



Update from the Head Teacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the Spring Term, I would like to thank you for your continued support. It has been a positive and busy term for students and staff at Sutton House Academy, and I am pleased with the effort many of our pupils have shown in their learning and daily school life.

Throughout this term, students have been working hard in their lessons. Many pupils have completed assessments in subjects such as English and Maths, and staff have been supporting them to make good progress. It has been encouraging to see students showing determination and trying their best in class. Our aim at Sutton House Academy is always to support every young person so they can feel confident in their learning and develop the skills they need for the future.

Alongside learning in the classroom, students have also taken part in activities that help build confidence and teamwork. Some pupils have been visiting Southend Combat Academy where they take part in physical activities and learned about focus, discipline and resilience. Students represented the school well and it was a positive experience for everyone involved.

During the term we also celebrated World Book Day. Students took part in reading activities and had the opportunity to explore different books. Encouraging reading is very important, and it was great to see pupils engaging with stories and enjoying time spent reading.

For some of our older pupils, this term has also included preparation for important exams, including GCSE English. Staff have been supporting students with their work and helping them prepare so they feel ready and confident.

At Sutton House Academy we continue to focus on creating a calm, supportive environment where students feel safe and able to learn. We are proud of the progress many of our pupils are making and we will continue to work closely with families to support every young person.

Thank you again for your support this term. Working together with parents and carers is very important to us and helps us give the best support to our students. I hope you and your families have a safe and restful break, and we look forward to welcoming students back for the Summer Term.

Kind regards,
Mr E. Muca
Acting Executive Headteacher

Star Class

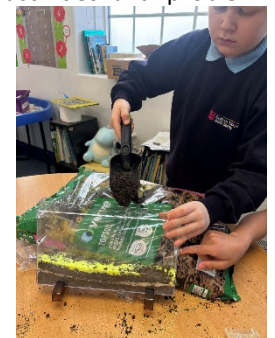
This term, pupils in star class have worked incredibly hard and made excellent progress, showing great development across all areas of their learning.



In English, we have focused on grammar, sentence structure, and writing development. Pupils have been expanding their sentences, improving their use of vocabulary, and building confidence in expressing their ideas clearly in both spoken and written work.

In Maths, the focus has been on fractions, length, and perimeter. Pupils have developed their understanding of these concepts through practical activities and problem-solving, helping them to apply their skills in a range of contexts.

In Science, pupils have explored topics including fossils, soil, and light. They had the exciting opportunity to examine real fossils, sparking curiosity and discussion about the past. During their soil topic, pupils created their own worm farm, observing how soil and living things interact. They are currently learning about light, investigating how it travels and how we see.



In our wider curriculum, pupils have explored the Stone Age and Viking era, gaining insight into how people lived and adapted during these periods in history.

We also celebrated British Science Week, where pupils took part in a variety of daily experiments.



Alongside their academic learning, pupils have been making strong progress in their personal development. Through daily interventions, they have been developing both fine and gross motor skills, supporting coordination and physical development. Pupils have also been learning valuable self-regulation strategies, alongside building their social and life skills through dedicated personal development lessons. These sessions help pupils to manage emotions, build positive relationships, and develop independence.

It has been a fantastic term, and we are incredibly proud of the effort and progress shown by all pupils!

Rainbow Class

It has been a busy and exciting Spring term, with the children taking part in a wide range of learning activities across the curriculum.

In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of comparing groups and quantities. They have also been exploring length and height, using practical measuring activities to measure objects in centimetres, metres and millimetres. This hands-on work has helped them build confidence in using standard units of measurement and understanding how they relate to everyday objects.



In Science, we celebrated Science Week with a variety of exciting investigations. The children had the opportunity to use microscopes to observe tiny details that are not visible to the naked eye, which sparked lots of curiosity and discussion.

They also learned about the growth of plants, observing how plants develop over time, and explored different habitats, discovering how animals and plants live and survive in their environments.

Our Food Technology sessions have been a highlight of the term. The children have been busy preparing a variety of dishes including pancakes, apple crumble and a colourful stir fry. Alongside their cooking, they explored where food comes from, learning about foods grown in the UK as well as those grown in other countries.



