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Year 13 Geography trip to Iceland





Art trip to London.

Exploring the amazing art works on show in the Tate Modern and the varied graffiti styles of Leake St Arches.

A busy term



Whilst only in the second month of 2025 so much has already happened, both in and out of school. We started the term with a visit from Loudmouth, who did workshops with our Year 8 students on healthy relationships and Year 11 continued their GCSE preparation with a viewing of Inspector Calls. Years 9, 12 and 13 all completed their internal examination weeks in January, their conduct was excellent and student were able to demonstrate how much they can know and remember. These assessments have been so valuable in implementing actions to continue to support student

progress going forward. Year 11 have also started their internal exams this week and we have all been so impressed with their positive attitude and how resilient they have been. It is always a pleasure to see how positive students feel when they can see the progress they have made, as a result of their hard work. These exams complement the learning that takes place in lessons day in and day out.

Outside of the classroom we have seen countless sporting experiences and successes, from football tournaments to Schools Games events. It has been inspiring to witness the variety, from gritty battles on the rugby pitch to inclusive experiences at Villa Park and a hugely inspiring and educational visit from Bears Wheelchair Basketball.

In school we have celebrated Global Virtues Week and awareness weeks for Mental Health and the LGBTQ+ community, as well as commemorating Holocaust Memorial Day. As part of our

trips and visits a small number of Sixth Formers were able to visit Auschwitz and will now be able share what they have learned with the wider school community. Students have been to the theatre to see Wicked and do a Q&A with performers, visited London to get inspiration for their artwork, been to Iceland to expand their Geographical knowledge and finally the visit to the snow dome will be paying off over Half Term as our ski trip is heading for the slopes in Italy.

Thank you to everyone that has been to visit our newly renovated Connection Hub, this space now has the capacity to support more students, we have also been delighted to see so many parents, staff and community members at our autism awareness events this half term.

I look forward to updating you on the opening of the fully refurbished astro pitch as we return from Half Term.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable break.

Miss Mason, Headteacher

Aston Villa Para Football Talent Day

We took 10 students from Year 8 a long to the Aston Villa Para Football talent Day at their training ground in Birmingham.

Nine others school attended from across the region to the event run by coaches from Aston Villa.

Our students had a great time and played 4 matches against teams from Corley, Myton and Sherbourne Fields. It was a fully inclusive event and played in an excellent ethos of sportsmanship and support.

There were fantastic performances from across the team, but special mention goes to Sam Y our top scorer, Sidh W, who scored his 1st ever goal, Eva B and Jemima E, who fully committed to all of our games, Henry M who insisted on playing on with a sore ankle and Alfie M who made some great saves in goal.

Well done to everyone and we look forward to some more events like this in the future.

Mr MacGibbon



Holocaust Webcast

Some Year 9 students took part in the annual live webcast of a Holocaust survivor's testimony organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust. The students listened to the incredible testimony of Mala Tribich MBE who was just 9 years of age when her home country Poland was invaded by the Nazi's. The students were exceptional and listened intently to Mala's story of what she experienced at such a young age. The students showed maturity when reflecting upon being messengers of Mala's testimony and sharing this with others.

Thank you to all involved.

History Department.



£4812 raised towards our **£15,000** goal



CHARITY OF THE YEAR - **CARDIAC RISK IN THE YOUNG**

Southam College Alumni request



Southam College would like to inspire current students by informing them of what previous Southam College students have gone on to achieve after leaving education.

Southam College are currently putting together a regular careers bulletin which will include a Southam College Alumni section.

If you would like to be included on the Southam College Alumni section, please forward onto me a paragraph of what you are currently doing, your journey since leaving Southam College and any advice you would give students to follow their career dreams.

Please could you include a photograph of yourself to be included in the bulletin, it could be an action shot, in your uniform or a portrait picture.

I look forward to receiving your inspiring career stories.

You can contact me directly, Andy Hughes
email hughes.a@stowevalley.com

Attendance

We support the Department of Education campaign **"Moments Matter, Attendance Counts"**. From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child. Please help us to support the students here at Southam College.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Connect Drop in

If you have any questions or would like support regarding your child's attendance, you are now able to book online appointments with

Mr Richter, Attendance Lead at Southam every Tuesday 11.30-12.30 via

<https://southamcollege.schoolcloud.co.uk>



Careers Talk



Dave Marston from Category Wins delivered a careers talk to both Computing and IT sixth form students on how data is used within the Food and drinks industry.

