



Message from the Principal

Welcome to this, our last newsletter of the academic year. It has been yet another very busy and successful year, with a wealth of achievements and opportunities for our students, both in and out of the classroom. It was a delight to welcome students and parents to Celebration Evenings recently, highlighting especially those who have illustrated the Soar Valley Way so very well, with exceptional effort scores across the year. Well done to all and we look forward to more of the same next year too!

As the year draws to a close, we wish a fond farewell to some of our staff.

Ms Oughton has been with us for many years, as a teacher of Music and also as a Head of Year; she will be greatly missed by us all, but we wish her a very happy and healthy retirement. Others leaving us are; Mrs Aston (Geography) and Mr Somani (Maths), both moving to schools in the county; Mrs Hussain (MFL) and Miss Dadabhai (English), both of whom are moving to positions abroad. We wish them all well with their next steps.

Some of our temporary staff will be moving on also, and we extend our thanks and best wishes to Ms Burian and Miss Kidd (Teaching Assistants), Miss Barker (Science), Miss Machin (PE/SEN).

Term ends on Friday, with lessons finishing at 1.30pm and lunch then available for those wishing to stay. Our new year begins on **THURSDAY AUGUST 29th 2019**, with new Year 7 students arriving for an 8.45am start, and all other students arriving by 10.45am for an 11.00am start. We look forward to welcoming all back after a happy and safe summer break.

Student Leaders

We are proud to announce our Head Boy/Girl and Deputy Head Boy/Girl for the upcoming academic year are;

Head Boy: Muhammed-Zaffar Kaduji

Head Girl: Yaxmali Jethwa

Deputy Head boy: Anish Mistry

Deputy Head Girl: Deleena Shah.

They are the leaders of our student community and an important link between students and staff. They were appointed following a rigorous selection process that included: a written application, an interview, delivering a speech to students and staff. Following this, a vote was held for students and staff.

Congratulations to the four of them. A special mention goes to all the candidates this year as the quality of applications and speeches were extremely strong.



Sainsbury's 150 Hours in the Community



Staff from Sainsbury's continue to support our Allotment Club and have generously donated their valuable time and effort into improving the space we have. Thanks to Sainsbury's we are able to make use of all of the space to grow a variety of fruit and vegetables. We are growing sweet peas, garden peas, cabbages, green beans, potatoes, strawberries, pumpkins, leeks and onions. Our Nurture Group are planning to create tasty and healthy snacks using all of our produce. We are also hoping in the next few weeks to have a brand new greenhouse, courtesy of Argos, and are looking forward to sowing our seeds in the spring time.

A huge thanks to all of the staff from Sainsbury's who have put in their own time, energy and efforts into making our allotment area a productive community space.

Looking Smart!

Our students have looked incredibly smart in their new school uniform this year and we thank parents/carers all for your support in ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform every day.

Our school uniform reflects the high standards we strive for everyday as a school, is smart and unifies us. We are keen to ensure that school uniform is worn correctly and with pride.

If you are purchasing new uniform over the summer please remember that our supplier is Uniform Direct and that the blazer, tie and trousers should all be purchased from there. This will ensure uniform items will be fully compliant. Please also remember that we require all students to wear proper school shoes, not trainers. If you are unsure of any aspect of the uniform, please talk to the school or see the uniform section on our school website. Thank you for your continued support.

The school reserve the right to decide on the suitability of any item of clothing.



