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*Sixth Form trip to Iceland, February 2018*



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13th February - 6th Form students ready to fly to New York

# Lots of Opportunities



The last six weeks have been a hive of activity at Southam College. Students have applied themselves diligently in lessons, and in PPE (Mock) examinations. In addition, students have been busy taking advantage of the huge array of extracurricular activities on offer at the school. For example students in Year 7 have been enthusiastically participating in the new Year 7 Debating Society, Year 8 have had the opportunity to visit different places of

religious worship in Birmingham, Year 9 and 10 students are about to go off to Austria on the annual Ski trip and Year 12 have had the opportunity to go to Iceland on the Geography field trip, and to New York with the Art department. These activities are augmented by sports fixtures and clubs run on weekly basis by the PE department, some of which regularly take place on Saturday mornings.

The opportunity to participate in these experiences contribute to developing a fully rounded education for all of our 1644 students at Southam College. We are passionate that students not only achieve as well as they can academically, but that they also develop the skills and confidence to take advantage of all the opportunities that will be

open to them in the coming years.

As mentioned, academic success provides students with a passport to future pathways and is one of our key strategic priorities. This is why we are all very pleased with recently released final 2017 National GCSE and 'A' level data which shows that Southam College remains amongst the highest performing schools in the country for the 9th year in a row. This level of consistent success is something we should all be proud of and is testament to the hard work of students, staff and parents.

A very positive half term, but there is so much more our amazing students can achieve, such is their talent.

**Mr Samra, Head teacher**

# Literacy Focus at Southam College

## The Goldfish Boy

This has proved to be our most popular Year 7 novel so far. Scholastic Books were kind enough to supply the current best seller at a discount to Southam College, and we have not been disappointed. The novel is a thoughtful and exciting story that deals with mental health as well as having a mystery at the heart of it. Year 7 should now be returning their copies of the text to school – they should be handed in to the library.

## Reading to Succeed

We are looking forward to a drop in evening on 13 February where invited Year 7 and 8 students and their parents can pop into school to find out more about the benefits of reading.

Students will have the chance to talk to staff about their reading and to take away a book of their choice. Invitation letters went out at the end of January so we hope to see a high turn out.

## Year 6 Readers

Our outreach programme for Year 6 readers is

continuing to be as popular as ever. Mrs Jones, Southam College's librarian, has been visiting our main feeder schools to meet with selected students from Year 6 classes to challenge their reading. Students have taken part in a session here at school on The Machine Gunners, and are looking forward to a session on the Gothic.

## Book Club

The new Book Club for years 7-9 is now up and running! 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness is the first group read and so far it is proving to be a popular choice. The Book Club members will be putting their heads together and choosing the next title very soon. Meanwhile, we are

enjoying discussing 'A Monster Calls' and our favourite books and authors, as well as recommending titles to each other and sharing biscuits while we read. Book Club meets every Wednesday, 3.30pm-4.45pm in S1 (sixth form).

## Reading Passport

Congratulations to students in years 7 and 8 who have already completed the first stage of the Reading Passport and have been awarded certificates to celebrate! These students have now moved on to Part Two which has new categories to explore including, reading a classic, a crime novel and a book of short stories.



## Leave of Absence

If you are considering taking your child out of school for any reason, please ensure you are fully aware of the increasingly tight restrictions on schools to authorise absence. Please navigate from our [homepage](#) >> [About Us](#) >> [School Policies](#) >> [Leave of Absence](#) to find full details.

## Medical Appointments

Although our attendance figures are above the Warwickshire and National average we do not compare as well locally with medical appointments in school time. Please make every effort to arrange these out of school hours where possible.

# Aoife Lifts the Cup in Perfect Performance!

**Popular winner of the Employability Cup was Y11 student Aoife Williams who scored the perfect 100 marks out of 100!** During Year 10, students completed an Employability Skills Programme in Life Skills to learn how to prepare for the world of work and how to successful market themselves in a competitive labour market. Students were assessed on the effort and standard of their work throughout the programme. They were also assessed on the quality of their Curriculum Vitae and Letter of Application. Their final tasks were to impress in Mock Interviews with local employers and carry out a week long work experience.



**A special mention should also go to four other students who performed incredibly well: Samuel Enston 98%, Ben Hickey, 97%, Jodie Coombs-Prole 97%, Alice Coles 96%**

*The following students were also awarded Double Gold certificates for their superb efforts scoring over 90%:*

*Rebecca Line, Nomie Nicholas, Roisin Hamilton, Neve Conlan, Kasey Cherington, Maisie White, Kara Barnes, Molly Versey, Ines Antunes, Lydia Crompton, Lauren Rankin, Emily Griffin, Lauren Stanton, Ellie Pochin, Lucy Davies, Daniel Gunthorpe, Luke Pike, Amba Stock, Francesca Ware, Euan Keith, Katie Cummings, Abi Ogden-Metherell, Lainey Allatt, Phoebe Miles, Jodie Stevens, Emily Heydon, Georgina Hurt, Heidi Rushent, Livvie Mason-Tocker, Rachel Greenshield, Charlotte Powles, Connor Robson, Sophie Sartori, Gabriel Buca and Leah Constable.*

