

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you can see from this edition of the Headteacher's Newsletter, there has been a welcome return to something like normality, with our students once again participating in lots of the opportunities that were available in previous years. Many of these are what we would describe as 'character building' and are designed to take students out of their comfort zone.

One of these 'character building' activities this half term were the oracy workshops. I mention this example as the external presenters were very impressed with our students, and to get this sort of unsolicited feedback should make the whole school community extremely proud. In fact, more than one of them said that they wished they could send their children to 'South'.

Well, you do send your children to 'South', so here is an update on what has been happening in the second half of this half term and a look ahead to some exciting events in the near future.

### Open Evening

Thank you to everyone who visited the school during our Open Evening on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September; it was fantastic to see so many prospective (and current) parents. We would also like to thank all the staff and student volunteers who made it such a great event.



### World Mental health Day #helloyellow



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October marked #helloyellow for World Mental Health Day which organised by Mrs Simpson and the Wellbeing Ambassadors. Students and staff wore yellow to raise money for the Young Minds charity.

### **'Talk the Talk' oracy workshops for Year 10**

# Talk The Talk

## CONFIDENT COMMUNICATION FOR LIFE

This month we welcomed 'Talk the Talk' to deliver their communication workshop to Year 10 students. 'Talk the Talk's' mission is to develop students' oracy skills and communication confidence to support positive life interactions and improved social outcomes. The students worked with the presenters in their tutor groups and were supported by their form tutors. The students enjoyed the experience and the presenters were extremely impressed with the positive attitudes from all those who took part.

### **Year 11 Practice Interviews**



On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October almost 300 of our Year 11 students got to practise their interview technique with some of our local employers. This is a regular feature of the school's careers education and guidance programme and I am sure this will prove invaluable in the future. We could not do this without the support of the local business community and thank you to the volunteers who came into school to work with our students.

### **The return of Geography Fieldwork**



On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October, Year 12 students travelled to Carding Mill Valley for the first Geography fieldtrip in nearly two years and the students first Geography fieldtrip at 'South'. The students were a great credit to the school (a passer-by commented on how much fun they appeared to be having) and really enjoyed themselves. The data they collected was good too. From the staff's point of view it was great to be doing Geography outside the classroom again as we believe it really supports the student's understanding.

### History trip to 'The Hive'



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, A level Historians visited 'The Hive' in Worcester to conduct research for their non-examination assessment. This was followed by a walking tour of English Civil War sites to make vlogs. Students had a fantastic day.

### 'We Will Rock You'

Rehearsals for this year's school production 'We Will Rock You' are now underway and the cast list has been announced. Students gathered last week for their first whole cast rehearsal with performances scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022. 'We Will Rock You' is another exciting collaboration between the school's Music and Drama departments after 2019's Sister Act.

### Eisteddfod 2021



This year's school Eisteddfod rehearsals are well underway with students from each house competing in sections in choir, instrumental, vocal, drama, dance, art, poetry and basketball. The events will culminate in two major school events on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

### Safeguarding

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

**Designated Safeguarding Lead at South Bromsgrove High School: Kristy Pascoe, e-mail:**

[pa@southbromsgrove.worcs.sch.uk](mailto: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: 0800 800 5000** [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

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

### Upcoming events

- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Year 11 reports issued
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Sixth Form Information Evening
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Year 9 reports issued
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Eisteddfod Evening – PE and Dance
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November – Eisteddfod Evening – Music and Drama
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November – Year 10 Job Shadowing Information Evening (virtual)
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Year 10 reports issued
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Year 12 reports issued
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Professional Development Day – school closed to students
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Concert
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December – DofE Presentation Evening
- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – end of term

Those are the key events which take us up to the end of the autumn term.

Best wishes and take care,



Chris Smith  
Headteacher