

# Secondary Newsletter

“The beginning is the most important part of the work.” –  
Plato

## Welcome Back!

It has been such a great pleasure to be able to have all of our students in school every day once again after such a prolonged period of hybrid and remote learning.

The hustle and bustle of the school is back and it feels very much as if the school is getting back to being the vibrant school community that we were pre-pandemic. Except for a few internet-related issues on the first day, everything has gone very smoothly this week and I want to acknowledge the hard work of the teachers in getting the school up and running, and also acknowledge the amazing students that we have here at SES - their positivity and enthusiasm has been a delight to see this week. I also want to thank you as parents for your continued support of the school and for trusting us to look after your children and provide them with an outstanding education.



Of course, safety remains our number one priority and all the usual protocols are being observed - sanitising of classrooms takes place after after lesson, social distancing of 1m is still in place in all areas of the school and masks are being worn by everyone at all times. SPEA came to inspect the school during the week and they are happy with how we are managing the school within the SPEA protocols for this year.

We still do not yet have the ability to enrich the curriculum with ECAs, trips etc. We are looking at how we can do this safely and hope to be able to offer some ECAs, with some restrictions, during the second half of the term. We are also looking at how we can offer curriculum-related trips for students which are safe, secure and fully compliant with SPEA and MOE regulations regarding COVID. We will share further news about ECAs and trips as soon as we are able.

Best wishes,

Gary Webster, Head of Secondary



### TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY

#### Sunday-Wednesday

07:45-15:20

#### Thursday

07:45-13:00

### MORNING DROP OFF

Drop-off in the morning seems to be working very well and all most students are getting into school before 7:45am - please remember that this is the cutoff time and after 7:45am students are considered to be 'late' and will need to enter via the Main Gate and sign in via security.

If your child is absent from school for any reason, e.g. through illness, please inform the Secondary Reception before 7:30am on each day of your child's absence.

secreceptionist@sharjahenglishschool.org

## PICKUP ARRANGEMENTS

Collection in the afternoons is very busy now that we have 370 secondary students exiting the site at the same time at the end of the school day. Again, safety is absolutely paramount and we have put some measures into place to ensure the safety of all students.

When collecting students, please remember that:

- Students in Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9) will exit through the MAIN GATE
- Students in Key Stages 4 and 5 (Years 10-13) will exit through the SPORTS FIELD GATE.
- Any student in KS4 or KS5 who has a sibling in KS3 can exit through the main gate
- Parents should stay behind the red/white barriers at all times when collecting children from the main gate - we are not able to have parents in the area where children are exiting through the main gate.
- Traffic is very busy - please take extra care when reversing out of parking spaces and please drive slowly through the car-parking area to ensure that our children are kept safe at all times.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 'The Tribe Unwound' Year 11 Podcast

Some of our Year 11 students have developed and launched their own podcast called 'The Tribe Unwound', in which they discuss life in the UAE, hobbies and interests and schooling. Well done to Josh, Zahid, Devansh & Shamoil.

### CORAL CONSERVATION CLUB

Mrs Lok and Miss Ryan will be launching a 'Coral Conservation Club' in Room A115 tackling all things Coral in association with AZRAQ. For more details about AZRAQ's work, please check out [azraqme.org](http://azraqme.org)

### ENTREPRENEUR WORLD CUP SUCCESS

Congratulations to Samuel in 13G for being selected as a finalist for this year's Entrepreneurship World Cup, which was held on Wednesday 1st September. Samuel pitched his prototype design to a panel of judges drawn and, whilst Samuel did not take the victory, he was commended by the judges for both the potential of his design and for being one of the youngest competitors in the competition. Samuel aims to study Product/Industrial Design at university and his portfolio will certainly have been boosted by this experience. Well done Samuel!

### LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS ESSAY PRIZE

Over the summer, some of our Economics students participated in the London School of Economics Essay Prize (details found [here](#)). This is an academic competition, where students select a question of interest, then research and craft their own response to their question of choice, competing against students globally. This is outstanding preparation for university, fast tracking analysis, evaluation and research skills and shows initiative and a high level independent thought. The essay titles undertaken were:

Sarah (Y13): What do you think will be the effect of the pandemic on young people's futures?

Ali (Y13): Assess the impact of COVID-19 on existing inequalities and identify the short-run versus the long-run implications on the economy.

Gabriel May and Aahan Kandoth (Y13): Should we increase the rate of economic assimilation? If so, why, and how? If not, why not?

I would like to congratulate each and everyone of them for their excellent work and dedication.

**Mr Brown - Head of Faculty Economics and Business**