

Friday 17th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you enjoyed the Platinum Jubilee long weekend despite the mixed weather.

As usual, I welcomed the students back to school last week through our assemblies. It was a chance to make the link between how our actions form our habits and ultimately determine our character. This was also an ideal time to feedback on our progress towards 100% of our students engaging with at least 3 'character-building' activities by the end of the year. So far, 68% of Year 9 and 61% of Year 10 have engaged with at least 3 activities. We also know that 89% of Year 9 and 76% of Year 10 have engaged with at least one activity. I would expect all these figures to rise before the end of the term with upcoming opportunities such as Activities' Week, Sports' Day and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions.

This level of participation is fantastic to see, but I appreciate that what we offer is not of interest to all students. Therefore, I have asked the students to feedback to their Year Group Council via their tutor group rep if there are any clubs or activities they would like to be offered. Hopefully we can then broaden our offer to match everyone's interests.

Sports' Updates

Football

This has been a particularly successful year for football at South Bromsgrove High. For the first time in Worcestershire Schools FA recent history, all 4 boys' teams (Year 9, 10, 11 and 6th Form) have reached their respective WSFA County Cup Finals. Furthermore, each team has won their respective final. Year 11 won their County Cup Final 3-1, defeating Droitwich, Year 10 beat North Bromsgrove High School 2-1, Year 9 beat Bewdley High 2-1 and the 6th Form Team won their County Cup Final, beating St Augustine's 2-1, after extra-time. This is a remarkable achievement and shows the true effort and dedication put in by the players and managers.

The Year 11 team also had an extended run in the English Schools' FA competition, making the last 32 in the country but losing out to the renowned Thomas Telford School.



Overall, the boys football teams had a win rate of 84% over all the matches and all the age groups, which again, is a fantastic achievement for a high school.

Mr Bayliss

Rugby

Rugby has been on every week since September, with training open to all. We have had varying attendance, but a good mix of genders, which is promising and reflects the growing nature of the women's game. We have been able to build a stronger fixture list than ever this year, casting the net ever wider to find quality opposition and have played some new opponents, such as the ACE Academy Stourport, King Edward's Five Ways and Alcester Grammar, which has been a valuable experience as we pursue the goal of being the top rugby playing state school in the county. The Under 18s have had some notable wins and the opportunity to play at Sixways, whilst the Under 15 team were victorious in the Harry Bennett Memorial Cup, which is a 7s competition in its infancy. Onwards and upwards with fixtures already in the calendar for next season.

Mr John

Athletics

Jai Sohna and Ella Woods competed in the Worcestershire Schools Combined Events in Hereford. Both competed in Hurdles, Shot Putt, Javelin, Long Jump, High Jump and 800m. Jai came 3rd with a total of 2080 points and Ella won all but one of her events, making her 1st Place with a total of 3726 (766 points ahead of 2nd place!)

Due to mock exams, we took a reduced Athletics team to the Bromsgrove District Athletics at the Ryland Centre. From that meeting, Ella Woods, Jai Sohna, Ben Jones, Amelie Ranger & Esme Ranger were all selected to represent Bromsgrove at the Hereford and Worcestershire Championships.

I am pleased to say that Jai, Ella and Ben have also been selected to represent Hereford and Worcestershire at the upcoming Mason Trophy in Stoke-on-Trent, a pre-cursor for the English Schools AA Championships



Mr Bayliss

Cricket

The Under 15 girls' cricket team competed in 2 stages of an Indoor Cricket Tournament against both state and independent schools. The schools were split into 2 groups of 4 teams, only 2 schools from each group progressed onto the final's day. South did extremely well and came 2nd to a very strong independent school which meant we progressed through to the final stages. On the final's day we played against very strong

schools and unfortunately lost out on the opportunity to represent Worcestershire at Edgbaston. Despite the result, the team remained in high spirits throughout the competitions and showed excellent teamwork, cricket skills and resilience. We are set to compete in an outdoor 'Chance to Shine Cricket' tournament on Friday 17th, so fingers crossed we will get through to regionals and represent Worcestershire in outdoor cricket. Good luck all!

