

# Summerhill School

## Newsletter

December 2023

I hope this letter finds you safe, well and ready for the Christmas break. This half term has been another busy one and has provided us with so many things to be proud of.

The half term started by welcoming the British Legion to join our Remembrance Day assembly, along with Mike Wood MP, Cllr Patrick Harley (Lead of Dudley Council), and many other dignitaries. The poignant message was delivered by our students via drama, music and dance and was impeccably observed by all of our students. It was also a pleasure to join the community at the Remembrance walk and then return to the British Legion to again hear our students perform to our community.

Current Year 11 have been in their mock exam period this half term. We are very proud of how hard they have worked; their exam conduct has been excellent, and they will reap the rewards of this as we move into a very big year for them. As I always say to our students 'your grades do not define you, your actions are what define you'. Well done Year 11 and have a well-deserved rest over Christmas (with a little revision!)

There have been countless student successes again this half term within a multitude of different areas. In the Arts, students have performed on the West End and in pantomimes. In sports, students have gained qualifications, represented their country at national and international level and much more. Alongside this students have flown aeroplanes and raised copious amounts of money for charities.....the list is endless! I also want to acknowledge the students who find school a challenge, yet continually push themselves with the support of staff to achieve great things. Well done to all our students.

At the end of the term, we say farewell to a few members of staff and prepare to welcome some new into 2024. Mrs McGowan and Ms Brown who have been with us temporarily and have done a fantastic job will be moving on to pastures new. We also say farewell to Mrs Darby who leaves us after 5 and a half years in our MFL department. Finally, having served Summerhill for 11 years we say farewell to our learning support assistant Mrs McPherson who is embarking on a once in a lifetime trip around the world. Thank you for everything you have done for Summerhill and our students. In January we welcome Miss Raven as new Head of Food and Textiles, Mrs Sidiropoulou, Second in MFL and Mrs Guest who will be joining our Maths department.

As we move towards the holiday and Christmas break as I always say to our staff and students.... Please do the best things in life, spend quality time with family and loved ones, stay safe and be happy. Have a lovely holiday and we look forward to seeing you for a great year in 2024.

Best wishes  
Mr Harris  
Headteacher



Summerhill School proudly presents



**13th - 14th June 2024, 7pm**

**Tickets £8**

**Available soon**

"GREASE" is presented through special arrangement with and all authorised performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide (TRW), [www.theatricalrights.co.uk](http://www.theatricalrights.co.uk)

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

Logo Created and Designed by Maggie Taft and Harry Bogosian

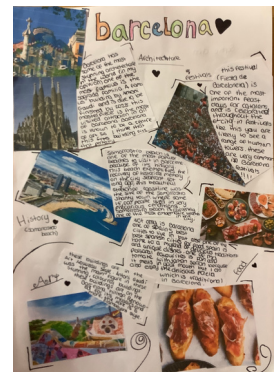
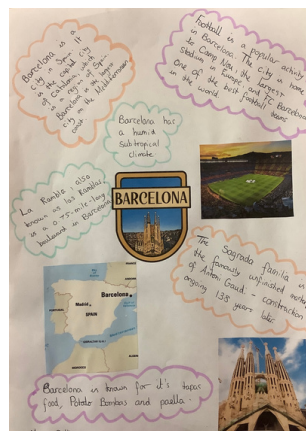
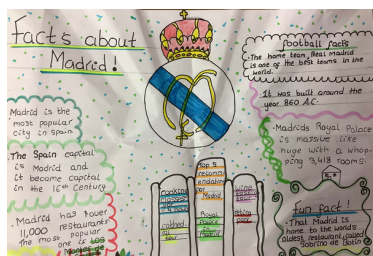
# Christmas Cracker

Once again Summerhill held an amazing show with the Christmas Cracker. A spectacular show showcasing our students unique talents. A night which was enjoyed by all. A massive congratulations to all our students who took part.



# MFL

Mrs Harris has shared some incredibly creative cultural homeworks from her brilliant 7YZ 2 Spanish class. Students enjoyed researching Día de los Muertos and discovering how this significant event is celebrated in Mexico. ¡Qué maravilloso!



7YZ Sp 2 have been at it again! Conducting riveting research and uncovering fabulous facts about Spanish cities. You might be inspired to take a city break! ¡Felicidades 7YZ!