Students were able to see a live demonstration of the Nielsen data system which is used by food and drinks industry to compare different products.

Mrs Wilde/Mr Hughes



Sixth Form Success Story



Well done to Year 12 student, Ruby Hughes who has published her own book as a Sixth Form student. This is truly a remarkable achievement reflecting her exceptional level of dedication, creativity and ability to balance rigorous demands of her studies with her outside achievements with horse riding.

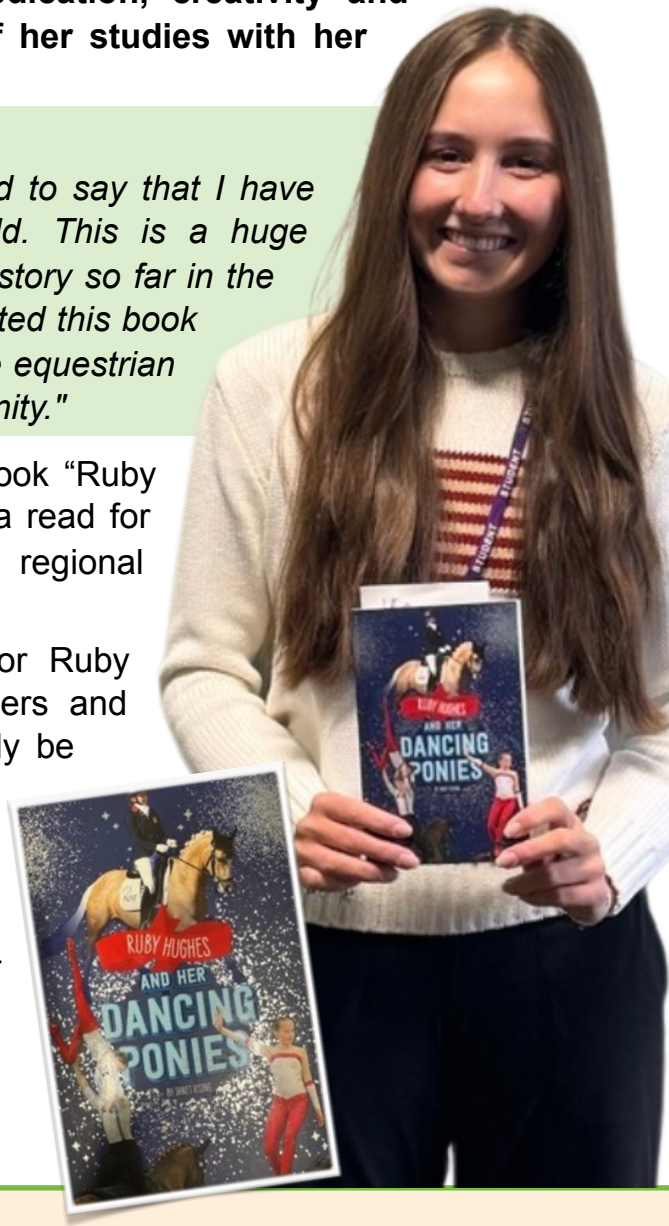
Ruby comments:

"My name is Ruby Hughes and I am extremely proud to say that I have released my first book at the age of 16 years old. This is a huge achievement for me. Within this book it describes my story so far in the world of equestrian dressage and vaulting. I have created this book alongside 'Pony Magazine' to help inspire others in the equestrian industry and I couldn't be more grateful for this opportunity."

We were delighted to have received a copy of her book "Ruby Hughes and her Dancing Ponies!" at school to have a read for ourselves. Ruby has also just come 3rd in the regional championships!

These accomplishments are not just a milestone for Ruby herself, but also serve as an inspiration to her peers and younger students- dreams and ambitions can certainly be achieved even at the age of 16! Ruby has taken student leadership to a whole new level. This is a Sixth Form Success Story that deserves to be celebrated and remembered as a beacon of what young people can accomplish when they put their minds to it.

Well done for this truly remarkable achievement Ruby,
From the Sixth Form Team and all at Southam College.