Miss Morton

Duke of Edinburgh Award Volunteering

While the expedition remains the iconic part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, there are 3 other sections the students need to complete:

- Skill development
- Physical Recreation
- Volunteering

In relation to the volunteering section, it was brilliant to have the contribution of our students acknowledged in by the Duke of Edinburgh Award section. They have calculated that our students have completed over 6000 hours of voluntary work which is something that the students can be immensely proud of, particularly as the majority of this will be done in the local community.



 **YOUTH WITHOUT LIMITS**

Thank you

to the
Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from
South Bromsgrove High

who spent
6045 hours

volunteering between
1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022.

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement
of young people making an impact in their community

The social value of these hours is
£27927.9


RUTH MARVEL CEO

June 2022

Bronze DofE Practice Camp



170 year 10 students participated in our Bronze practice camp in Blackwell over last weekend. The students developed their navigational and campcraft skills which will enable them to complete the qualifying camp in Malvern next month. Overall, students' behaviour was excellent and we had members of the public get in touch to say how polite and friendly the students were whilst out in the community. The students seemed to enjoy themselves, even the ones who experienced the unexpected downpour on Saturday morning! We are so proud of all the students - they showed great resilience and hard work over the 2 days in what was, for most of them, an unfamiliar and new experience!

Mrs Haden

School Garden News



On Friday 29th May, the school garden group planted 30 trees across the school site. The trees were donated by ATS Systems, a local engineering company who have established links with the school as they are heavily involved in Year 11 mock interviews and our Careers Fayre. It was part of an eco-initiative and 15 students worked with ATS employees to plant the trees.

Mr Siddle

CoachBright trip to the University of Birmingham



Nine committed Year 11 students attended after school tuition every week for 15 weeks as part of our CoachBright Tutoring programme. The coaches worked with our students to improve progress in Maths or English with an aim to improve confidence and independence.

After successfully completing the programme the students 'Graduated' at the University of Birmingham. They spent the day at the campus and had the opportunity to get a glimpse into university life by taking part in an interactive workshop with Dr Ilija Rašović at the department of Liberal Arts and Natural Sciences (LANS). This was followed by a tour of campus and a delicious lunch! They ended the day by receiving a certificate and goody bag from their leader and coaches. An enjoyable day was had by all.

Mrs Mounter

Year 11 Leavers' Event

On Thursday 26th May we said farewell to our Year 11 students commencing study leave. Despite the high level of excitement, students conducted themselves impeccably during the course of the morning, with activities such as the traditional signing of shirts. After a number of photo opportunities, students were seated in the hall for their final assembly. Spirits were high and plenty of laughter was shared over the photos of their time at South and the awards they had been voting for over the previous few weeks. Despite what has been a disrupted three years here at South, they have been a great year group and a credit to the South Bromsgrove community. We wish each and every one of them good luck for the exam season and whatever the future holds.

Miss McAleese

Year 13 Leavers' Event



Year 13 had a fantastic send-off on 20th May with students arriving to school in fancy dress costumes, having some complimentary food and drink, and attending a student awards presentation. It was great to celebrate the students' time at South and to see such a range of different costumes! Well done to the current Head Student team for supporting the event, and we wish Year 13 all the very best for their exams and the future.

Mr Coates

Safeguarding

Should you have a safeguarding concern, please use the following contacts:

Designated Safeguarding Lead at South Bromsgrove High: Kristy Pascoe: pa@southbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk

Worcestershire Children First: <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/childrensocialcare>

Refer to Children's Social Care: <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/childrenreferral>

The Family Front Door: 01905 822666 - to report a concern

NSPCC: 0808 800 5000 www.nspcc.org.uk

Here2Help Worcestershire: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help>

Upcoming events

- **Friday 24th June** – Year 11 Prom
- **Tuesday 5th July** – Year 9 reports issued
- **Tuesday 28th June** – Sixth Form Induction Day
- **Monday 4th July** – Gold Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition week
- **Monday 11th July** – Duke of Edinburgh main expedition week/Year 9 Enterprise Week/Year 10 and Year 12 job shadowing
- **Monday 18th July** – New Intake Day and New Intake Parents' Evening
- **Tuesday 19th July** – Sports Day
- **Thursday 21st July** – Championship Assembly and end of term

Those are the key events which take us up to the end of the academic year.

Best wishes and take care,



Chris Smith
Headteacher