Gracias,

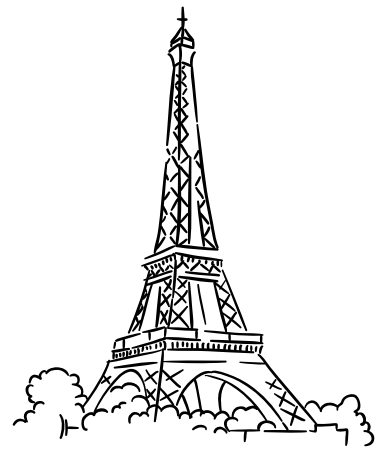




Madame Howarth arranged for her Year 8 French group to have a little taste of a French breakfast including pain au chocolats, croissants and baguettes. Students enjoyed their petit déjeuner français



bonjour



# Art Club



Art Club have been getting creative and making clay pots in the style of Kate Malone.

# Science



Miss Spencer organised a wonderful experience for some of our Year 11 Scientists, with a special visit to learn about the Orion Laser!  
Scientists use the Orion laser to research high energy density plasma physics phenomena, which occur at the heart of a nuclear explosion or the interior of a star.



Protect your child this winter from

# Influenza

## Children's Flu vaccination clinics 2024

Available to all  
children from  
Reception to Year  
11

### 1 To consent your child for a FREE vaccine:

It's not too late for your child to receive the flu vaccine. We are holding clinics for school aged children at **the following venues** in January 2024.

These are **free walk in** flu clinics, where we are offering the nasal flu vaccine and the **gelatine-free** flu vaccine.

You can walk in and get the vaccine, or we can book you an appointment. Please contact our team via telephone on the numbers below:

### 2 Follow up clinic dates and times:

**DUDLEY:** Fens Pool Community Centre, 111 Tennyson,  
Pensnett, Brierley Hill, DY5 4HY  
Call to book: 01384 431712

Saturday

20th Jan

9am - 13.30pm

**SANDWELL:** Wood Lane Community Centre, 157 Wood  
Lane, West Bromwich B70 9PT  
Call to book: 0121 592 1110

Saturday

27th Jan

9am - 1.30pm

**WALSALL:** The South and Central Hub,  
Birchills Street WS2 8NF  
Call to book: 01922 9020352

Saturday

27th Jan

9am - 1.30pm

**WOLVERHAMPTON:** Health Hub, Mander Centre  
Wolverhampton WV1 3NH  
Call to book: 01902 200077

Saturday

20th Jan

9am - 2.30pm



EXTRA  
DATES  
ADDED

SAFE!

For further information go to:  
[www.schoolvaccination.uk](http://www.schoolvaccination.uk)

# British Legion Christmas Meal

It was a pleasure to host a Christmas meal for our friends from the Royal British Legion. It was a lovely spending time with them and our school choir provided beautiful carols to celebrate wonderful company.



## Remembrance Parade



On a wet November Sunday morning our students represented our school in the Remembrance Parade. We were then treated to our amazing talent of voices at the British Legion.

Thank you to all students who took part in a heart-warming event.







**We're here for anyone this festive season who is...**



Feeling alone



Having money worries



Dealing with grief



Struggling to cope

When life is difficult, Samaritans are here – day or night, 365 days a year. You can call them free on 116 123 (within the UK or Ireland) or email them at [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org). Whoever you are and whatever you're facing, they won't judge you or tell you what to do. They're here to listen so you don't have to face it alone.



# 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](mailto:mglattback@summerhill.dudley.sch.uk)



## Christmas Fayre

FoS ran a successful Christmas Fayre on 2nd December. It was a fabulous event with many stalls including crafts, art and food. A very successful tombola from students and staff who contributed a prize or money. Santa's grotto and his elf was a highlight for everyone who joined us. A very successful Christmas Fayre. Thank you for to all the FoS for their time and effort into such a lovely Christmassy event.



# Dates for the Diary

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Inset Day
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Students return to School
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Reading Age Tests
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 11 Places of Worship Trip
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Orion Charity Week
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Year 11 Food Practical Exams
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	DoE Bronze Practice Year 10
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 11 MFL Mock Speaking Exams
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term Ends – Students finish at 15:10
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Students Return to School
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Year 11 Mock Exams
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Year 9 Options Evening
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 9 DTP/Meningitis Vaccine
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 Options Evening
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 11 Birmingham Geography Trip
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> March	DoE Bronze Qualifying Year 10
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Food Bank Appeal
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 9 Progress Evening
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Pegasus Charity Week
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 Progress Evening
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 9 DTP/Meningitis Vaccine Catch up
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Term Ends – Students finish at 12:55
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Half Term

**NOT FREE**

## **REMINDER**

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

*Summerhill would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.*