A wonderful trip to Barleylands Farm gave the children the chance to see farm animals up close, including goats, sheep and rabbits. They even had the opportunity to feed a lamb! The visit also included a tractor ride and some adventurous fun on the zip line.

In Computing, the children have been learning about giving commands and instructions. They practised creating simple programs by giving commands to sprites, helping them understand how computers follow instructions step by step.



Finally, in PE, the children have been very active this term.

They enjoyed sessions in trampolining and badminton, developing coordination, balance and teamwork. They even had the chance to try some light weight lifting, which was great fun and helped them learn about strength and safe technique.

Overall, it has been a fantastic term full of exploration, creativity and new experiences. We are very proud of the children's enthusiasm and hard work, and we look forward to more exciting learning in the months ahead.

Art – Primary



In Art this term, our primary pupils have been exploring the creative world of textiles. They have been introduced to the traditional technique of batik, a method of fabric decoration that uses wax and dye to create beautiful patterns and designs.

Pupils enjoyed learning about the origins of batik and how it has been used in different cultures to produce vibrant, detailed fabrics. They experimented with designing their own patterns, carefully applying their ideas to fabric and watching as their designs came to life through colour and texture.

Building on this work, pupils will now be using their batik pieces to create their own mini pillows. They are being introduced to basic hand sewing techniques, developing important practical skills such as threading a needle, stitching, and assembling fabric pieces.

This project has been a wonderful opportunity for pupils to combine creativity with hands-on making, and we are excited to see their finished mini pillows!

Reach Class

This term in REACH, the pupils have been working really hard and have shown great effort in their lessons. In English, we have been reading and exploring the book *Wonder*. The class has had some great discussions about the characters, kindness, and how our actions can affect others. We also explored the theme of superheroes and villains, thinking about what makes someone a hero and how people can show bravery and kindness in everyday life.

The pupils have also been working hard on their coursework this term, building their understanding and showing great focus and determination in their work. We also spent some time at the park to help build kindness and positive relationships with each other, which the pupils really enjoyed—especially the swings!

It has been a really positive term with lots of effort and progress from the class, and we are very proud of the hard work they have put in. We are looking forward to seeing what the next term brings!

Reach Out Class



In Reach Out, we have been learning about different text types and creative writing. We have been editing and improving our work using varied punctuation, different sentence starters and language devices for effect. We also made good progress with extended writing, to develop our ideas into

longer paragraphs and increasing the word count of written work. Apart from developing our narrative story writing skills, in particular the setting and character in the start of a story, we also enjoyed non-fictional writing. We wrote reports, letters, e-mails and leaflets. In addition, we have been analysing how writers use language in fiction -and non-fiction texts, and the effect the different techniques have on the reader. All of this has been great preparation for our upcoming exams for our Year 11 pupils. We also researched the advantages and disadvantages of AI and wrote blogs during Internet Safety Day.



In Maths, our pupils have been marvellous at mathematical strategies to solve problems using all 4 operations. We revised Functional Skills as well as GCSE skills in class alongside White Rose Maths. On Tuesdays our Year 11 pupils enjoyed enhancing their math skills with extra tuition. Not only did we improve our abilities to solve algebra problems, but we also practically explored nets of 3D-shapes and made cones, cubes and cuboids using flat 2D-shapes. Our challenge was to then use algebraic formulas to calculate the surface area of some of the shapes!

As part of our PSHE during Mental Health Week, Reach Out discussed ways to seek online help for safer internet use. We



also had lots of fun and laughter competing to make a friend laugh using facial gestures only. It was super fantastic! Valentines' day soon approached and we treated ourselves creating handmade chocolates with a variety of fillings. We used the 3D-shaped containers

we created in Maths to surprise adults at home with extra rose and heart-shaped chocolates as a Thank You for all they do for us. Meet our Pets was delightful: we showed each other images of our beloved pets and answered our friends' questions about how we care for our 4 legged besties!

In Humanities, Reach Out enjoyed practical lessons such as attending Combat sessions to improve our fitness levels.



