



February 2025

Swakeleys School for Girls

Newsletter

Dear Families,

I write to you from school where I'm eagerly awaiting the school production of Bugsy Malone. Over the past months I have very much enjoyed hearing the songs being played as the cast rehearsed for their performances. The performing arts brings so much to our school community - I see how it creates a sense of belonging and confidence and I know that the performers will remember "Bugsy" and those splurge guns forever! A huge thank you to the team led by Ms Coking, the cast and families who made the school production possible.

This week I have had the pleasure of meeting Year 11 students for their sixth form interviews. I have loved hearing from the students about the way in which their Year 10 work shadowing experience is informing their important decisions about their future. You can see inside a flavour of some of the many events that took place as part of careers fortnight 2025 and thank you to Ms Laguillo for leading this important area of our school so expertly.

You will recall that last year you were sent a questionnaire asking for your views about Swakeleys. This was so helpful in informing our development plan and I do hope that you and your child are utilising the curriculum guides which were created in response to your request for more information about what your child is learning. Do look out for this year's questionnaire which will be sent out after half term.

We will be continuing work on our vision and values after half term - look out for a video on 1st April where the students and I share our new vision and values with you.

The students have culture day tomorrow which I very much hope that they enjoy. I hope that you and your family have a restful half term and we return to some sunnier days after the break. We return at the normal time of 8.30am on Monday 24th February.

Best wishes

Kelda Stevenson
Headteacher



House Talent Competition

1st Zara on piano, 9DS
2nd Hibba on Rubiks cub, 7MY
& Sumay, I IJA with a poem
3rd Elodie singing, 7EB

Teacher of the Month

January

Mrs Johal
Ms Currell
Mrs Manchorova
Ms Allan

Support Staff of the Month

January

Ms Lee
Mrs Bharat
Mrs Solanki
Miss Chudasama



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Revision

As we enter the busy revision period, in preparation for internal exams, we encourage you to support your child's learning at home by helping to establish a regular study routine and creating a quiet, comfortable space for revision. Our teachers are providing targeted revision lessons and resources to reinforce key concepts and exam techniques, and we appreciate your role in encouraging and motivating your child during this crucial time. Together, we can ensure that our pupils feel confident, well-prepared, and supported as they approach their assessments. Please note that information about revision techniques can be found on our website at <https://swakeleys.hillingdon.sch.uk/curriculum/>.

Year 8 internal exams start on Monday 24th February and finish on Friday 7th March.

Year 11 WAVE exams: maths (for all pupils) and English (for selected pupils) start on Tuesday 4th March and end on Thursday 6th March

Year 10 mock exams start on Wednesday 23rd April and finish on Friday 9th May.