Blazers	Black business cut blazer with blue piping and the school badge all purchased from Uniform Direct. Blazers must be worn on school site at all times unless directed by staff.
Trousers	Mid grey tailored school trousers purchased from Uniform Direct.
Skirt	The SVC school kilt is available in lengths of 20" 22" 24" purchased from Uniform Direct. Skirts must be worn with white or black ankle socks or plain black or natural coloured tights. Girls requiring further modesty are able to wear black leggings or SVC grey trousers under the long kilt.
Shirt	Plain white shirt (short or long sleeved), tucked in to trousers or skirt with top button buttoned up to take a tie
Tie	SVC clip on school tie purchased from Uniform Direct
Footwear	Plain black school shoes. Shoes should be able to be polished with no coloured laces, stitching, logos, patterns or contrasting soles. Heels must not exceed 3cm. Trainers/ sport shoes are not to be worn. Plain black ankle boots are acceptable if they adhere to the above. Please note that the black trainers previously worn by some of our students will <u>not</u> be acceptable under the new policy. See the SVC website for details of what is appropriate.
Outdoor coats	Outdoor coats should be an addition to and not instead of the school blazer. Outdoor coats should be plain and not patterned with no large lettering or logos. Outdoor coats are not to be worn in the building. Hoodies or denim coats of any kind are not permitted.
Head coverings	Head coverings for religious reasons must be plain black or white only
Bags	School bags should be suitable for carrying A4 books or folders.
Lanyards	Lanyards must be worn at all times for safeguarding purposes.
Make up/ Jewellery/ Hats	No excessive makeup or jewellery is to be worn. Acrylic nails are not permitted and any earrings should be discreet and must be no bigger than a 2 pence piece. No facial piercings or ear stretchers are allowed (other than a small, single discreet nose stud). All jewellery must be removed for PE. Any headbands must be small and plain black or white and without decoration. Hats are not to be worn in the school building. Caps should not be worn on school site at all.
Hair	No excessive colouring of hair is permitted. The school reserves the right to decide on the suitability of any colouring.

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term

Y11 GCSE Results	Thursday 22nd August
School Opens	Thursday 29th August 2019
Y10 Parents Information Evening	Tuesday 10th Sept 2019
Open Evening	Wednesday 18th Sept 2019
School Photographer	24th September 2019
Post 16 Evening	9th October 2019
School closes for Half Term	11th October

Parents' Evenings

24/10/2019	Y7 Settling in Evening
29/10/2019	Y11 Post 16 Information Evening
31/10/2019	Y9 Parents' Evening
28/11/2019	Ex Y11 Celebration Evening
23/01/2020	Y11 Parents' Evening
13/02/2020	Y9 Options Evening
5/3/2020	Y8 Parents' Evening
02/04/2020	Y10 Parents' Evening
30/04/2020	Y7 Parents' Evening
23/6/2020	Y7 Celebration Evening
25/06/2020	Y8-10 Celebration Evening

CURVE



On Tuesday 25th June the Drama Department were very pleased to welcome Curve Theatre into Soar Valley to deliver a one off workshop for some of our budding actors. Sasha wrote her account of the session:

"Having people from Curve Theatre come in to work with us was interesting and so much fun. We learnt new skills, met new people and had to work in groups with students from all age groups. We learnt new acting and drama techniques and created the opening scene of Macbeth! They also told us how we can sign up to be part of the Curve Young Company so that we can be part of performances on the Curve stage. It was really good and helped me think about my future."

Year 10 Visit to Leicester College Hospitality and Catering Department



As part of the GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition a group of Year 10 students visited Leicester College's Hospitality and Catering Department to gain a greater understanding of the industry and how a commercial kitchen works.

The day included a tour of the department where students saw industrial equipment and students working practically as part of their course, a three course meal in the college's rosette awarded Taste restaurant and finally, a masterclass in plating and presentation led by two of the college's lecturing chefs. The whole day was an eye-opener for some of the students, dining in the Taste restaurant, eating the sophisticated food served and seeing how it is presented. The students really enjoyed the hands-on presentation masterclass which will help with their practical exam in Year 11 and seeing how different the restaurant was to what they had expected.

Supporting Reading

We are heading towards the end of another very successful year for the Paired Reading Programme here at Soar Valley College. Our Year 10 students have been outstanding in leading the way for younger students to gain confidence in their reading skills.

A group of 120 highly dedicated and mature Year 10 students have participated. They have voluntarily given their time each week to help younger students in the school to read aloud and have helped to develop younger students' inference skills when attempting a new text. Well done to all students who have participated each week!

A special thank you to Mrs Pickering for her continued hard work and commitment in organising, running and leading the sessions.

Year 11 Celebrate at the Prom

A very enjoyable evening was had by all at the Year 11 Prom, this year held in the Honours Room at the Leicester Tigers stadium. It was certainly well-deserved after working so hard for their exams!

The photo shows Jack Murray and Niyati Patel, this year's Prom King and Queen.



