

Exceptional achievement of Swakeleys School  
recognised by the Mayor of London  
7JA and 8MY win Interhouse



### From the Headteacher's Desk

As a long and unusual term draws to a close, we have much to reflect upon. We have continued to operate as close to 'normal' as possible through the latest period of 'lockdown' due to COVID-19. Pupils and staff have adapted well to our new routines and teaching and learning have continued at our usual excellent standard. We have prioritised reducing the risk of infection over comfort. We have now had two parents' evenings via Zoom and these have both proved to be extremely successful. Feedback from both staff and parents has been hugely positive.

Year 11 girls have been working hard in preparation for their mocks and Years 12 and 13 have been busy with university applications and preparation for January exams. A group of 60 Y10 pupils took part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge which was of an incredibly high standard with the final yet to come.

We held our 6th Form Open Evening which was attended by almost all of our Year 11 girls. They listened to speeches in the hall and then had the opportunity to visit up to 8 taster subjects. For each subject they had a 5 minute presentation from the subject teacher and then 5 minutes from two students taking the subject to get a real insight into what it is like. Feedback has been extremely positive.

Year 8 have also started the process of choosing their options. They will sample GCSE style lessons in January. They will also have careers input to help inform them of which subjects are important in relation to which jobs.

We also had a fantastic interhouse competition with Y7 and 8 forms competing in football and netball and Y9, 10 and 11 taking part in a dodgeball competition. There was a great atmosphere with 7JA and 8MY coming out on top.

As the end of term approaches, we will be enjoying Christmas assemblies, and our non uniform day raising money for Save the Children Fund and a local Hillingdon charity. Thank you all for your continued support and I wish you a Happy Christmas with very best wishes for the New Year!

**Sue Pryor (Headteacher)**

**Year 7 Senators  
2020—2021**

**Lacey Pink 7EB**

**Zahra Shalaby 7RP**

**Many  
congratulations!**

**Teacher of the month  
September**

**Ms Bhambra, Miss Coking**

**October**

**Miss Kang, Ms Martin**

**Support staff of the month  
September**

**Ms Fryer, Mr Tottman**

**October**

**Mrs Palmer, Mr Grant**



## Interhouse sports week

The week commencing on the 9<sup>th</sup> November, we saw our first interhouse sports week of the year take place. All pupils in Y7 & Y8 represented their house in either a football or netball tournament in the hope of becoming the first interhouse winners of the year. After an incredible day it was 7JA and 8MY who came out on top. All other years took part in an extremely competitive dodgeball tournament which saw 9JA, 10 FN and 11EB crowned the winners. All events were extremely competitive with amazing displays of athleticism and sportsmanship. After counting up the results, it was clear the first event of the year could not have been closer, we look forward to an even more competitive interhouse sports week later in the year. Miss Mills



### The article below was written by one of our Year 10 Senators – Farah Assi

News update: Which are the current affairs issues that affect us the most?

Firstly, (according to Sky News) Assistant Chief Constable Kerrin Wilson, the National Police Chiefs' lead on race, claimed that there is an urgent need to recruit 20,000 more police officers from different races, backgrounds, faiths and cultures. This follows on from the statement she made, stating that "There's a massive issue around diversity and around people of all backgrounds, faiths and cultures at the moment".

Secondly, for those who have been keeping up with the Presidential election in the USA, you will know that Joe Biden has come out victorious after the people have spoken. Donald Trump has not taken this news lightly. Trump is planning on suing for "fraud" claiming that the system is "rigged against him".

Thirdly, a vaccine for COVID-19 has been produced which will safely teach our bodies to fight infection. This can either stop us catching Coronavirus in the first place or at least make Covid-19 less deadly. Researchers believe they will be able to supply 50 million doses by the end of 2020 and about 1.3 billion by the end of 2021.

The question of who will be immunised first will depend on a number of factors. Older care home residents and care home staff are at the top of the UK's priority list, followed by health workers and people over the age of 80.