Miss Wall

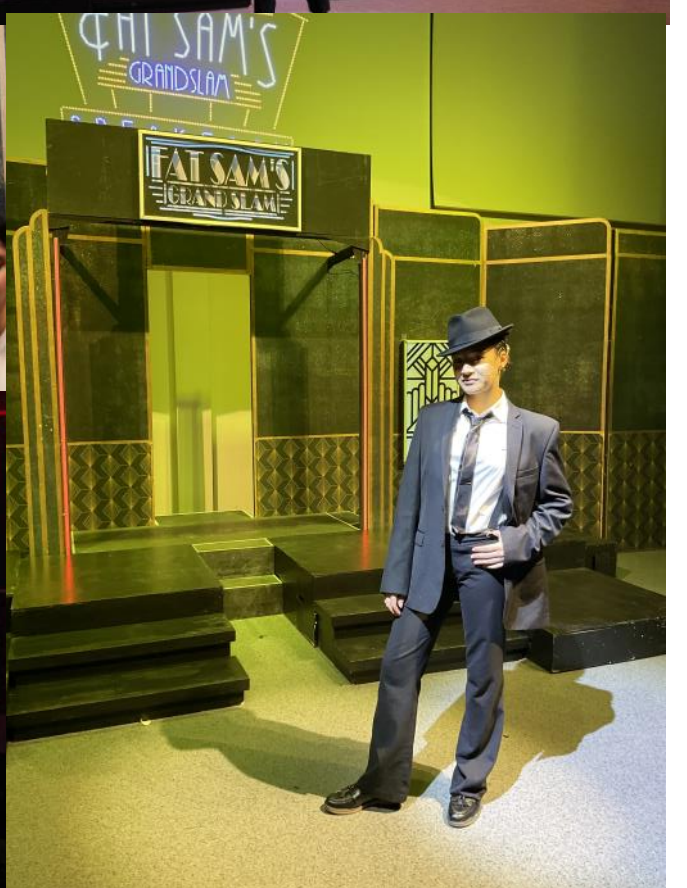
Performing Arts

This term the Performing Arts department have been busy rehearsing for Swakeleys annual production of **Bugsy Malone!** In October we had over 180 students who auditioned for the school production making cast selection very challenging! The girls have worked exceptionally hard from October to February whilst fitting in with other commitments. In the last week of half term, they have performed to two local primary schools on top of two **sold out** shows on the 12-13th February. Students have had a lot of fun putting together costumes for Bugsy Malone, having the hired set put up in the hall, learning and supporting each other, and last but not least; using the splurge in their fight scenes!

Thank you to all the staff, students and parents who made this fantastic production possible.

Miss Coking







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Careers News

Careers Focus Fortnight 2025 (6th January – 17th January)

January 2025 kicked off with our annual careers focus fortnight and I am delighted to report that this year we added a few new events to enhance the programme and I believe these new events contributed to this being our best event to date!

The careers focus fortnight began with whole school assemblies for all year groups outlining the importance of **Employability Skills** and highlighting what skills employers are looking for today. During the assembly, the importance of work experience was addressed and we launched the [STARTUP Sherpa Virtual Work Experience platform](#) with pupils. All pupils have been issued with login details to explore and complete up to 15 different careers quests which allows them to learn about different sectors and develop key employability skills at the same time. I am delighted to see that 435 pupils across various year groups are engaging with the platform already!

We also held our first ever **careers coffee morning** for parents. Parents were invited in to discuss the various careers pathways for their child and also to learn about how we deliver careers education at Swakeleys School. The powerpoint delivered can be found [here](#) on the school's website.

All **PSHCE** lessons throughout the two week period were focused around careers related activities using a package that we subscribe as a school called Unifrog. We have been using this programme for a number of years now and all pupils are encouraged to independently explore the available information related to careers and educational pathways.



The whole school **careers fair** took place on Wednesday 15th January and this year consisted of over 30 different exhibitors. It was fantastic to have representatives from a wide field of industries and further education establishments. It was also so wonderful to have some of our fantastic alumni, who came back to see us with their current employers: TFL, Constellium, Martin Baker and the London Fire Brigade. All year groups were able to spend 45 minutes during the day exploring the fair and speaking to representatives in industry or further education establishments.





Newsletter



Careers Fair
in full swing



Swakeleys School for Girls

Careers News Cont'd

Running alongside our careers fair, we also held some **insight workshops** for our Year 11 pupils. One of the workshops was a speed networking event involving 18 different volunteers from different industrial sectors to speak with our pupils. They were able to ask questions about what their jobs entailed and their career journeys.

Speed networking workshop



This year we decided to have a bit of fun during form time and ask students to explore the careers related to solving a crime! There were some great responses for this task and pupils really got their thinking hats on.



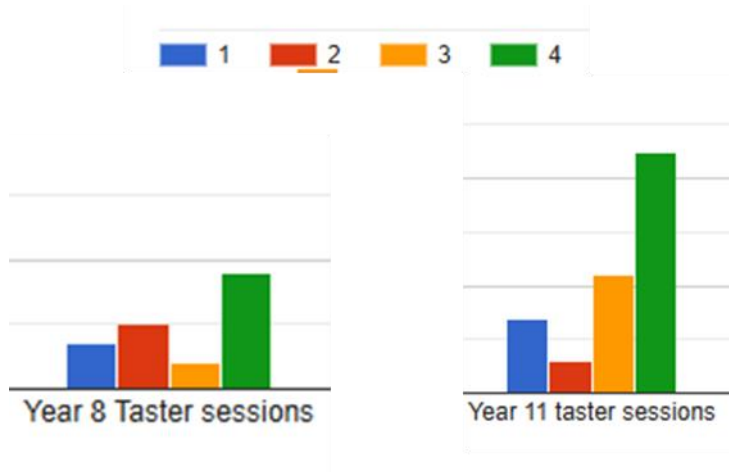
During the careers fortnight period, our Year 8 pupils were able to experience **taster lessons** to support with the options process. The taster sessions form part of a much bigger options preparation package with the aim being to support our Year 8 pupils with their choices and their next steps.