A pupil broke his personal record on the rower; he has achieved 620 metres within 3 minutes. He is the Sutton House reigning champion at Southend Combat Academy. Pupils are now aiming for a

new record of 700 metres. In History, we learned more about the Kingdom of Benin, their social hierarchy and religious beliefs.

We wish all our friends and family a fantastic holiday!

Reach Plus Class



This half term Reach plus have been focusing on a range of engaging activities which include groupwork, producing graphs and participating in British Science week.

In Maths students have completed a range of multiplication problems along with calculating the perimeter of a range of different shapes as well as working together to draw their own

shapes and use rulers to measure length.

In English students have used a range of key words to write a poem based on topics of their choice. Students also used the laptops to add their own information as well as some excellent labelled drawings. We also had lots of fun celebrating world book day where we all got to dress up as our favourite book character!

To celebrate British science week Reach Plus had the opportunity to explore lots of fun activities linked to science. Experiments included, filtering water using rocks, making

their very own lava lamp and entering a competition based on careers in the NHS.

Art – Secondary & Reach Classes

In Art this term, pupils have been exploring the fascinating history and craft of mosaic. We began by learning about the origins of mosaic, which dates back thousands of years to ancient civilisations such as the Greeks and Romans. Originally, mosaics were created using small pieces of stone, glass, or ceramic, carefully arranged to form intricate patterns and images. These were often used to decorate floors and walls in homes, temples, and public buildings, showcasing both artistic skill and wealth.

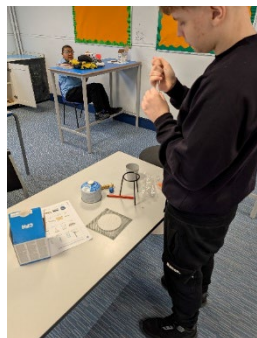


As part of our learning, pupils discovered how mosaics were not only decorative but also practical. Their durability made them ideal for spaces that needed to withstand heavy use, while their vibrant designs told stories, celebrated culture, and added beauty to everyday surroundings.

Inspired by these historical techniques, pupils have designed their own mosaics, thinking carefully about colour, pattern, and composition. They have now begun the exciting process of bringing their designs to life, using a variety of materials to recreate the traditional mosaic effect. This hands-on experience has encouraged creativity, patience, and attention to detail.

We look forward to seeing the finished pieces and sharing the pupils' wonderful work!

Science



Science lessons this term have been packed with engaging, hands-on learning across all year groups.

Year 11 students have taken part in practical experiments exploring how metals react with acids, as well as observing the reaction of magnesium when heated using a Bunsen burner. They approached these activities with a strong sense of responsibility, demonstrating safe and trustworthy behaviour when working with potentially dangerous equipment. Students particularly enjoyed making predictions and then watching the reactions unfold in real time.

Year 10 students embraced the challenge of designing and building rafts capable of supporting different weights. Their creativity and imagination were evident in the wide range of inventive designs, and they clearly benefited from the opportunity to learn through practical problem-solving.

The Year 9 cohort have been exploring data collection, grouping animals on various characteristics and producing bar graphs to show their findings.



Meanwhile, Year 7 and Year 8 students have been developing their understanding of circuits. They have explored how to build successful circuits and identified the key components needed, gaining confidence through hands-on experimentation.

Overall, Science this term has taken a practical, interactive approach, which has been positively received by students and has supported both their understanding and enthusiasm for the subject.

Food Technology

It has been a very busy and productive term across all year groups in Food & Nutrition, with students demonstrating fantastic enthusiasm, creativity, and growing independence in the kitchen.

Our Primary pupils have been enjoying learning about different food groups and where food comes from. Through fun practical activities and engaging lessons, they are beginning to understand the importance of a balanced diet and the journey food takes from farm to fork.



At Key Stage 3, students have been exploring important topics such as carbon footprint, seasonality, and food miles. They have been learning how food choices can impact the environment and how choosing seasonal and locally sourced ingredients can help promote sustainability. These lessons have encouraged thoughtful discussions and helped students become more informed and responsible consumers.