CWSSP Festival of Fun

Following our participation in their events before Christmas, some of our students in Year 7 & 8 were invited back to take part in some more fun activities with students from neighbouring schools.

They had great fun playing dodgeball, bench ball, ploy bat and cup stacking relays. They were all fantastic ambassadors for the school and have been invited back for some more events next year. Well done to you all and many thanks to Mrs Constable for accompanying us.



Wicked Trip



On Wednesday 29th January the music department took 75 music and drama students to London to see Wicked. The students thoroughly enjoyed the show and were captured by the music, costumes, and lighting. They then had the opportunity to speak to members of the cast. The students asked some amazing questions for example "How heavy are the prosthetics?" and "What is your dream role?". All staff that attended the trip are extremely proud of all the students. **Miss Blayney**



Student Success

Huge congratulations to Sienna for her achievements from 2024/25 showing season at Team CKRC.

Well done from everyone at Southam College.

- ★ Winner junior concours
- ★ Winner junior rider
- ★ Winner cob rider
- ★ Winner family pony
- ★ Winner handsome gelding
- ★ Winner novice rider
- ★ 2nd place novice horse
- ★ 2nd inhand concours
- ★ 2nd junior handler
- ★ 3rd inhand novice showing
- ★ 3rd inhand cob/ driving type
- ★ 4th inhand family pony
- ★ Novice novelty ring



Introducing our Heads of House



Mr Jeffries - Head of Godiva

I am extremely proud of all Godiva students for their individual achievements and our team achievements in 2024 which of course includes our massive sport day victory. I believe that we can carry forward this momentum which has been supported by more fantastic efforts recently in the European Bake off and in House Sport competitions. This year, I hope all students of Godiva step out of their comfort zone whilst demonstrating courage and bravery to face all challenges head on and overcome them in all parts of school life. Each and every student in Godiva has a huge responsibility and needs to be aware of the vital part they play. In our house, we all represent a building block and with each others support, enthusiasm and positivity we will be unbeatable. Success is determined by willingness and determination not scores on a leaderboard, although as a competitor, it would be fantastic to be crowned champions in 2025! Let's go Godiva!

Miss Dicken - Head of Shakespeare

As the new Head of Shakespeare, I have a unique opportunity to lead the team towards new heights. One way to achieve this is by encouraging you to tackle new opportunities, take on new projects or exploring new areas of expertise. By doing so, the Shakespeare team can expand on our successes. Of course, none of this can be accomplished without a strong sense of teamwork. We must foster an environment where collaboration is encouraged and celebrated. We must thrive to conquer, build on our efforts and participate in activities to make us victorious.



Mr Elkerton - Head of Webb Ellis

Webb Ellis super stars. Another win under our belt and a trip to plan this term. Year 9 boys and girls did us proud both in numbers and performances in the house sport last term. This term is Southam's got talent - I know there are some amazing individuals in the house. Show us what you can do! We also have valentines day. the romantics amongst you can get one for a loved one. All money goes towards our charity. We have Charity week as well. Last year was the best and most supported one to date. What can you do that's creative and interesting to support? Keep on striving Webb Ellis - maintain the crown we have.

Mrs Morten and Mr Hall- Head of Whittle

Don't Wait for Opportunity, Create it.

This year we want Whittle students to take every opportunity that is offered to them. Whether this is through academic competitions, physical challenges or social situations. We think it is imperative that students make the most of their time at Southam College and challenge themselves to allow them to develop and flourish into the best students they possibly can be. Last year our team work, determination and enthusiasm carried us to 2nd place and we can only hope that the saying "two heads are better than one" is true and we take Whittle to victory this year!



Trip to Iceland

The Year 13 Geography trip to Iceland, 'the land of fire and ice' was an incredible experience! After meeting our guide and driver we began our trip sightseeing in Reykjavik experiencing every type of weather imaginable. We then spent a fabulous three days visiting waterfalls, geysers, volcanic craters, beaches, a tectonic plate boundary and even geothermally heated greenhouses (where the tomato soup and cheesecake proved very popular). Bathing in the Secret Lagoon was also a highlight on this incredible trip.

The students were amazing from start to finish and made the most of every moment of the four days spent in beautiful Iceland!