We also look to support our Year 11 pupils in a similar way with their next steps. They also experienced **taster sessions** to find out a little more about the subjects they might wish to choose at sixth form. For both year groups, this activity proved to be extremely helpful to them in deciding what subjects they might like to study at GCSE or A-level, as seen by our pupil feedback:



Swakeleys School for Girls

(1 = not helpful at all, 4 = really helpful to you)



With **Year 11** being such an important year in the school journey of our pupils, we targeted many of the careers activities during this fortnight towards them. They experienced a **1-1 mock interview day** and attended school in formal business dress where they were then put through the paces of a 'real' interview process. The feedback from our volunteers about our Year 11 pupils was excellent, the interviewers were so impressed with preparation and conduct of our pupils and many were awarded special certificates for their performance. Thank you again to all our business volunteers who supported the event.





Swakeleys School for Girls

Careers News Cont'd

During the fortnight, every department and every subject teacher thoughtfully planned at least one career related activity to share with each of their classes. The aim being to demonstrate the link between their curriculum area and related future job opportunities. Guest speakers were invited in to speak in the English, PE & MFL departments in the hope that this would inform and possibly even inspire our pupils to consider a future career in these areas.

Careers fortnight is a whole school event and requires a real team effort with every single member of our school community getting involved. There is always so much going on and we are always focussed on informing and supporting every pupils' next steps – whatever this may be. I do hope that your child enjoyed all the activities and events.

Mrs Laguillo – Assistant Headteacher

Year 7 & 8 Girls in Technology Day

We were fortunate enough to be selected as a school to participate in the first ever Girls in Tech Day in the UK at Uxbridge College.

This event was an incredible event for our pupils to be a part of and experience. They each participated in 4 different interactive and engaging workshops to demonstrate the types of skills and qualities required to pursue careers in STEAM. They learnt how to code a Lego car to make it move, played classic retro games like Giant Operation & Whac-a-Mole, played with VR headsets to immerse themselves into the digital gaming world. All the workshops were educational but most importantly, engaging and fun. They also heard from an all-female panel currently employed in Tech about their jobs and career journeys.



The event was organised by Amazon Web Services and hosted by Uxbridge College. Throughout the day, we were very well looked after and treated to some amazing corporate hospitality. Lunch was a big hit with girls and consisted of a delicious pizza, waffle chips, sandwiches, fruit and even a lovely personalised cupcake.

This was an excellent event, reaching out to our younger generation of girls and opening their eyes to the world of Tech. Hopefully, the day exposed them to all the various skills and jobs opportunities that exist in the tech world for girls and will have inspired the future generation to consider careers in Technology.

Experiencing these type of events really can change the lives and course of pupils as they start to consider their options and pathways for the future. We are so very grateful that we have been offered this opportunity, would like to thank Uxbridge College and Amazon Web Services in particular for inviting us to attend such a brilliant day. It was enjoyable and a fantastic experience for





Swakeleys School for Girls

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everyone who attended. Thank you!

PE Newsletter

It's been a very busy and eventful half-term in the PE Department!

From fixtures to competitions, our students have been working hard and showcasing their skills. We've seen dedication, teamwork, and a real passion for sport.

This half-term has also brought new opportunities for students to get involved, with clubs running across a range of sports such as Cricket Club on Monday Lunch times (more about that later). As always, we are incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm shown by everyone.

Netball

Netball is one of the most popular sports in the borough and the most popular club at school.

Up until February the Year 7A team had won every match they had played in the league beating Barnhill and Uxbridge High to name a few. However, we have so many potential players for year 7 that we can comfortably have two teams so when the opportunity arose to play St Helens with A and B teams so we took it. The first double fixture against St Helens resulted in the first loss for the A team of the season and the B team led by a member of the A team Wonu (7DS) lost by 1 point. The year 7s also participated in a Day Borough Tournament hosted by St Helens, in January which resulted in a magnitude of experience being gained as well as making the quarter finals.



Well
Year
Moving



done
7s!

