

Southend High School for Boys

Parent Bulletin

Weeks 7 & 8

19th October 2018



International Gold medallist – Kenneth Ikeji – representing England at the Home Nations championships

As a school we are very active in raising funds for our own benefit, but pupils and families continue to show great generosity at Harvest time too. This year's collection took **our total donations to HARP to a total of more than 27,500 items for the homeless**. Several years ago the school community at SHSB was set a challenge of bringing a thousand food items into school for the harvest assembly. As the needs of local homeless people become more widely understood, more and more pupils have responded. These donations reflect well on our commitment to HARP – a local charity providing support and advice to the homeless of Southend.



In the fortnight after half-term, we have two significant events in the school's annual calendar; both of which have an impact on all pupils.

On the evening of November 1st, we will be holding our prospective **Sixth Form open evening**. **Last year, we received the largest number of visitors 'on record', welcoming over 700 families!** The number of students from other schools was quite remarkable given the number of places we have to offer. It is a great tribute to all in the school community: staff, students, parents and former pupils that this degree of interest and enthusiasm has been secured. Our own boys from the current Year 11 are expected to attend, with their parents. For many of them: seeing the number of other visitors may help them realise the value of securing a place in the Sixth Form here – *"the largest and most successful school Sixth Form in Essex"* – and the need to sustain or renew their own efforts. The Headteacher presentations will be at 5.00pm, 6.00pm and 7.30pm. Classroom displays are open from 5.30pm until 7.30pm.

School closes for the afternoon after registration at 1pm on November 1st.

Registration, the next morning (Friday November 2nd), is at 0930. Lessons start with period 2.

At the time of writing, we are preparing for our annual act of remembrance: this year, of course, there is an added poignancy as we approach the 2018 centenary of the armistice. A significant number of former pupils and staff members lost their lives in the two world wars. In our ceremony we appreciate their contributions, we acknowledge that war gives rise to acts of courage and heroism in a context that is often horrific or evil, and we look to a future in which nations might resolve all differences through peaceful means.



Our preparations and reflections continue throughout the calendar year, and we are acutely aware of the connections that many members of the school community have with those who served, or serve, in the armed forces.

We are delighted to be hosting, again this year, a Veterans Lunch – in association with the Royal British Legion. Our pupils will have the chance to hear their stories.

On Friday 9th November, the school Remembrance Service will take place from 0830. Years 10–13 will attend. Years 7-9 have their own, separate, act of remembrance in the afternoon – there will be no lessons for pupils in Years 7–9 until period 3. (Year 7-9 pupils should not arrive at school until 10.40am, at the earliest and 10.55am, at the latest).



100km in 9 hours – staff team complete 10x10km and raise funds for the Neptune (Childrens) Ward at Southend Hospital.

Donations still welcomed: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/shsbstaff>

Funding update: parents may wish to read and note the contents of the letter attached to this bulletin, which has recently been sent to the two local Southend MPs from all the Southend secondary school Headteachers. *We will not remain silent until the pupils in our schools have the resources they deserve.*

Sir David Amess
Mr James Duddridge

Dear Sir David and Mr Duddridge

I am writing to you on behalf of all the Southend on Sea secondary school Headteachers about the challenge we all face in sustaining basic provision in our schools, let alone the high standards to which we are all committed, because of the desperate funding situation which is compounded by the teacher recruitment crisis.

School Funding

You will both be aware of the misleading information that has been propagated about school funding. This has included claims from the DfE that the UK's spending on education is the third highest in the world.

The OECD figures which have been used to justify this 3rd highest claim have been found to include government spending in England and elsewhere along with university tuition loans for students as well as fees paid by pupils at private schools. If these elements are removed, the funding on secondary education in England is below almost every other Western European country, being ranked as low as 20th by some analysts.

By relying on these spurious figures the DfE has been able to cover up the savage cuts being made to schools' budgets. There are schools in Southend which have seen real terms reductions in excess of 20%.

I hope you are also aware of the letter sent by the UK Statistics Authority to the DfE which includes the statement:

"I am sure you (The DfE) share my concerns that instances such as these do not help to promote trust and confidence in official data, and indeed risk undermining them." Sir David Norgrove – Head of UK Statistics Authority (8th Oct 2018).

The second claim about funding has been a classic case of 'smoke and mirrors'. We are regularly told that spending on schools has increased, but this fails to take into account the significant rise in pupil numbers. In fact, the spending per pupil has decreased.