The skills we master at the beginning of our cooking journey help us produce amazing dishes throughout our school life and beyond into our adult life.



Year 10 students are also making excellent progress as they continue preparing and cooking a wide range of dishes in readiness for their own NCFE qualifications. They are developing key practical skills,

building confidence with new techniques, and improving their understanding of nutrition, hygiene, and food presentation.

Year 11 students have been working incredibly hard as they complete their final assessment meal for their NCFE Level 2 qualification. They have shown excellent organisation, time management, and technical skills while planning, preparing, and presenting their dishes.



The standard of work has been impressive, and students should feel very proud of their achievements as they move towards the completion of their course. Here are a few examples of the final 3 course assessment meal from our year 11 students!

Well done to all students for their continued effort and positive attitude this term. We look forward to seeing their skills and knowledge grow even further in the coming weeks.

Pupil Voice



Pupil voice have been busy this term giving ideas to SLT.

Pupils have been talking to pupil voice about boxing machines which connect with music and you can either follow a pattern or punch at your own speed and pace.

Following this we have ordered 2 machines which will be connect in the common room and sports hall for students to use.

Pupils have been asking for after school clubs and we will be starting some after school clubs after half term, year 11 maths club has been very successful this half term and will be continuing after half term in preparation for their GCSE.

Pupil voice have spoken to the kitchen staff about some ideas and changes for the dinner menu which we look forward to seeing soon.

Careers

Students have been actively engaging with their next steps through a series of college visits and tours, gaining valuable

insight into post-16 opportunities. It has been fantastic to see such thoughtful decision-making, with the majority of students now having chosen their college courses.

There is a wide range of ambitions across the year group, reflecting the diverse talents and interests of our students. In particular, courses in Performing Arts, Sport, and ICT have proven especially popular, highlighting both creative and technical pathways as key areas of interest. We are proud of the mature and proactive approach students have taken towards planning their futures and look forward to supporting them as they transition into further education.

In the remaining few months of Year 11 we will continue to work and support out students to complete their qualifications and prepare them for their GCSE's to give them every opportunity to achieve the grades required to be successful for their course choices.

Progress

Progress across the school has continued to show a positive trend this term. There is a strong link between progress and attendance, and as attendance has improved over the past 12 months, we have seen a corresponding rise in student achievement. A real strength has been in the Vocational subjects with our Key Stage 4 students, where coursework is completed. As a school, we believe that coursework helps to reduce the anxiety around qualifications and gives them the chance to achieve these across Year 10 and 11. This success has also been supported by the consistency of staff across the academy, enabling students to build strong, trusting relationships with familiar adults.

In our setting, progress is viewed holistically—it is not only about data, but about the wider development of each student. Through our enrichment programme, students have been given a range of opportunities to represent the school, consistently demonstrating positive behaviour and a strong sense of pride in their community.

Counselling

Selected pupils have been taking part in regular counselling sessions, providing them with a valuable opportunity to build trusting relationships with our school counsellor. These sessions offer a safe, supportive space where pupils can talk openly about their experiences, explore their individual needs, and develop confidence in expressing themselves. Through a range of personalised approaches, each pupil is encouraged to communicate in ways that feel most comfortable to them, helping to strengthen their emotional wellbeing and resilience.

Functional Skills

Year 11 students have approached their Functional Skills exams this term with a commendable level of maturity and

a positive, focused attitude. They have demonstrated resilience and a clear commitment to developing their exam skills, using these opportunities to build confidence and familiarity with the exam room conditions.

The outcomes so far have been very encouraging, with a number of students achieving exams that they had been unsuccessful with previously. These exams were planned to address any gaps in learning and to secure full qualifications ahead of the summer GCSE exam period. This approach has placed students in a strong position, both academically and in terms of exam readiness, as they move forward into their final assessments.

As the Functional Skills exams are marked externally, we are still awaiting results for some students and letters will be sent out to inform both parents and students of their exam outcomes.

GCSE Exam Dates

For Year 11 students please be aware of the following dates of GCSE exams in the Summer term:

GCSE Exam Schedule: Summer 2026

Please ensure students arrive at school by 8:45 AM for all morning exams to allow for a calm and focused start.

