk

0800 1111



FRANK (counselling)

www.talktofrank.com

0300 1236600



SAMARITANS (counselling)

www.samaritans.org.uk



MIND (counselling)

www.mind.org.uk

0300 1233393



ANXIETY UK (anxiety issues)

www.anxietyuk.org.uk

03444775774

Key Dates

Last day of Autumn Term

Friday 17th December 2021

Christmas Half Term

Monday 20th December

to

Friday 31st December 2021

January Bank Holiday

Monday 3rd January 2022

Teacher Training Day

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Start of Spring Half Term

Wednesday 5th January 2022

