

Information at your fingertips Year 11



Information about the days and weeks ahead

Vol.2 – Friday 29th September

Dates for the Diary:

- **Tuesday 16th November:**
 - Sixth Form Opening Evening
 - Tutor PRE
 - Careers Fair
- **W/B 20th November:** Mock exams (all subjects)

Late Buses:

Due to our Opening Evening on Tuesday 3rd October, there will be **no late buses** on this day. If your child usually takes advantage of our late bus provision, please can you remind them to get the 'normal bus' at the end of the school day as there will be no late bus available on this day.

Dance (reminder):

Monday 2nd October: period 1 & 2 - Practical Exam of solo performances.

In order to prepare for this, dancers should be practicing in the theatre as much as possible.

Food Studies:

Food students have been given the deadline of **Monday 16th October** to submit their NEA1 component. To support students, there will be 'catch-up and support' drop-in sessions after school on a Thursday – this will be supported by the late bus provision.

Aspirations:

If you and your child would like to start exploring next steps and opening up a discussion about university then attending a university seminar would be a great start. Next week there are a number of evening events running in participation with Russell Group Universities - click this link [University Seminar](#) to find out more and register your interest.

Year Team:

We would like to commend the year group on their continued positive start to this term. It has been nice to see so many students taking advantage of our extended learning offer, and also take proactive steps with their independent learning.

We would like to remind students that blazers are compulsory, and that they should be wearing them during the school day. If they are hot, they can put them on the back of their chairs during lesson. If your child does not have a blazer, or has outgrown the blazer they have, we do run a 'pre-loved' store and sell blazers at a significantly reduced price.

We would also like to remind those who choose to wear a skirt, that it must be knee length as per our uniform policy. [Uniform and equipment](#)

As a year team we are here to support every student in Year 11, and we believe that the best place for all of our students to be is in lesson, therefore we would like to encourage our students to access the Year Team during break-time and lunch-time. If your child has an urgent matter during lesson, we would encourage them to speak to their teacher, who will, if needed, direct them to either the Year Team or Student Services.

Welcome to Year 11 Event

We would like to thank all of those who were able to attend the Welcome to Year 11 Event on the 21st September. We will be sending out a recording of the event as part of the Newsletter next week for those of you who were unable to attend or who would like to be able to go back through the information covered during the evening.

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We would like to also remind you of the previous newsletter notices below.

Extended Learning Provision:

We have a number of Extended Learning Opportunities available to year 11 students. These are both invited sessions (Additional Learning Opportunities) and drop-in sessions (catch up and support) which are open to anyone. The information about the Catch up and Support sessions can be found on the school website: <https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Learning&pid=8&action=saved>

Revision and Independent Study:

All students should now be regularly undertaking independent study and revision. This is something that should be pre-planned and organised so that it is focused and achievable.

We know that a lot of students struggle with the overwhelming feeling of there being a lot to do, not enough time to do it in, and where to start.

We have put some tips on how to organise revision onto our website, and would be a good place to start. There are also apps like <https://getadapt.co.uk/> which can help students to organise their time and help to navigate the topics to study.

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=How+to+Independently+Study&pid=278>

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our extra-curricular offer is now filling up, and there is so much for your child(ren) to get involved in outside of lessons here at SWA. Please visit our website for all the details.

www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Extra%2DCurricular&pid=42

Production/ performance links:

All students will have studied Romeo & Juliet, A Christmas Carol and An Inspector Calls as part of their English Literature studies. As part of their independent study, we would recommend, if possible, for students to see a performance of the plays studied.

There is a performance of Romeo & Juliet at the Norman Bragg Studio in Aylesbury [Romeo & Juliet Tickets | Norman Bragg Studio, Aylesbury in Aylesbury | ATG Tickets](#)

A Christmas Carol is being shown at the Old Vic <https://www.oldvictheatre.com/stage/event/a-christmas-carol-2023>

Sixth Form

If students, parents and carers, would like to explore Sixth Form course options in advance of the 16th November sixth form open evening, please visit the following areas of the sixth form webpage:

<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=Applications+%26amp%3B+Admissions&pid=59>
<https://www.samuelwhitbread.org.uk/page/?title=KS5+Curriculum+%26amp%3B+Courses&pid=231>

Medical Room:

From Monday we will send you an automatic notification if your child uses the medical room during the school day. We won't be able to provide details on the reason, but please be reassured that if their illness is serious, or there is a first-aid emergency, we will phone you. You do not need to respond to the notification or phone us for more information. We have received feedback from some parents that they would like this information, so we will launch this on Monday. If you have any questions about this, please contact Mr. Rowell.

Canteen payments:

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Our catering services have advised us that cash will no longer be accepted in school; payments will be made using the cashless biometric system only.

We allow cash payments at the start of the school year to allow initial system issues to be resolved. However, if you are still experiencing issues topping up your child's ParentMail account, please contact Ms Lowden at JLowden@bestacademies.org.uk.

Items can still be purchased from the canteen if we do not have your child's biometrics stored, they will need to give their name and form class at the checkout.