Mathematics (Edexcel)

- Thursday, 14th May Paper 1 (Non-Calculator) | 9:00 AM start - Standard: 1 hr 30 mins | With Extra Time: 1 hr 52 mins
- Wednesday, 3rd June Paper 2 (Calculator) | 9:00 AM start - Standard: 1 hr 30 mins | With Extra Time: 1 hr 52 mins
- Wednesday, 10th June Paper 3 (Calculator) | 9:00 AM start - Standard: 1 hr 30 mins | With Extra Time: 1 hr 52 mins

English Language (AQA)

- Thursday, 21st May Paper 1: Creative Reading & Writing | 9:00 AM start - Standard: 1 hr 45 mins | With Extra Time: 2 hrs 12 mins
- Friday, 5th June Paper 2: Writers' Viewpoints & Perspectives | 9:00 AM start - Standard: 1 hr 45 mins | With Extra Time: 2 hrs 12 mins

Please ensure students arrive on time at 8.30. Refreshments will be provided prior to entering an exam.

Results day: Thursday 20th August.

A letter will be sent out which will include all details for the day.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding remains a key priority within our school and underpins everything we do to ensure that all pupils feel safe, supported, and ready to learn. This term, we have continued to promote pupil wellbeing through a range of safeguarding initiatives. AIPT workers visited our Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 pupils to deliver workshops focusing on situations young people may encounter outside of school, including discussions around gangs and substance use. These sessions provided valuable opportunities for pupils to ask questions and develop their awareness of risk and how to keep themselves safe.

We also marked Safer Internet Day across the school, where pupils took part in a variety of activities designed to strengthen their understanding of online safety and responsible digital behaviour. Our staff continue to receive regular safeguarding training and follow clear procedures to ensure that any concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing are responded to promptly and appropriately. We remain committed to working closely with families and external agencies to support the safety and wellbeing of every pupil.

Quality of Education

Curriculum

This term, pupils at Sutton House Academy have continued to engage positively across all areas of the curriculum. Staff have worked hard to provide lessons that are supportive, engaging, and tailored to meet the needs of our learners, helping pupils to build both their academic skills and their confidence in the classroom. It has been encouraging to see pupils participating well in lessons, developing their knowledge, and showing increased independence in their learning. As a result, pupils are making progress across the curriculum, and we are proud of the effort and commitment they have shown throughout the term.

Phonics

This term, we have continued to strengthen our phonics provision through the Read Write Inc programme. Staff have taken part in in-person training delivered by Read Write Inc trainers, alongside ongoing support to ensure the programme is delivered consistently and effectively across the school. It has been fantastic to see pupils engaging positively with phonics sessions and developing greater confidence in their reading skills. Many of our pupils have made strong progress and a number have successfully completed the Fresh Start programme in secondary, which is a wonderful achievement. We are proud of the effort pupils are putting into their reading and look forward to seeing their continued progress.

Work Scrutiny

Work Scrutiny Work scrutiny is in place to quality assure the teaching and learning at Sutton House Academy. The Spring

work scrutiny results were as follows: Updated Literacy and Numeracy targets - 92% total shows strong consistency in setting and differentiating targets that meet pupils' needs, this is an improvement on Autumn term. Curriculum design and implementation - Evidence indicates sustained 100% adherence in curriculum adaptation and ambition, suggesting well-structured curriculum intent and implementation.

Long-term memory and knowledge integration – 100% indicate progress. Feedback and understanding - 84% show most staff provide effective feedback, this will be a priority for us in the Summer term with training provided for staff. Reading as a priority – 92% reflect strong prioritisation of reading, this is an improvement from the Autumn term. Pupil outcomes - 94% evidences that pupils develop detailed knowledge and skills, indicating strong impact of teaching and curriculum.

Key Dates

Last day of Spring Term

Friday 27th March 2026

Easter Break

Monday, 30th March to Friday, 10th April 2026

Friday day of Summer Term

Monday, 13th April 2026