Forward the Year 7s will have more opportunities for league matches and friendlies against other schools

Year 7 Netball Teams

The Year 8 team have not had much luck this half term, with most of the team unable to train due to other commitments. Hopefully after half term the girls will be able to attend training which will translate into better results on the court. However, whenever this team plays together, they work as a team and have fun together.

The Year 9 team have not had many fixtures this half term, your matches are coming up after half term so we are looking forward to your performances then. Year 10 have had one match against Bishop Ramsey and they have many more next half term.

Our Year 11 netball team have continued to excel in their league with another game played against St Helens, the final score was 18-8. They are currently unbeaten with 1 game left to play against Ruislip High. If they are successful in winning their final game they will go through to the next round of the cup! Player of the match against for their last game was Vivien L IIDS.



Year 11 Netball Team

So keep coming training ladies, we have many more opportunities!



Swakeleys School for Girls

PE Cont'd

2. Sports Hall Athletics

We hosted two Sports Hall Athletics Tournaments at Swakeleys this half term. Sports Hall Athletics is an indoor athletics competition that includes events like sprinting, relays, jumping, and throwing, designed to develop speed, agility, and teamwork in a fun and competitive environment. We hosted the South of the Borough welcoming teams from Barnhill, Bishopshalt, Guru Nanak, Oakwood and Rosedale. The Year 7 Girls came 2nd and the Year 8 Girls came 1st, which put us through to the finals.

The following week we hosted the Borough Finals with teams from Barnhill, Bishopshalt, Vyners, Douay Martyrs, Ruislip High and Oakwood. With only the first team making it through to the London Youth Games Qualifier in Year 7 it was a tough competition. Well done to the Year 7s who came 3rd and the Year 8s who came 2nd.



Top: Elizabeth, Amelia, Ava-Grace, Nina, Amelia, Melanie, Gabriela
(Year 8 team)

Bottom: Leila, Carmel, Taqweem, Eloide, Amelia, Charlene, Maria
(Year 7 team)

3. Sports leaders

This half term has been a very busy one for our Year 9 and 10 Sport Leaders as they lead in the two Sports Hall Athletics Tournaments that we hosted at Swakeleys. The PE Department would like to thank them for all their hard work and dedication, they are a truly inspiring group of girls and we could not be more proud of them.

In addition to leading Borough Sports Hall Athletics they have also been selected to represent the school by the London Youth Games to help run the London Youth Games Sports Hall Athletics qualifiers. They supported in two events one based in Harrow and one in Carshalton. As a result

of their outstanding contribution as sports leaders and officials, they have been personally requested by Graeme Allen (who leads the Sports Hall Athletics) for the girls to assist him in the London Youth Games, Sports Hall Athletics Finals. This is a truly prestigious event and we could not be prouder of our Sports Leaders! Well done girls!



Top: Nia, Corine, Isla, Lucy, Macey, Millie, Vishavi, Vaksica, Bethany

Bottom: Serina, Milli, Dillara, Harrini, Lyra, Haleema, Hafsa, Lily, Poppy



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4. Badminton

This half term we saw KS3 and KS4 competitions which were hosted at Harlington School. We took along the best GCSE PE students in Years 9 and 10.

Congratulations to Harini who came 3rd, Bethany who came 4th in their singles groups as well as Dilara and Poppy who came 1st in the doubles.

Congratulations to Vaishavi and Vaksica who both came 1st in single in their groups and to Isla and Corinne who came 2nd in a very tricky double group.



KS3 Badminton Team



KS4 Badminton Team

6. Football

The year 7s and 8s had their first Football Tournament on Monday 10th February more news on how they got on next term.

7. New club: Cricket

Cricket club on Monday lunch time has been slowly increasing in popularity! There is a lot of talent at Swakeleys! We have a few competitions coming up next half term for Indoor Cricket U13 and U15 Indoor Cricket matches. Watch this space.

8. Careers Week Highlight

The GCSE PE Year 9, 10 and 11 students had a visitor during career week and had a talk from Matt Kaczmarek from MK Sports Therapy. As a trained Sports Therapist, he shared his journey from school to present day. He explained why he made decisions and gave helpful tips to the students that they could use in their own personal educational journeys. It was very insightful for our students and the key takeaway was that he tried to merge his passion for football with a career. He now runs his own business as well as having a physiotherapy role at QPR. Thank you to Matt for his time and sharing his journey.





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PE Cont'd

9. Interhouse

Interhouse will begin the week of Monday 17th March 2025.

