

# Secondary School Weekly Update January 17th 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As I approach the end of my second week at South View School I would like to share some of my initial thoughts and impressions with you.

As soon as you walk into this school it is very evident that there is a warm and welcoming ethos which is largely due to the strength of relationships between staff and students. I have been welcomed by students, staff and parents which is a wonderful testament to what South View School is about.

I certainly have a lot of empathy for students who have just joined the school, if they have been welcomed half as much as I have, they will settle very quickly.



As I said to students and staff in my welcome assembly last Friday, we are almost half way through the academic year. A lot of learning has taken place but there is plenty more to come in the next two terms.

Year 11 will undertake their mock examinations during the next two weeks. These are designed to replicate what the students will face in their external examinations in May and June. I wish Year 11 students all the very best as they face these over the coming weeks, if they have worked hard and revised hard, they will be ready for what is ahead.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend, time to recharge your batteries. Miss Woulfe – Head of Secondary



## Upcoming key dates

- 20th January 31st January Year 11 Mock examinations
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January Year 7-10 adopt a country competition
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January Visiting author Curtis Jobling for Years 7, 8 and 9
- Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th February at 6:30pm Secondary School Production of The Demon Headmaster



# Pastoral Update - Mr Macpherson

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a fantastic end to the week! It was amazing to see our students embracing and celebrating their home countries during our **International Day of Culture and Tolerance**. The vibrant display of national dress and colours highlights our amazingly diverse school community and reinforced our values of kindness understanding and inclusion. A huge thanks to all the parents who supported the day! The education, food, gestures of good will and colour, made it a very special morning.

I am also pleased to share how well our students have started the new term. Their impeccable behaviour, focus and willingness to really push themselves in lessons, has been remarkable, setting a positive tone for the weeks ahead. It is a testament to their dedication and the support they receive at home.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Wishing you all a restful weekend!

Kind regards,

Stuart Macpherson Assistant Head Pastoral





## **Exams Update - Ms Coy**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the Year 11 mock exams begin next week, I kindly remind all students to ensure they are fully prepared and ready for this important period. Please take note of the following key points to help your child succeed:

- Punctuality: Students must arrive on time for all exams.
- •Uniform: Full school uniform is required.
- •Water Bottles: Only clear water bottles without labels are permitted in the exam hall.
- •Exam Materials: Students must bring all necessary materials for each exam, particularly for subjects like Mathematics, which require a calculator, geometry set, and ruler.
- Pencil Cases: Only clear pencil cases are allowed. A ziplock bag is also acceptable.

I wish all our Year 11 students the very best of luck in their mock exams and encourage them to do their absolute best. For more detailed information, please refer to the email I sent before the winter break, which outlines everything you need to know about the upcoming exams.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Stacey





# **Literacy Update - Louise**

In the week I enjoyed reading this article looking at the various benefits of reading. Reading does not only support us academically, but also emotionally with our mental health and potentially physical health too.

#### **SurprisingHealth Benefits of Reading Every Day**

- 1. Living longer
- 2. Slows cognitive decline
- 3. Reduces stress
- 4. Helps you relax at bedtime
- 5. Helps with your understanding of various topics e.g. healthy literacy
- 6. Boosts intelligence
- 7. Enhances social skills

To read more, please see the article attached:

7 Surprising Health Benefits of Reading Every Day





# **Literacy Update - Louise**

Our wonderful sixth form volunteers who are engaging in a reading for pleasure programme with some of our Y7 students. The book for this term is Skellig. Our students have explored new vocabulary in this week's session including rusty, demolition and quay.







# Careers Update – Ms. Scouller

The countdown is over! AUD's Summer Camp 2025 is officially live and ready to deliver once again an unforgettable experience.

Get ready for an action-packed week of discovery, learning, and adventure in the heart of Dubai at the American University in Dubai. This fully boarded experience combines interactive, cross-disciplinary workshops with thrilling excursions and activities designed to inspire, challenge, and ignite your passion. Open to students currently in Grades 10 & 11 or Years 11 & 12, the camp runs from July 6 to July 13, 2025, on AUD's vibrant campus.

This is your chance to explore new horizons, discover your pathway, make lifelong friends, and create memories you'll treasure forever. For more information and registration, visit <a href="https://summercamp.aud.edu/">https://summercamp.aud.edu/</a>.