In total 131 students achieved either a Bronze, Silver, Gold or Double Gold Certificate. Students have been asked to keep these safe as they will be very powerful for interviews in the future, when combined with great exam results. Employers and Universities are constantly telling us that they want students to leave school with the right character and skills for our modern world. The Employability Cup is the culmination of the four year course students take at Southam College to develop Character and Employability. I would like to particularly thank Mrs Campbell-Birch and Mr Hughes for their support in organising this programme.

## Year 8 Philosophy and Ethics trip to Birmingham



**This term the year 8 Philosophy and Ethics students visited Birmingham Islamic exhibition and Solihull synagogue. The students had guided tours and were able to experience both cultures and religions first hand with holy books, dress and religious artefacts. It was lovely to see students engaged and ask philosophical and meaningful questions. Mrs Thomas**

# Rotary Young Chef 2018



This month Southam College hosted the first round of the Rotary Young Chef Competition 2018.

Our talented students had to create a two course meal in ninety minutes and produced mouth watering results.

Special congratulations to Luke and Ollie who go through to the District Competition to represent the Southam Rotary Club.

The next round of the competition will be on 3rd March at Rugby College.

Thank you to our judges and parent supporters. Photographs by Robin Cooter and the Technology Department



# Introducing our new Heads of House



## Mr Adkins - Head of Godiva

It is a very exciting time to take up the helm of Head of Godiva. As a house, Godiva are renowned for being 'the ones to beat' and for competing well in all the house competitions and activities, however this year Shakespeare are following our lead very closely. As we look to the horizon and see Southam's Got Talent, House Sport, Charity Week and Sports Day, we need to maintain our enthusiasm and ensure that we are all working together to reach that end goal of victory over the other houses.

## Miss MacLachlan - Head of Shakespeare

Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them.' Having been in post as Head of Shakespeare for the last 8 months I have been overwhelmed with student's effort and generosity to support their house. This coming term is important as we stand in close second to Godiva, continued team work and enthusiasm will ensure our successes in the upcoming competitions to become the winning house!



## Miss Pratley - Head of Webb Ellis

I am very excited and proud to become the head of Webb Ellis. My aim is to work with Webb Ellis staff in order to continue to develop a community where students are appreciative, motivated, kind and aspire to be the best they can be. Webb Ellis students have a great reputation for their participation and support at school events and competitions. If we all work together to live up to this reputation, we can have another fantastic year!

## Miss Lippert - Head of Whittle

Whittle students are renowned for their excellent participation to go above and beyond. I am so proud of all the students who partake in the wide range of house activities and it is always so fantastic to see the enthusiasm that Whittle students have when comes to completing them. Together with the brilliant staff members of Whittle and the excellent pupils, we can be the best we can be!



## Sixth Form Trip to Iceland

On 2nd February twenty five sixth form students set off to the Land of Fire and Ice for the weekend. There was a lot of snow and ice, and even more rain and wind, as we explored the amazing Icelandic Landscape.

We managed to pack in 3 spectacular waterfalls, a glacier, a geyser, and a volcanic beach. The Northern Lights eluded us again but we star gazed instead!

The visit ended with a relaxing morning watching the sun rise at The Blue Lagoon, before the snowstorm hit just in time for our flight home. Thankfully nothing bothers the Icelandic.

We really enjoyed spending time with this lovely group of young people.

Mrs Cumberbatch and Miss Patel



## Sandy Beales' Music Workshop

*Musical students from year 8 and 9 were treated to a visit from a professional bass player today. Sandy Beales, who has performed on tour with One Direction, gave a presentation about life working in the music industry. He shared lots of brilliant advice, information and stories as well as giving amazing performances. It was a really inspiring session and I'm sure several new bass players will emerge and new bands will form because of it. A massive thank you goes out to Sandy for taking the time to visit us and also to Yamaha Music and Warwickshire Music for organising and funding the event.*



## Raising funds for Southam College

**Easyfundraising is the simplest way to raise money for Southam College PTSA.**

Shop with any of over 3,300 well-known retailers via the easyfundraising website and a percentage of what you spend is passed to Southam College PTSA at no additional cost to you.

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**TUESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY - GODIVA V WEBB ELLIS**

**THURSDAY 1ST MARCH - SHAKESPEARE V WHITTLE**

# Sports News



## Year 10 small-sided Football tournament

We hosted a six a-side football tournament for local schools on a very cold Wednesday evening. Six schools attended along with our two teams in a well contested competition. After the pool phases our teams finished 2nd and 3rd, therefore going through to the 3rd/4th and the 5th/6th placed play-offs. Unfortunately, having worked hard during the Pool games, we came up against strong Aylesford and North Leamington sides, and didn't have enough to finish on a high. Well done to the boys who took part and to the winning Stratford team.