**Geography Awareness Week** was November 15-21, 2020 with the theme of 'geoliteracy has never been more vital' as we try and minimise our impact on our planet. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, we couldn't hold the quizzes and events we had planned but we did do an online poster competition with the Geography Fan Club on Google Classroom. All posters handed in were brilliant, from poems to helpful advice to minimise our impact. Every poster was made with a lot of passion and love for the subject. Of course, our beloved Sir David Attenborough featured on many of the posters.

### Our winners are:

1st Bavakarany Baskaran 8JA

2nd Adeela Bushra  
Zahid 7FN

=3rd Maryam Dattoo  
8EB and  
Daniya Zahid 9JA

Honourable mentions:  
Uma Daurka 7MC &  
Faith Begin 7MY.



# Careers News



You will hopefully be aware from our regular careers newsletters that careers education continues to go strong at Swakeleys School, despite all the challenges! Many of the opportunities available are virtual and pupils are adapting well to this new way of working.

We are also very pleased to announce that Swakeleys School will be running a **whole school focus on CAREERS over a two week period (4<sup>th</sup> January – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021)**. Over these two weeks ALL staff, and ALL pupils will be involved in delivering and participating in careers related activities. Just to give you a flavour of the kind of events going on, please read below:

- ◆ Year 10 / Year 11 Financial Literacy workshop run by LSEG (**London Stock Exchange**)
- ◆ Year 11 Future Focus Workshop including LIVE Virtual Q&A Webinar (**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**)
- ◆ Year 10 CV writing EtonX
- ◆ Virtual Careers Fair offer (to be accessed via PSHCE lesson)
- ◆ PSHCE lessons on careers
- ◆ Year 8 taster sessions & careers lessons (options preparation)
- ◆ Year 11 IAG session (LG leading on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**)
- ◆ Careers lessons in subject areas informing pupils of how their subjects and the skills they are learning in these subjects are transferable for future job roles
- ◆ Careers doors / careers conversations across all subjects in lessons
- ◆ ALL staff involvement in careers related activity

**Hopefully you will agree, there is a great deal going on for your daughter to get involved with. Mrs Laguillo**

Two of our Year 10 students have been successful with their virtual work experience applications. Congratulations to them both for being selected and taking part in this opportunity.

**Tanya Sahota IORP** - has secured a 3 day placement with Cornwall Care giving her an insight into health and social care.

**Sarableen Joney IORP** - had secured a 3 day placement with Young Space Entrepreneurs

## ETONX

**Year 10 pupils** are about to start their CV writing online course run by EtonX (virtual platform for Eton College) as part of their virtual work experience programme this year. Over **40** students have already signed up to participate in this excellent opportunity.

### Attendance Updates

Despite the pandemic attendance across the school continues to be very good. Thank you to all parents and carers for their support. I am sure you will all agree that it is vital that attendance is as good as it can possibly be for each pupil following the time missed during school closure last year. Every day really does count.

Group	% Attend	
Year 7	97	Outstanding
Year 8	95	Good
Year 9	94.2	Requires improvement
Year 10	95.3	Good
Year 11	96	Outstanding
Totals	95.5	Good

Please encourage your child to attend unless they have Covid-19 symptoms or are very unwell. If a pupil becomes very unwell during the school day welfare will contact you. Please ensure that all pupils are wearing coats as the weather gets colder to avoid unnecessary colds.

Please see the chart below to help inform decisions about winter illness and attendance. If a pupil has any of the Covid-19 symptoms they must not attend and must book a test. Please notify the school immediately of any positive test so that we can complete a track and trace exercise.

<b>Covid-19</b> Fever New continuous dry cough Loss of taste/smell	<b>Flu</b> Fever Dry cough Runny nose Headache Sore throat Muscle and joint pain
<b>Cold</b> Cough Sore throat Aches and pains Watery eyes Sneezing Runny or stuffy nose	<b>Allergies</b> Sneezing Coughing Itchy eyes Runny or stuffy nose.

Covid related absence is recorded as an X code and does not count against a pupil on their attendance record as they will engage with school daily via google classroom. It is important that pupils isolate if others in the household have Covid- 19 symptoms.