Year 7 & 8 - Dodgeball and Handball - everyone involved

Year 9 & 10 - Dodgeball - 10 per team

Year 11 - Dodgeball Fun- everyone welcome at lunch time - points for participation.

10. Reminders about clubs:

Day	Time	Activity
Monday	Lunch	Cricket
Monday	after school	Netball
Wednesday	Lunch	Dodgeball
Wednesday	Lunch	Basketball
Friday	Lunch	Badminton

Mrs Lacheta

NEVER WORRY ALONE

Mental Health Our Services

ASK MRS HARE OR YOUR YLC ABOUT REFERRALS

Our Services:

- Place2Be and Place2Talk
- Mentoring
- Mental Health First Aiders
- Mental Health Champions
- MHST

Request an appointment by emailing place2be@swakeleys.org.uk



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Attendance

We continue to be very proud of our school attendance and thank all parents and carers for working with us to emphasise how important it is to attend every day.

A reminder that our attendance policy can be found on the school web site. Please inform us of any absences daily by e mailing attendance@swakeleys.org.uk. If you feel that your child is unfit for school please remember that many pharmacists can advise on ailments such as a sore throat. You can also visit the NHS at 111.nhs.uk or make an appointment with your GP.

You can fill in our medication form and leave medication in school for your child to take if needed.

Please so encourage your child to come in unless they are very unwell and unfit for school. Often pupils start to feel better once the day begins.

Key Contacts:

Welfare Assistant: Mrs Hannah Skinner

Attendance Officer: Mrs Parker-Payne

Mental Health

We are delighted to welcome Frances Rowe who is placed with us as part of the **Mental Health In Schools pilot**. She will be working with is one day a week working with pupils and groups.

Children's Mental Health Week takes place annually from 3-9th February. Our Mental Health Ambassadors, Place2be and the Mental Health In School's Team worked with the school community and asked the question "How are you feeling today?"

You may find the mood wheel below useful at home when having similar conversations within the family.

Why not print it out a put it on the fridge to get the conversations started?

Mrs Hare





FELIX PROJECT HALF TERM DELIVERY ON THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY

The Felix Project will be delivering a full van of food to us on Thursday of half term. Please pop in as usual between 3-4pm on Thursday 20th February to take home some free food.

Please remember to bring carrier bags.

Swakeleys Breakfast Club

After a successful trial, we are ready to open breakfast club up to the other year groups.

Please register your interest on the google form <https://forms.gle/gZANLKAKZ22ih1cP8> to help us confirm numbers for ordering and ensure we hold upto date information on any allergies. We offer warm bagels with butter and spreads and various cereals, including gluten free, halal and vegetarian/vegan options. Breakfast club runs from 7.30 – 8.20 every morning in the school canteen. It is free for your child. If you'd like to help us to fund it, please sign up to

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=363360&invite=9e0jac&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_campaign=web-referral



Park and stride

Now the mornings and evenings are getting lighter, why not consider arranging to drop/collect your child a short walk from the school? It is our preference that as few parents as possible drop off directly at school. Clifton Gardens becomes very congested, whereas nearby roads are easier to drop.

A walk in the morning has multiple physical and mental health benefits and can help your child to arrive at school alert and ready to learn. If you must drive down Clifton Gardens, we ask you to be considerate to others, especially the residents of Clifton Gardens - do not block any driveways or beep repeatedly. A lot of our students do walk already, so drive carefully and slow down as you approach the school. The park and stride map showing alternative drop off options is again included.





Swakeleys School for Girls

Web Site Updates

We periodically add information to the website which may be useful to you. We do not notify you every time we make an update to the website, so please check the website for the most up to date school information and a range of helpful resources, including but not limited to; health and safety, data protection, uniform policies, upcoming and recent events, important dates in the school calendar and curriculum guides. **Mrs S Stevenson**



Art Department

The Art department recently took Year 12 students to a local pottery workshop. The students had an incredible time exploring the art of pottery and engaging in hands-on learning with experienced instructors.



Year 9 Art and Photography students went on a trip to St Paul's and the Tate modern, photography students used their skills to capture aspects of London, and the art students explored the new exhibition 'Electric Dreams' exploring art and technology before the internet.

