

SOUTHEND HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

ACADEMY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Robin M Bevan MA MEd PhD FRSA



October 15th, 2021

Dear Parent

Thank you: Harvest donations

This week we have had the opportunity to celebrate 'harvest', to reflect on the challenges faced by those with limited access to food, to be thankful for the relative plenty that many of us experience ... and to show our commitment to the welfare of others through donations to the local homeless charity HARP. Thank you.

Thank you: Young Minds

Our dedicated cake sale and 'wear yellow' day last Friday raised over £1400. This event was organised by our Sixth Form students to support the charity Young Minds, at a time when many in our community are deeply conscious of the impact on friends and family of mental health challenges. Thank you for your support.

Non-uniform day: charity fund-raising

We are inviting all pupils to wear non-uniform (preferably something red) on Friday 22nd October as part of our Black History Month celebrations. We are asking for a £2 donation to be made via Wisepay. *Please make this donation at the earliest convenience.*

The money raised will be donated to Show Racism the Red Card (SRtRC), the UK's largest anti-racism educational charity.

Most of the campaign's work involves the delivery of educational workshops to young people and adults in schools, workplaces and at events held in football stadiums. Across the UK, SRtRC provides educational sessions to more than 50,000 individuals per year. In addition to the direct education of young people and adults, SRtRC produces educational resources, to challenge misconceptions, stereotypes and negative attitudes in society.



Year 7/8: Parents Welcome evenings

It was a real delight to welcome into the school, across the last fortnight, all our 'new parents' from Years 7 and 8. Although we cannot yet claim that school is fully 'back to normal'; we could, together, recognise the superb way in which all in our community have responded across the last weeks and months, as well as encouraging ever-increasing participation in the wider activities of the school community.

For Year 8 parents, it was the first visit to the school since the pre-pandemic Open Evenings and 11+. For Year 7 parents, it was an opportunity to express thanks for the level of support shown in selecting Southend High School for Boys in the absence of any real opportunity to visit the school during the admissions process.

It is so good to have been able to invite you all to the school and we look forward to seeing you again at concerts and other events in the months ahead.

Thank you: Covid home-testing

May I repeat our appreciation for your support of the home-testing programme for all students. So far, this term, positive LFTs have helped to identify a small but significant number of students who have then attended for a PCR: in doing so, we are able to keep the levels of transmission within school to a minimum. *Please continue to ensure regular home-testing across the half-term holiday – home testing kits are available at school or from your local pharmacy.*

Covid Vaccinations: update

Schools have been asked to make their premises available for the NHS school immunisation service to administer Covid vaccinations for those aged 12-15. The school is *still* awaiting confirmation of a date when this will happen at SHSB, although we understand this will now be after half-term. Schools are being visited in turn. The NHS will, in due course, be providing literature to explain the vaccination offer and the process of parental consent. As with all vaccinations given on the school site by the NHS, all decisions regarding immunisation will be made by qualified NHS personnel.

We understand that the delay is simply a result of logistics and the 'delivery capacity' of the School Immunisation Service. *To allow the immunisation team to focus on the Covid vaccinations, we have been advised that the scheduled flu vaccinations (due for next week) have been postponed, with no rescheduled date at this time.*

We will, of course, keep you advised as new information is provided.

Yours sincerely,



Robin M. Bevan
Headteacher