Year 10 Citizenship Care Home Visit

A group of Year 10 students visited New Wycliffe Vista care home to educate the elderly people about some of the recent changes in society and to gain knowledge about what the elderly are and are not aware of, in order to meet the requirements of their GCSE course. They did some research, designed questions and planned activities to achieve the desired outcomes.

They found that the more elderly felt segregated from the youth community. Soar Valley students guided the residents through surveys, games, quizzes and some food tasting which was particularly enjoyed. Our thanks go to The New Wycliffe Home residents and staff for their support and cooperation in participating in our activities, and we are hoping to visit again as it was such a positive experience.

Farrukh Choksi and Zaina Ibrahim



Year 11 – Taking the Opportunity of NCS

We are really excited that over 100 of the outgoing Year 11 have decided, after all the hard work for their exams, to book onto the National Citizen Service scheme this summer. We wish them well for their participation in this experience, a fantastic opportunity which includes outdoor challenges, volunteering, social action and much more!

The current Year 10 will receive information during their Year 11 about how to get involved in this national scheme for 16 and 17 year olds when they have completed their GCSEs.



Summer Community Event

On 13th July Leicestershire Police, in conjunction with other partner agencies, will be holding a community event at Watermead Park (Alderton Close entrance off Melton Road) between 12:00 and 16:00. There will be lots to do, and it would be great to see lots of the Soar Valley community there too!

Coming September 2019!

By students, for students, a school shop selling stationery supplies at low prices.



Opening times, in F54:

8.30 to 8.55am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

8.30 to 8.40am Wednesday

Every break time

Design & Technology House Competition

Students designed and made fantastic paper garments. Results were as follows: Bradgate-150 points, Abbey-120 points, Watermead-100 points, Castle-90 points, Beacon-85



Animal Welfare

Education

Sarah Saunders, an Education Officer for the Dogs Trust came into school to help educate students about animal welfare.



Sarah presented an assembly for Year 7 students, held a session with a small group of EAL students of varying year groups, and finally a session with our Year 7 Nurture Group.

Sarah, a former teacher, talked about responsible dog ownership, explained that all dogs need to have an owner by law, and talked about how to react if you are nervous around dogs.

Sarah really engaged well with the students in the sessions, who found the information useful and interesting.

Visit to Germany

At the end of the summer term, 40 Years 9 and 10 students spent a week in Cologne in Germany. Visits included the Lindt chocolate factory, sports museum, Burg Castle, Cologne cathedral and the 4711 perfume shop. Students also had free time in Cologne which was a great opportunity to practise their German and sample German culture and cuisine. Despite the very hot weather, a wonderful time was had by all!



Student Travel 2019-20

Have you thought about your child travelling to school by bus? If so we've got the perfect solution! Arriva Child Saver Tickets are available for children up to & including Year 11. Arriva Student Saver Tickets are valid for anyone 16+ in full time education.

For around £1.50 a day your child will get unlimited access to travel on any Arriva bus across all our routes in Leicester and Leicestershire. Saver tickets will not only cover their travel to and from school, but can also be used to travel at evenings, weekends and throughout school holidays too.

Arriva's Direct Debit scheme allows parents or guardians to spread the cost of their child's ticket over affordable monthly payments. It's an easy way to pay for travel and there's no contract involved, making it an ideal way to get reduced bus travel for the whole school year, without paying upfront. It's a simple process to apply, to arrange your Direct Debit please visit: arrivabus.co.uk/ss-midlands

To ensure delivery of tickets in time for the start of the new school year, we recommend registering by the end of July.

Activity and Food Programmes

Leicester City Council are offering a programme of activities during the summer to provide food and fun activities to children who receive free school meals. Dates and times for our area are shown below.

East	Days	Times	Food and Activities	More information
Thurnby Lodge Neighbourhood Centre	Thursdays and Fridays for six weeks	12.30pm-13.30pm	Hot lunches with activities after including sports	Thurnby Lodge Centre Thurncourt Road Leicester LE5 2NG 0116 292 4550
Northfields Play Association and Under 5s	19 th , 25 th , 26 th July 1 st , 2 nd , 8 th , 9 th , 15 th , 16 th 22 nd , 23 rd August Weekdays 15 th July – 23 rd August	12noon-4pm	Lunch pack with activities in the adventure playground	Gypsy Lane Leicester LE5 0TD 0116 276 3720 playbarn@btconnect.com