On another note Katherine-Rose M in year 12 was one of the 40 finalists chosen for the 'The RI Coronation Award' (Royal institute of painters in watercolour), although she did not win the competition she was chosen as one of the Merit winners, she will be receiving a certificate from

them soon. We are incredibly proud of her accomplishment and look forward to seeing her artistic journey continue to unfold.

Mrs Kumar



RI CORONATION AWARD

Congratulations to the Winners of this year's RI Coronation Award



FIRST PRIZE
Maya D. Age 17
Barton Court
Spot the Difference



RUNNER-UP
Danielle O. Age 16
Truro High School
Self Portrait with Lilies



RUNNER-UP
Ksenia H. Age 17
Bishops Stortford College
Pineapple

Our thanks to our sponsor Dryad Education for their generosity and support



Our Merit Winners

Milly W. Age 18 Barton Court
Ophelia

Raisa S. Age 13 Cranford Community College
A Beautiful Day

Eva C. Age 16 Denmark Road High School
Sunday Walks

Poppy-Mae F. Age 18 Hurst Lodge School
Macro Mould

Yumna Z. Age 16 Oxford High School
Walk Around Oxford

Samuel M. Age 16 Rougemont School
Lychee Skins

Bonnie C. Age 17 St. Martins School
Tomatoes

Charlie K. Age 18 St. Martins School
Fragile

Rose V. Age 18 St. Martins School
Hidden Flaws

Fallon B. Age 17 St. Simon Stock Catholic School
Tell Her Story

Katherine-Rose M. Age 17 Swakeleys School
Untitled

Newsletter



Swakeleys School for Girls

Newsletter

Year Learning Co-ordinator: Miss Allan

Year 7

Recent Events and Activities:

Congratulations to the Year 7 netball team on another win against Uxbridge High School. Final score: 12-5. Well done!

A number of year 7s attended the Girls' Tech Day UK which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Many year 7s auditioned for the House Talent Week and congratulations to Hibba 7MY who came joint second and Elodie who came third in the finals.

Year 7 took part in the school council debate.

Since September, 91.5% of year 7s have attended Extra-Curricular Activities, this is amazing! Please do encourage year 7 to attend regularly!

Assemblies

Leadership assemblies included:

Careers Focus fortnight, Fab week launch assembly, Holocaust Memorial Day, Swakeleys new values Children's mental health week, House Assemblies

YLC assemblies:

Careers: what jobs have the year 7 team had?, Self-image: do you see yourself in a positive way?, Communities, A reminder of who year 7 can go to for academic & pastoral support

Things to look forward to:

Culture & Identity day 14th February

The school production of Bugsy Malone is Wednesday 12 & Thursday 13th February – good luck to all year 7s who are involved!

New house competitions:

House debate: each house needs 2 key stage 3 students to take part in the house debate competition

House Design: this is a new competition to design the front cover of the school link books given to all year 7-11 in September. Get your entry in by February 26th!

Interhouse: dodge ball & handball



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Year Learning Co-ordinator: Ms Currell

Year 8

Recent Events and Activities

Year 8 Parents' Evening, Options forms have been completed for year 9

Assemblies

Assemblies have been on Options process, Ms Currell's career, questionnaire/quiz on the tutor team's careers, DS form assembly and how to look after your mental health through an exam period.

Things to celebrate

The Stars of the Week have been: Giulia EB, Teiah AF, Ahana DS and Simrat MC.

Careers fair – all the year 8s were getting involved, asking questions and enjoying themselves.

DS delivered a fantastic assembly where they delivered information about different culture around the world.

The Year 8 community event was a huge success. I had the pleasure of teaching 60 year 5 pupils from Charville Academy a routine from the school production. I wouldn't have been able to do it without the help from

Dhaani MY, Afsana FN, Yutika FN, Aena FN, Jannat MY and Mariam DS. Ms Nikanova from Charville Academy

has said "Our visit was thoroughly enjoyable and the children absolutely loved learning the Fat Sam's dance routine.

They were thrilled to have the older students guiding them and showcasing the dance moves!"

