

Summerhill School

Newsletter

March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that this email finds you safe and well. This term has consisted of two very short but busy half terms.

Well done to Year 11, who completed the second set of mock GCSE exams and produced some excellent results. After Easter the final push will begin and the real exams will be upon us. Our students attitude, effort and conduct within their exams was fantastic, and a real pleasure to see. At the other end of the school, we have welcomed our Year 6.5 students who will be joining us in September. We can't wait to meet them and welcome them to the Summerhill family.

It was great this half term to see over 50 students carrying out their Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition. In pretty grim conditions all students completed the expedition (some getting lost with their orienteering and walking for 13 hours!!!). Challenging themselves outside of their comfort zones, our students demonstrated wonderful resilience.

We have continued to forge our strong relationship with Eton College. Shortly after Easter, Eton staff, students and families will be coming to visit Summerhill and then 30 of our students will be making the trip to Eton for a visit. A wonderful experience and opportunity to set links with one of the most prestigious schools worldwide.

We also continue to work closely with our local Primary Schools providing swimming and language lessons. This half term we have also welcomed over 60 girls for a football tournament, a true representation of the growth in women's football and sport. Also, we welcomed over 30 Primary Schools for the Dudley Cross Country Championships with over 400 participants from Year 5 and 6. An absolutely brilliant event with so many young people participating.

At the conclusion of this term, we wish farewell to Mrs Presdee who is retiring. After an incredible 50 years associated with the school as a student, parent and employee it is time for Mrs Presdee to take time for herself. We thank you for everything you have done for our students and school.

The new half term will open up with the final plans for the Canada trip. A life changing experience!!! We will also be carrying out interviews for our Junior Leadership Team. The year is moving so quickly, I will soon be wishing you all well for the summer break! As is tradition when we come to the end of a term, I would like to wish you all the best for the Easter holidays. Do the best things in life....be happy, enjoy time with each other and enjoy the rest.

Mr Harris



Summerhill School proudly presents



13th - 14th June 2024, 7pm

Tickets £8

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/summerhill>



“GREASE” is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), www.theatricalrights.co.uk

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

Logo Created and Designed by Maggie Taft and Harry Bogosian

Maths

In February Mr Marsh and Mrs Guest took a group of Year 10 students to a Maths Masterclass at the University of Birmingham. Students participated in activities, workshops and lectures. They also completed an online escape room.



Then in March Mr Marsh organised another amazing opportunity for some of our Year 10 students to compete in the Big Maths Quiz at UoB. Unfortunately we didn't win this time but what a fantastic experience for our students.



Mr Rea has shared the below students who achieved a gold, silver or bronze in the recent UKMT intermediate Maths challenge. Amazing achievement, well done!



English

On Wednesday 7th February 50 students in Year 9 were given the opportunity to see 'The Woman in Black' at The Alexandra theatre in Birmingham. This acclaimed production, based on Susan Hill's gothic horror novel of the same name, returned to The Alexandra direct from London's West End after an incredible 33 year run at The Fortune theatre.

Students got to experience this spine-chiller first-hand as they saw their class text come to life with compelling dramatisation, clever set design and dynamic sound effects. There were plenty of gasps and shrieks with students on the edges of their seats throughout!

The Woman in Black Play was fantastic. The length of it was perfect, the character and setting matched with the book brilliantly, and it was well set-up. I loved it because it had loads of jump scares, and the actors played their characters incredibly well. My favourite part was when Spider, the dog, was introduced, as even though the dog wasn't real, they did make it as though it was. With such a small set, they managed to give off that "vibe" of a ghost story, and not a horror play. The actors were amazing, and everything was perfectly executed.
8.5/10.
Alex - Year 9

The Woman in Black, at the theatre was brilliant the play was cleverly thought-out with 3 characters playing everyone. At the start the play was a bit confusing as it does not really start like the book but it then goes through all the books main events. The lighting was really good, symbolizing the different weather and the props were used effectively to create a horror atmosphere. The play was quite terrifying which had most of us on the edge of our seats with the woman in black appearing. Overall the play was really good, Cleverly throughout, and quite scary for most. I would definitely go to the theatre again to see it again to feel the adrenaline that the show gives you.
Dylan - Year 9



Year 11 Places of Worship Trip



Back in January Year 11's attended the Places of Worship trip as part of Global Learning. We live in a multicultural society so having a good understanding or a range of faiths is important. Students got to visit and experience different places of worship and see more about other cultures in our local area. Students found the trip informative and enjoyable.



