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Sixth Form Wellbeing Team- Charity 'Santa Sleigh and elf' volunteering visits across the local community

A busy term



Looking back on the start of 2026 the first two months have flown by so far! We have all had to model our school value of resilience whilst dealing with some setbacks with the new Main Block facilities, however we are expecting to get some positive time frames to move this forward in the coming weeks.

The half term has seen Years 9, 11, 12 and 13 complete examination weeks, students' attitude and engagement with these assessments have been

fantastic and students should be proud of their efforts. These examinations are a good opportunity to become familiar with formal processes and arrangements before the external examinations ahead.

As always there have been a range of trips and visits, with more to come before Easter. In the first Spring Half Term students and staff have been on Duke of Edinburgh training. London with Art and Photography, Kenilworth Castle and Hampton Court with History, University visits, a trip to the RSC Theatre to see the BFG, a 24 hour visit to Auschwitz and residentials to Iceland with Geography and Norway for the Ski Trip. There have also been memorable experiences going on in school with Loudmouth Workshops and activities for Children's Mental Health Week. The

promotion of the four C's to Catch it, Check it, Challenge it, Change it when it comes to mental health is an important tool to learn, however the highlight of the week went to the wellbeing farm project and all of the animals who came to visit us at school.

Not to forget something that can become the unsung hero of school is a half termly round up, the lessons that take place every day and the fantastic input that students give to these day in day out. It is always a pleasure to visit lessons, and I am regularly taught something new by the students from what they have learnt.

We are looking forward to the half term ahead and the coming of Spring!

Miss Mason, Headteacher

Sixth Form Wellbeing Team

Charity 'Santa Sleigh and elf' volunteering visits across the local community

Our dedicated Sixth Form Wellbeing team volunteered in the local community during their school holidays to raise money for charity and spread the Christmas spirit!

Lion Ben W commented: "Seventeen students have supported us, sometimes in challenging weather conditions, with many Elfing more than once! With festive cheer and a sense of fun, the students have worked tirelessly: striding along pavements, ringing doorbells and waiting patiently for homeowners to answer.

Santa's annual visits have special place in our community and many of the students remember fondly the nights he visited their village when they were growing up. As always, this year he bought smiles to the faces of hundreds of young children.

We have raised a magnificent total of £5188 over the 12 evenings which will be donated to Harry's Pals - a local charity supporting the families of severely ill or disabled children."

Organiser Lion Malcolm - 'This is fantastic a total which we certainly would not have been able to achieve without the support of Young Leaders from Southam College. A huge thank you to all the students that gave up their time to support us.'

Mrs Campbell-Birch and the Student Wellbeing Team



Well done Mia

A huge well done to Mia who had a very successful weekend and won the Spring Festivals Dressage Class representing her pony club and has now qualified for the championship held in March at Addington equestrian.

Mia is trained by Year 12 student, British dressage competitor Ruby Hughes .

Congratulations to Josh in year 11 who has represented the junior section of Tadmarton Heath GC where he has a very impressive record of winning 6 games, halving 1 and losing 1 in the 2025 season. He has also won Presidents Day at Staverton Park with an incredible gross score of 75 whilst his handicap was 14! Josh has also won the Junior Knockout Cup at Tadmarton Heath meaning he lifted one of the major trophies of the calendar year in his first season at the club. Well done Josh, we are extremely proud of you!



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@sco.svmat.uk

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 Miller, Attendance Lead at Southam
Alternate Mondays 2:15-3:15 via

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



Well done Charlotte

To mark the end of Performing Arts week we asked for entries to a review of a recent arts experience you had.

With her review of "The Lion King" Charlotte was the winner with her thoughtful reflections.

She won bags of popcorn and a selection of sweets to enjoy as a family for their next experience.