Things to look forward to

Culture Day

Half-term break

Year 8 exams

Year 8 exams—a reminder that homework is paused to give revision time

[Click here for Revision information](#)

Upcoming Key Dates:

	Mon 24 th Feb	Return back after half term
		Year 8 Internal Exams Begin
		Year 8 Internal Exams End
		Character & Culture Focus Week
		Progress Check 2 emailed home
		Year Group Celebration Assembly
SPRING TERM 2	Fri 7 th Mar Mon 31 st Mar Wed 2 nd Apr	

Year Learning Co-ordinator: Mrs Finnerty

Year 9

YLC Assemblies

Year group expectations, Careers assembly, Homework & Organisation, Personal hygiene and health, House assembly, Mental Health Awareness Week

Things to celebrate

Year 9 attendance so far this academic year is 94%. This is above the national average and we strive to reach 96%.

Congratulations to all of the Year 9's who received accolades at our Celebration Assembly.

Well done to the Year 9 students who took part in House Talent and a big congratulations to our overall

Winner, **Zara K 9DS** for her incredible performance on the piano.

Great input from the students who took part in our School Council.

Fabulous contributions from Year 9 on Cultural Day-amazing cultural clothing and celebration of diversity in our school!

Well done to all of the Year 9 students who took part in the school production: Bugsy Malone!

Thank you to the Year 9 GCSE students who supported at the Primary School Sportshall Athletics event. Our Sports Leaders have also represented Swakeleys at the London Youth Games of Sports Hall Athletics and have received Headteacher Distinctions.

YLC Stars of the Week have been celebrated:

Hera H 9FN

Uma G 9JA



Swakeleys School for Girls

Year 9

Continued

Things to look forward to

Hillingdon Road Safety workshop: 28th February
 World Book Day: 6th March
 School Community Iftar: 6th March
 Dance Evening: 11th March
 National Science Week: 17th March

Reminders:

Students need to be entering the school building at 8.30am ready for registration at 8.40am. It is imperative that students are on time and are ready to learn every day. Please also encourage punctuality for all lessons too (students have a 5 minute changeover window to move to their next lesson).

Attendance: Our target is 96%.

Please check the school uniform and equipment guidance to ensure students are prepared for the start of the next half term. Thank you for your support.

Year 10

Year Learning Co-ordinator: Mrs Khan

Assemblies:

Careers
 Work shadowing
 House assemblies
 Mental health and loneliness

Things to celebrate:

Congratulations to our YLC stars of the week: Ceren O, Vibuja V,
 Well done to IOAF who achieved the highest attending form in the school week ending 24th Jan!
 Great start to the work shadowing process!
 Saffiya B in MC reaching the finals in house talent for her poem!
 Careers fair- 15th January!
 Celebration afternoon!
 Well done to all who performed in and helped with Bugsy Malone!
 Sports Leaders; Lucy C, Isla H, Vaishavi V, Macey M, Corrine T, Vaksica V
 'Running2Time' Brunel Indoor Open Series, Daisy Capp achieved her Personal Best of 4.53m in Long Jump.
 Culture Day!

Things to look forward to:

World book Day!
 13th March School Iftar!
 26th March- 2nd April- Year 10 speaking exams!

Newsletter



Swakeleys School for Girls

Year 11

Year Learning Co-ordinator: Miss Mejloumian

Recent Events and Activities

Y11 1-2-1 Mock Interview Day as part of Careers focus week.	House Talent
Sixth form Applications	Y11 MFL mock speaking exams
Sixth form taster day for Y11	Celebration Afternoon
Careers Fair and Insight workshops	House Assemblies
	School Council

Assemblies

House assembly week, Exam practices, School Values, Resilience, RE and Science Curriculum Leaders assemblies, Celebration Assembly

Things to celebrate

We hope that you enjoy watching our video updates, find them informative and give you an insight into what the Y11 experience.

Fantastic careers week and mock interviews with Y11

Celebrating Zero Hero Awards for Y11 students who have had no behavioural points.

Celebrating 21 students with 100% attendance and 85 students over 97+% attendance

Outstanding behaviour amongst our Y11 students.