Thirdly, all schools have been forced to make cuts to their provision as a result of the 'unseen' additional costs being placed on schools. This has included 6 years of unfunded pay rises and unfunded rises in staff pension contributions. Even the most recent announcements about schools receiving extra funds for pay rises continues to hide the fact that the first 1% of pay rises will have to be funded from existing school budgets.

The key facts are:

- Since 2010 the total schools budget has been slashed by 8% in real terms
- Since 2010, 537885 more pupils have joined state schools
- Post-16 funding has decreased
- The SEND/High Needs Block has been cut to the point

As a result, secondary schools across Southend have had to increase class sizes, cut choices from the curriculum and reduce the number of staff employed. Our concerns are shared by governors and parents.

We look forward to your response, and may I ask if it is possible for you to arrange for a group of us to meet with Nick Gibb, Schools Minister, to discuss this issue further?

Teacher Recruitment Crisis

All secondary schools in Southend continue to have on-going challenges in recruiting teachers. The perception of teaching as an underfunded overworked profession is contributing to this. The problem in Southend is exacerbated by neighbouring areas being able to offer a London Fringe payment to teachers.

This would be second issue we would like to raise directly with Nick Gibb.

I look forward to your response.

Best wishes

Dr Paul Hayman

Southend on Sea Headteachers' Association Chair

Results

Football

Year 11 vs Cecil Jones [SEE Cup]	Won 4-0	Mead, Sweetman, Roser, Goy
Year 8A vs Eastwood	Won 3-0	Hyams, Riley, Traill
Year 8B vs Eastwood		Omatayo, Norbury 2
Year 9 vs Eastwood	Won 4-2	
Year 10 vs Eastwood	Lost 3-1	Keane
1 st XI vs Coopers [Essex Cup]	Won 2-1	Mellor 2
2 nd XI vs Palmers	Lost 4-3	Wilkins, Al-Rahim
Year 9 vs Thorpe Hall [Borough Cup]	Won 12-0	Wooding 3
Year 10 vs Cecil Jones [Borough Cup]	Won 3-1	Keane, Osemwegie, Ixer
Year 8 vs Shoebury [SEE Cup]	Won 3-1	Fiddes, Riley, Shepherd
Year 11 vs STM [Essex Cup]	Won 2-1	Bumpus, Sweetman
Year 10 vs Shoebury [Essex Cup]	Drew 2-2 (Lost 3-2 on pens)	Regan 2
Year 7A vs Barking Abbey	Won 6-4	Petty-Mayor 2, Agyemang 2, Foster, Richards
Year 7B vs Barking Abbey	Won 4-0	Perry 2, Etuorimuo, Fadina
Year 8 vs Barking Abbey	Lost 5-2	
Year 9 vs Barking Abbey	Won 2-0	Atkins 2
Year 10 vs Barking Abbey	Won 5-0	Ixer 3, Regan, Keane
Year 7 vs Southchurch [Borough Cup]	Won 10-0	Agyemang 2, Toluwalaju 2, Perry 2
Year 8 vs Eastwood [Borough Cup]	Won 5-0	Gbajumo 3, Pearson, Graham
1 st XI vs Havering College [Coomer Cup]	Drew 0-0 Won 5-4 on Pens	

X-Country

National Cup 1 st Round	JB 2 nd Place	Riley, Shepherd, Brysland, Petty-Mayor
	IB 2 nd Place	Muller, Crickmay, Maguire, Vapiwala
Thorpe Hall Relays		

Golf

Essex Scratch Championships		Luke King 14 th Rhys Abercrombie 20 th
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Fixtures

30/10/18 – HOUSE X-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

31/10/18 – 2nd XI Football vs SEEVIC (H)

01/11/18 – Year 11 Rugby vs Anglo European (H) [Essex Cup]

03/11/18 – Year 7AB Football vs Great Baddow (H)

03/11/18 – Year 8 Football vs Great Baddow (H)

03/11/18 – Year 9 Football vs Great Baddow (H)

05/11/18 – KS3 Borough Badminton

06/11/18 – Year 11 Basketball vs St Benedict's (A) [Essex Cup]

07/11/18 – Borough X-Country Championships @ Blenheim Park

07/11/18 – 2nd XI Football vs Appleton (A)

07/11/18 – 1st XI Football vs Anglo European (H) [Essex Cup]

08/11/18 – KS4 Borough Badminton

08/11/18 – Year 10 Rugby vs Colne (H) [Essex Cup]

09/11/18 – Year 8/9 Rugby vs FitzWimarc @ Southend Rugby Club

09/11/18 – Year 10/11 Rugby vs FitzWimarc @ Rochford Rugby Club

10/11/18 – National X-Country Cup Regional Final @ Woodbridge School