# **Sixth Form Update - Mr. Burgess**



A huge congratulations to Julia Rajeev and Marthinus Le Roux for receiving the Pearson Certificate of Excellence this week! It's truly inspiring to see our students being recognized for their outstanding efforts in GCSE, and for continuing that dedication into their Key Stage 5 studies.

Looking ahead, our focus will shift towards encouraging students to engage in extracurricular activities that will enhance their university applications and strengthen their connection to our school community. It's been wonderful to see students already supporting Year 7 in the reading club, and we're excited to continue helping SVS students grow even more in the coming weeks.





# **Mathematics Update - Ms Griffin**

Stage 2 of the Challenge ME took place at the end of last week



Nine of the sixteen students qualified from Stage 2 to reach the semi finals – huge congratulations to you all!!



# **Science Update - Mrs McCullough**





# **Science Updates**

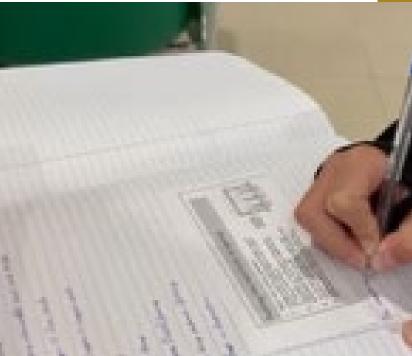
It's been a busy week in Science, with plenty of hands-on learning and exploration! Our Year 8 students enjoyed an exciting trip to Sharjah, immersing themselves in new experiences outside the classroom. Meanwhile, in the labs, students have been hard at work conducting investigations—our Year 9s delved into the reactivity of metals, observing fascinating chemical reactions, while our Year 10 Triple Science students explored the solubility of sodium chloride at different temperatures, applying their understanding of key concepts to real-world scenarios. A fantastic week of curiosity and discovery!





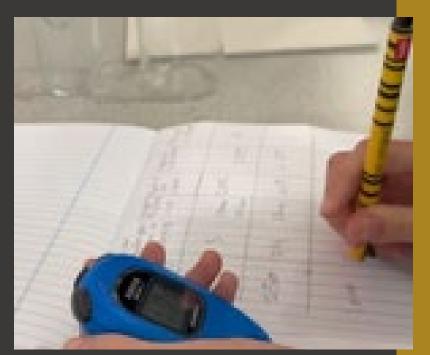




































# Arabic A Update - Mr. Kerba

أولياء الأمور الأعزاء،

تحية طيبة وبعد،

في إطار سعينا الدائم للارتقاء بمستوى أبنائنا الطلاب، نركز حاليًا على تنمية مهاراتهم في تحليل النصوص الأدبية، سواء من الناحية اللغوية أو الأدبية، مع تعزيز قدرتهم على التفكير النقدي والإبداعي.

كما نذكركم بمسابقة \*تحدي القراءة العربي\*، حيث سيتم تسلم الجواز الأحمر الأسبوع القادم، من الطلاب المشاركين.

وفي سياق متصل، نعلن عن انطلاق \*مسابقة الشعر \*، التي تهدف إلى اكتشاف مواهب الإلقاء المتميزة لدى طلابنا.

ستُنشر جميع تفاصيل المسابقة عبر منصة "تيمز". إننا على ثقة بأن هذه الأنشطة والمسابقات تلعب دورًا محوريًا في صقل محارات الطلاب اللغوية والأدبية، وتعميق ارتباطهم بهويتهم الثقافية.

شاكرين لكم دعمكم المستمر، ودمتم بخير وعافية.



# Arabic B Update - Mr. Kerba

#### Dear Parent,

#### Warm greetings,

We would like to share a summary of last week's activities and our plans for the upcoming week to keep you informed about your child's progress.

#### Last Week's Highlights:

During the past week, we focused on:

- •Reading Skills: Helping students improve their reading abilities through various activities tailored to their levels.
- •Reading Comprehension and Analysis: Introducing texts and encouraging students to understand and analyze them using strategies such as identifying main ideas and answering analytical questions.

#### Plan for Next Week:

We will continue working on enhancing reading skills while introducing a new focus:

•Listening Analysis: Engaging students in activities that involve listening to audio texts and analyzing their content, such as identifying main ideas, understanding vocabulary in context, and discussing the topics presented.