## English Schools National Cross-Country Championships.

Three of our students have been selected for the Warwickshire team to run at the National English Schools Cross-Country Championships. They qualified at the recent Warwickshire School Cross-Country Championships with impressive runs in the sleet and rain. Madeleine Jacks has been selected for the Minor Girls team, Elspeth Unitt for the Junior Girls team and Alex Ibbs for the Senior Boys team. We also have 2 students who have been selected as reserves: Emily Lovett (Junior Girls) and Georgina Hurt (Inter Girls).

Congratulations to all of our runners who have been selected for this prestigious event that has seen many of our current and past Olympic stars first gain success in Joe Quincey, Josh Farrell

## Equestrian News

Well done to Year 9 student Jess W who is showing great commitment to developing her equestrian skills by braving the snow at 8.00am on a Sunday morning to go cross country training at Aston Le Walls with her beautiful horse Mr Softy. Jess is now easily jumping 1m10 over a variety of rustic fences.

Jess has big plans for the year having joined British Eventing and entering the Princethorpe two day event.

We are all very impressed with your commitment!

Mrs Vincent



## Year 10 Netball

**1st February** -The year 10 netball team headed to Princethorpe for a friendly match. The team had a tough match with Princethorpe players dominating some of the play, however a huge team effort meant Southam never gave up! Some amazing shooting from Madi Smith and Cara Andrews with the support of Carmen Ellis Greenway, Cerys James and Kacie Morby meant that the team worked well together working the ball through the court. Lucy Parker, Alice Dillon and Ruby Cole had a tough time in defence but worked together to pressure the Princethorpe attack. The whole team kept their heads up throughout and although lost overall, there were some positives to take away! Looking forward to the next few games before they head to PGL on their Netball Trip.

## Year 9 Netball Match

**1st February** - The year 9 netball team headed to Princethorpe for a friendly match. The year 9's started off slowly whilst Princethorpe took an early lead. However, outstanding defence from Olivia Constable, Katy Black and Rose Hill meant that Southam turned over the ball regularly. Issie Fairhurst played amazingly at WA working well with Bo Crump in C to work the ball into the attacking circle where Ellie Cumberbatch, Alex Lyle and Charlotte Wain shot the ball. Although the first quarter started with a loss 9-1, the second quarter Southam picked it back up and only lost 7-4. By the third quarter Southam were in their stride and won it 6-4. In the last quarter Princethorpe picked up their game again and we lost it 2-1. An overall loss of 23-12, with some great positives to take away and some things to work on in training. Well done to the whole team!

## Year 7 Netball Match

**1st February** - The year 7 netball team headed to NLS for a mini tournament against the local schools. The team consisted of Ruby Jackson, Holly Hart, Mae Quinney, Hermione Price, Amelia Blumberger, Abbie Mawby, Ellie Miller & Ruby Jackson. The team, who haven't played together before had a tough first match against Kingsley but kept their heads up as they worked the ball through the court and pressured the Kingsley players. Their second match against Champion was a close one, losing by only one goal! Amazing shooting from Holly Hart and Millie Hathaway. Their third match against Myton was a loss by only 2 goals, Amelia Blumberger and Mae Quinney in defence never stopped working! Their final match against Kings High was a win of 5-0! Millie Hathaway, Ellie Miller, Hermione Price and Abbie Mawby worked amazingly in centre court supporting the defence and attack! Well done to all of the team, a good first tournament.



## Rugby Success

**Congratulations to Mackenzie Spilman Penn & Freddie Hart (Y10) on their selection for Warwickshire U15 in their upcoming inter-district tournament.**

Mackenzie, Freddy & Charlie all represented South Warwickshire District U15's at the weekend, playing at Worcester Warriors' Sixways ground. They played fixtures against Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Greater Birmingham, winning all 3 games.

Well done boys

# YEAR 9 TOURNAMENT WINNERS!

The year 9 Netball team travelled to North Leamington School to play a tournament, after a slow start against Champion in the first half drawing at 1-1, the girls fought hard in the second half to take a convincing win of 7-1 with Olivia Constable and Rose Hill battling in defence to keep the ball from Champion's shooters. The girls went from strength to strength winning their games against Kenilworth and Kings High to secure their place in the Semi-final. Alex Lyle and Charlotte Wain worked together in the circle to keep the score building, while, Erin Jones, Charley Furey, Bo Crump and Issie Fairhurst supplied the ball seamlessly into the circle. In the Semi-Final and Final the team worked hard to maintain their winning streak and Katy Black kept their shooters at bay throughout.

**Congratulations to the team on their outstanding performance and positive attitude throughout!**



Stowe Valley Multi Academy Trust

# GLOBAL VIRTUES WEEK



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