"The tour guide at the Jangchub Ling was really good telling us all about the Buddhist religion"

"The trip to the Balaji Temple was really interesting, I enjoyed seeing all the different shrines"

"Our visit was very informative! It was great to experience the food kitchen at the Gudwara"

"I visited Birmingham Mosque and was surprised to see how much the Muslim community do to help the poor"



Art

Mrs O'Dea has shared some of the amazing drawings from our Year 8 students.



Isabelle - PSH



Betsy - PSC



Maicey - UJK



Isobel - UJK



Noah - PSC



Leyna - OJD



MFL

In MFL, Wednesday 21st February saw a handful of year 9 students belatedly celebrating a French cultural event La Chandeleur - Le Jour des Crêpes. Miam, miam! Students were expertly guided by Madame Sidiropoulou to make delicate, thin pancakes which could be eaten with either sweet or savoury accompaniments. It was wonderful to see students mixing, tossing and consuming their crêpes. Bravo les chefs de cuisine!



Friends of Summerhill

Friends of Summerhill are the Summerhill Parents' group, and they support the school primarily by organising events linked to the school. Members of the group also attend school evenings, productions, and other events to support with staffing or running raffles. FoS raise money which is pumped back into supporting students across a range of activities. They meet regularly during term time (on average once every three weeks) and are always on the lookout for new members.

Anyone interested in joining should email Mr Glattback at school
mglattback@summerhill.dudley.sch.uk

NON-VALENTINES DISCO

The Non-Valentines Disco was a massive hit with the Year 7 and 8 students. Thank you to FoS for organising such an amazing event for our students.



War Memorial Plaques

We have put up more War Memorial Plaques in the local area and we've got more on the way!

The cost to sponsor one of these plaques is £145.
If you wish to sponsor one please contact Mr Glattback at
mglattback@summerhill.dudley.sch.uk



THE RETURN OF



SUMMERHILL SCHOOL ARE TWO TIME WINNERS, COULD YOU MAKE IT A THIRD!?

APPLY BY

22ND MARCH!

AUDITIONS

**9TH APRIL AT
SUMMERHILL**

**FILL THE FORM IN AT RECEPTION
TO ENTER!**

YOU COULD WIN

£100

£1000

**TOWARDS
SOMETHING IN
SCHOOL**

Final is 25th April at 6pm, The Royal British Legion, £5 per ticket,
For more information contact Shaz Saleem on 07786196666

Dates for the Diary

Monday 8 th April	Students Return to School
Wednesday 24 th April	Year 10 Places of Worship Trip
Wednesday 24 th April	Prefect Presentation Evening
Monday 29 th April – Friday 3 rd May	Year 10 Work Experience
Wednesday 1 st May	Year 9 & 10 Exam Evening
Thursday 2 nd May	Election Day – School Closed to Yr7-Yr9
Monday 6 th May	May Day – School Closed
Thursday 9 th May	Year 10 Progress Evening
Friday 10 th May	Year 8 HPV Vaccine
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th May	Ursa Charity Week
Tuesday 14 th May	Year 10 Progress Evening
Wednesday 15 th May	Year 9 Places of Worship Trip
Thursday 16 th & Friday 17 th May	Year 8 Carding Mill Valley Trip
Wednesday 22 nd – Friday 31 st May	Canada Trip
Friday 24 th May	Term Ends – Students finish at 15:10
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st May	Half Term
Monday 3 rd – Friday 7 th June	Year 9 Exams
Thursday 6 th June	Year 7 Progress Evening
Thursday 13 th & 14 th June	School Production of Grease
Monday 17 th – Friday 28 th June	Year 10 Exams
Tuesday 18 th June	Vaccine Catch Up
Thursday 20 th & Friday 21 st June	Year 8 Bletchley Park Trip
Friday 21 st June	Year 11 Prom
Friday 28 th June	Inset Day
Friday 5 th July	Sports Day
Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th July	Year 7 PGL
Tuesday 16 th July	Success Awards Evening
Friday 19 th July	Term Ends – Students finish at 12:55



REMINDER

WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL.
WE THEREFORE ASK YOU DO
NOT BRING ANY FOOD
CONTAINING NUTS INTO
SCHOOL

Summerhill School would like to wish you all a very Happy Easter!