Mid-Warwickshire Schools Trampolining Competition

Eleven students from Years 8-11 participated in the Mid-Warwickshire Schools Trampolining Competition. The students were required to complete 2 routines: a compulsory and a voluntary routine. The compulsory routine was set by the competition with a set routine and tariff score with the focus on execution. Whereas, the voluntary routine required students to construct their own routine and submit it to the competition, highlighting their best skills and difficulty.



The results:

Year 11 - Katie 2nd

Year 10 - Francesca 1st, Sophie 2nd, Ella 3rd

Year 9 - Fay 3rd, Bethan 4th, Amelia 5th, Megan 6th

Year 8 - Mary 1st, Lizzie 4th, Ellie 6th

Miss Owen

Well done to all students involved! Their commitment to trampolining club this year has enabled their participation and excellent performances at this competition.

"Spruce up the Sixth Form" Fundraising Campaign Celebration

Thank you for your support! We raised a total £1571.48!



On behalf of the Sixth Form, we would like to send a heartfelt thank you for your support in making our 'Spruce up the Sixth Form' fundraising campaign such a success. The Year 12 prefects who led the majority of the lunchtime fundraising events, have shown an incredible amount of dedication and enthusiasm over such a short amount of time that we worked on this campaign.

A special thank you goes to prefect Dan Jones, Year 12 who raised £121.20 alone from running a stall at Southam Primary school in his own time. Damien O also showed true entrepreneur skills sourcing, donating and selling fizzy drinks! Students also had the opportunity to have 'Henna hands' and baked their own cakes to sell.

A special mention to Lola W from the Sixth Form Wellbeing Team who took the time to write a letter to the local lions club. We have since received a generous cheque for £300, thank you to the Southam & District Lions club.

In addition, a very special thank you to the generous students, parents and carers of both year 12 & 13 students who played a role in going above and beyond with their donations. We exceeded our initial target within the first day so thank you so much!

It has been wonderful and inspiring to see the impact of our collective efforts. Whether you contributed time, leadership skills or money, your support has made a difference. We are now looking forward to purchasing the items from the students 'Spruce up the Sixth Form' shopping list to enhance our welcoming environment to the students wishes like the students deserve!

Thank you for making such a positive impact to our Sixth Form, we couldn't have done it without you all!

Mrs Campbell-Birch, Head of Sixth Form



There are lots of activities happening locally over half-term, further information can be found at the links below:

[Warwickshire What's On](#)

[What's On - Rugby Art Gallery & Museum](#)

[What's On - Belgrade Theatre](#)

[What's On | Warwick Arts Centre](#)

[Fun Days Out in Coventry and Warwickshire | Coombe Abbey Hotel](#)

[Homepage – Coventry Outdoors](#)

CAREERS FAIR




Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider



SOUTHAM COLLEGE CAREERS FAIR

Southam College
Welsh Road West
Southam

Thursday 13th March 2025
2.30pm to 5.00pm
Southam College in the Main Hall



“ *This event is helping pupils to access information on the full range of education and training options and is an opportunity to engage with employers and training providers.* ”



Southam
College



Stowe Valley
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

ARE YOU A LOCAL BUSINESS THAT OFFER SCHOOL LEAVER OPPORTUNITIES?

Southam College would like to invite local businesses to take part in the "Southam College local employer school leaver opportunities project", which is being funded by Warwickshire County Council Future Careers Fund.

Southam College in partnership with Career Seekers Direct will produce several short video clips to be filmed in July 2025, with the help of our Yr12 Media students as part of their work experience week.

The local employer engagement project involves local companies producing a 3-5 minute video clip which will assist our students in finding which local companies offer school leaver opportunities. The video clips will be embedded into the Character and Culture scheme of work, promoted on both the career and schools social media platforms.



The benefits to your company are that it will raise both students and parents awareness to which local employers offer school leaver opportunities and hopefully will help you to recruit our students in the future.

If your company would be interested in taking part in this project please email



hughes.a@stowevalley.com

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court clarified has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2023-24

It is important to note, Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under s444 Education Act 1996.

Leave of Absence taken in the academic year 2024-25

The law relating to Penalty Notices is due to change with effect from 1 September 2024. Therefore Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absences taken after this date will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).
 - First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.
 - Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount,
- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.
- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under s444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.