Miss Ferguson



Performing Arts Week

A Celebration of Creativity

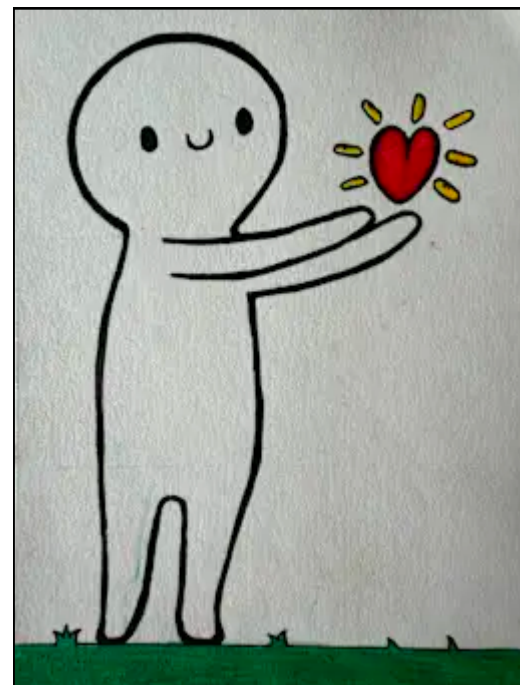
Schools across the trust have invited students to think creatively about our values of **KINDNESS, CONFIDENCE & RESILIENCE**.

In the Autumn term Ms Purnell (Head of Art at Kineton) posed the challenge to our students to see if they could illustrate one or all of the values on a postcard. We wanted to celebrate the amazing creativity in our schools as well as recognise that we are all part of a Trust that recognises how important these values are. Incredibly, there were approximately 2000 entries and the quality was fantastic.

Mr Samra, Ms Purnell and Ms Bridge had the difficult task of choosing the final winners (along with some input from students and staff at Kineton who were extremely impressed). We have created a 'Stowe Valley Values' calendar which will contain our winning postcards. It will be available shortly.

All entries will go on display at the SVMAT exhibition at Compton Verney in April.

Our winners were: Zach F, Matilda M, Fearne L, Hannah S, Kimberley Y7, Florence R



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

On Sunday 18th January, 105 of our Year 9 students came into school to take part in their Duke of Edinburgh's Award training day. Students spent the day developing the key skills they will need for their upcoming qualifying expedition.

Half of the cohort worked in the classroom, where they developed their map-reading confidence, practised packing their rucksacks, learned how to safely use a Trangia stove, set up tents, and planned their expedition routes.

Meanwhile, the other half were out in the local area completing navigation training. Working in their expedition groups, they learned how to follow footpaths, take accurate bearings, and use pacing to judge distance. Staff were incredibly impressed by their teamwork, enthusiasm and resilience throughout the day.

A huge well done to all students involved—your preparation for expedition season is well underway!



Year 9 History

40 Year 9 students had the opportunity to listen to the testimony of Holocaust survivor Paul Sved, who shared his experience as a 6 year old child surviving the Holocaust. Students also got to hear from Paul's son, Richard who shared his experiences of growing up with a Holocaust survivor. All of the students were exceptionally well behaved and were extremely respectful.



Student Leadership



We are delighted to share the successful launch of our Student House Ambassadors - Year Council Representatives for the academic year 2025-2026.

During the Autumn term, students were nominated and selected from each tutor group, to represent their year group and House. During the Autumn Term, our first year group Student House Ambassador Council meetings were held with the newly appointed representatives and the meetings were expertly led by our Sixth Form Prefects and Head Students.

The House Ambassadors serve as the key link between students and staff, representing student voice across all year groups. Two representatives per tutor group form the year group student council team, with prefects and head prefects serving as the Sixth Form representatives. Ambassadors provide feedback on school life, including the environment, curriculum, and extracurricular activities, ensuring that student perspectives inform decisions. Meetings are held each term and outcomes are communicated to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). It was fantastic to hear the views and ideas of tutor groups from across all four houses. These discussions highlighted how student voice can lead to meaningful actions, empowering students to contribute to positive change within our school community.

Our next round of Student Council meetings will take place during the Spring Term in the weeks ahead. Outcomes from these meetings will be shared during feedback sessions with Miss Mason, Headteacher, ensuring that student voices continue to be heard and valued.

Well done to all students involved for demonstrating such genuine enthusiasm, commitment, and a collaborative drive towards working together to enhance our school.



**Year 7 House Ambassadors
Student Council Representatives 2025-2026**
Owen S, Harry P, Joshua W, Polly S, Annie V, Joshua E, Ezra H, Tobias T, Charlie P, Bella H, Layla C, Matilda B, Evie R, Gregg M, Francesca F, Isabella G, Emily S, Ruby S, Evelyn C, Maggie B & Isaac W.