Things to Look forward to

	Sat 8 th Feb Thu 6 th Feb Mon 10 th Feb	In school intervention for subjects to book Last Rec PE session – these now become study sessions Interviews for 6 th Form for the next two weeks
HALF TERM: MONDAY 17TH – FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2025 MONDAY 17TH FEB – IN SCHOOL INTERVENTION FOR SUBJECTS TO BOOK 9AM-2.30PM		
SPRING TERM 2	From Mon 24 th Feb Thu 27 th Feb Wk comm. 3 rd Mar Sat 8 th Mar Wed 12 th Mar	CLs deliver subject exam prep assemblies each Monday First independent study session/intervention in place of Rec PE – also targeted attendance & progress support meetings during Rec PE (TAPs 4) Mock 'WAVE' & RIPPLE exams for English and maths (Tues, Wed & Thu) In school intervention for subjects to book Progress check 3 emailed home
EASTER HOLIDAYS: FRIDAY 4TH APRIL – MONDAY 21ST APRIL 2025 EASTER SCHOOL – MONDAY 7TH TO THURSDAY 10TH APRIL: IN SCHOOL 9AM-2.30PM		

Newsletter



Newsletter

Reading Corner

Welcome again to Reading Corner!
We have two pieces of interesting reading- related news this edition.

The Benefits of Reading

Firstly, many of you will know that week beginning the 3rd February was Mental Health Awareness week. We thought this was a good time to remind you that reading is really beneficial to our mental health and well-being (as supported by much research and endorsed by the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy). These are just a selection of the many benefits, but if you want to know more, please ask the English teachers!



Reading can reduce stress

Losing yourself in a good book has been shown to reduce your levels of stress. Dr David Lewis showed that reading as little as six minutes a day, can reduce stress levels by 60%, by slowing our heart rate, easing muscle tension and altering our state of mind.

Reading can provide a distraction from day to day life

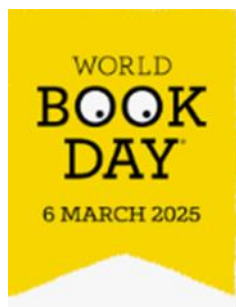
Research has shown that escapism and following our imagination, can both be transformative in changing the way we interact with the world and others.

Reading can improve memory and focus

Reading is a 'work-out' for our brains, which strengthens our neural networks and assists in both short and long term memory focus.

World Book Day!

This is just a reminder, that World Book Day is coming up on 6th March and that we will be organising some great activities to mark the occasion. Look out for our popular 'Guess -The-Teacher' competition and 'Find the Quotes'. The theme this year is 'Book An Adventure' and all students will receive a voucher to use with the purchase of a book. Happy reading everyone!



Mrs Pimbert

Paired Reading at Swakeleys

Students in years 7 and 8 have been getting some extra support in reading from some wonderful volunteers in years 10 and 12. Each week, students meet in the LRC and spend a form time developing and honing their reading skills. Students have already said that they enjoy meeting their partner each week and are often in the LRC reading before form time even starts! It has been wonderful to see the older students give back to the school community, especially as some of them were chosen for the programme when they were in Y7. We are all looking forward to seeing the progress all students will make by the end of the sessions - whether it be in reading, mentoring or communicating. Well done to all involved!

Miss Parker



Swakeleys School for Girls

Crochet Club

We are delighted to report that some students have really got hooked in crochet club!

Hailey A (10RP), Somayia H (10RP) and Raena R (10RP) have gone from beginners to expert level and produced a whole range of items for the Winter Bazaar.



Furthermore, Ishan K (9AF), who was already an avid crocheter has decided to use her skills to help the homeless to keep warm over winter!

We are super proud of all the girls who have been coming to crochet club and learning new skills and even prouder that they are putting their skills to good use to help others and raise money for charity. Well done all of you!

Term Dates 2024-25

Spring term:

Term starts:

Monday 6th January 2025

Half term:

Monday 17th – Friday 21st February 2025

End of term:

Friday 4th April 2025 (half day)

Summer term:

Term starts:

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 (**training day**)

Half term:

Monday 26th – Friday 30th May 2025

End of term:

Friday 18th July 2025 (half day)

Term Dates 2025-26

Autumn Term:

Term starts:

Monday 1st September 2025 (training day)

Tuesday 2nd September 2025 (training day)

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 (Year 7 start)

Thursday 4th September 2025 (Year 8-13 start)

Thursday 23rd October – Friday 31st October

Friday 19th December 2025 (**half day**)

Half term:

End of term:

Spring term:

Term starts:

Monday 5th January 2026

Half term:

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026

End of term:

Friday 27th March 2026 (**half day**)

Summer term:

Term starts:

Tuesday 14th April 2026

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May 2026

Half term:

Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026

End of term:

Friday 17th July 2026 (**half day**)