**Year 8 House Ambassadors
Student Council Representatives 2025-2026**
Rhyal M, Olivia B, Daisy M, Mya W, Martha R, Isla A, Olivia M, Archie S, Isla S, Sophie R, Imogen Z, Eduard G, Bella C, Bella M, Jacob G, Thomas B, Eshan A, Leah L, Abi A, William K, George B, Brooke C, Esme W, Dennis L & Aoife S.



**Year 9 House Ambassadors
Student Council Representatives 2025-2026**
Tilly F, Sidh W, Isobel W, Charlotte C, Jaxon A, Katie S, Finley A, Charlotte H, Emily E, Sophia F, Arthur D, Bo P, Elsa B, Victoria M, Evelyn L, Lily S, Xander Church Jones.

**Year 10 House Ambassadors
Student Council Representatives
2025-2026:***Sasha S, Amelia S, Jess P, Leila F, Stanley G, Esmé B, Jessica J, River W, Joshua C, Reuben G, Halim AB, Orla S & Hermione H.*



**Year 9 House Ambassadors
Student Council Representatives 2025-2026**

Eva H, Eliana C, Olly M, Tyler R, Naomi C, Jessica F, Lilly B, Adwaitha P, Daksh K, Aimie M, Tom N, Leigha E, Rollo G & Miranda G.



Food Technology



As our second rotation of food students are coming to the end of their time in the Food Department they were set the task of designing, making and decorating an identical set of 12 cupcakes. We have had some amazing and interesting designs with students trying out lots of decorating styles and skills.

Well done year 7

Miss Riggs and Miss Sinden



Employee Spotlight

Ms Lynch

Assistant Headteacher
Southam College

Ms Lynch ran her first ever half marathon in Warwick on Sunday.

It was tough going but she managed to run the whole way and raised £220 for the Anthony Nolan Trust - Southam College's charity for 2025-26.

Well done Mrs Lynch, fantastic work!



**ANTHONY
NOLAN**

Saving lives through stem cells

Trip to Iceland

The Norse God Freyr was certainly looking down on our Year 13 trip to Iceland this year. We experienced the most beautiful weather without a hint of ice or snow, which meant our fabulous guide Jon could show us more even more of the beautiful landscape. Our first full day took us to the south coast where we visited Seljalandfoss Waterfall, Skogar Waterfall, black sand beaches and the small town of Vik.

Our second day began with a very popular trip to the Secret Lagoon, followed by Thingvellir National Park (where the tectonic plates meet!), Gullfloss Waterfall and the Geysir Centre.

The students were an absolute credit to the school and made the most of every moment!



Kenilworth Castle

Thirty Year 7 students enjoyed a fantastic visit to Kenilworth Castle, representing the school superbly throughout the day. Despite the very cold and wet weather, the students remained exceptionally well-behaved and showed real resilience and enthusiasm from start to finish.

The group took part in a superb guided tour of the castle, during which they were able to recap their recent learning on attacking and defending Kenilworth Castle. They explored why it was such a well-designed medieval stronghold and gained a deeper understanding of the features that made it so difficult to capture.

To round off the visit, the students confidently re-enacted the siege in small groups, putting their knowledge into action in an energetic and memorable way.



Young Artists' Summer Show Celebration

Are you a budding young artist and would like the chance to display your work at the Royal Academy of Arts Summer Show 2026? Now is your Chance to enter this amazing Show.

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Registration and submission is open until 5pm on 4 March 2026

If you are interested, follow the link or email Mr Phillips for more details.



[Find out more](#)

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](#)



VACANCY

Examinations Officer

A highly organised, proactive, and committed Examinations Officer to oversee the administration of all internal and external examinations.

[Apply here](#)

Closing date 26th February 2026



Southam
College

Charity GOLF DAY

Saturday 16th May
Stoneleigh Golf Club

Staff or Parents/Carers of students at
Southam College.

Join us for a day of golf.
Register now and make a difference!



INTERESTED?

Register now by completing the
Microsoft form on ClassCharts



Stowe Valley
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

CAREERS FAIR



SOUTHAM COLLEGE CAREERS FAIR

Southam College
Welsh Road West
Southam

Thursday 12th March 2026
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.* **”**

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.