We are also excited to announce two upcoming competitions designed to inspire students' involvement in Arabic literature:

- Arab Reading Challenge
- Poetry Competition

More details will be shared with students soon.

We greatly appreciate your continuous support and encouragement.



# Islamic Update - Mr. Kerba

#### REMINDER....

#### Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh,

We are delighted to announce that registration is now open for the **6th South View School Quran Competition, Hafez Al-Quran.** This is a wonderful opportunity for students to strengthen their connection with the Holy Quran and showcase their recitation and memorization skills.

#### Competition Details:

• **First Round:** April 29, 2025,

•Final Round: April 30, 2025,

•Registration Deadline: April 9, 2025,

#### Important Notes:

- •Assessments will be overseen by the Principal and an external assessor.
- •Participants will receive certificates, and winners will be awarded special prizes.
- •Students should practice their assigned Surahs at home and share their recitations via Seesaw for feedback.

We are excited to invite students from other schools to join this meaningful event.

Registration link:

Quran Competition Registration

Competition levels:

Quran competition levels 2025 final

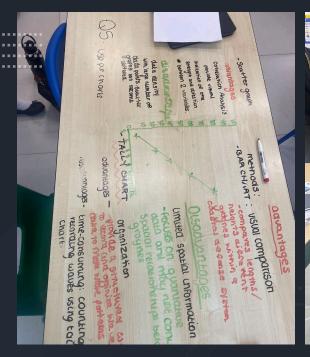


# **Humanities Update - Miss Coy**

Our pupils were preparing position papers for the upcoming SVSMUN event in April. Sam and Alejandro, two of our more seasoned MUN-ers, were supporting our new Year 7s through the process:)

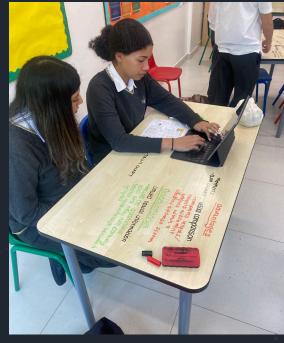
Tuesday lunch time in Mr Cook's room – everyone welcome.











# Geography Update

**REMINDER:** IGCSE Geography masterclass every Thursday after school!

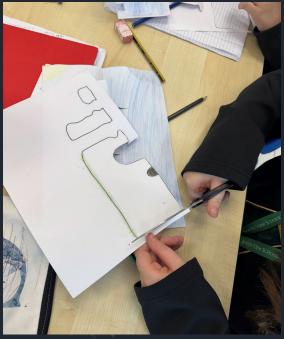
Miss Scouller's Year 10 IGCSE Geography class spent time revising their coastal fieldwork, focusing on key aspects of data analysis, presentation methods, and data collection techniques. Students practiced analysing data using statistical methods, such as calculating mean and spearman's rank correlation coefficient, and discussed effective ways to present their findings through graphs and charts. They also reviewed the techniques they used during fieldwork. To further prepare for exams, students shared tips with the class on how to answer specific exam questions, ensuring everyone felt confident and well-prepared for their assessments.

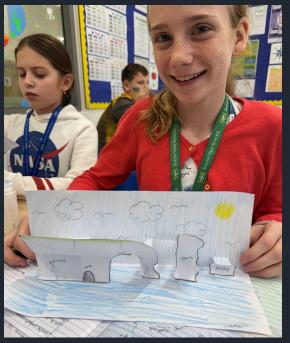
# **Geography Update**

Our Year 8 geographers recently presented their comparisons of two countries, focusing on their development. Using data on factors like economy, education, healthcare, and infrastructure, students highlighted the key differences and challenges each country faces. Their presentations sparked thoughtful discussions about global development and inequality, showcasing their growing understanding of these important global issues.











# Geography Update

This week, Year 7 students delved into the topic of coastal erosion, focusing on how natural processes shape coastal landforms over time. As part of their learning, they worked collaboratively to create detailed pop-up models that demonstrated features such as arches, stacks, and cliffs. This hands-on activity allowed students to visually represent and better understand the impact of erosion.



#### Welcome to This week's Business Studies & Economics Update!

- Year 10: Exploring Globalisation and MNCs
- Year 10 students are exploring globalisation, discussing its benefits—economic growth, jobs, innovation—and challenges like inequality and environmental concerns. Case studies of Apple, Coca-Cola, and Unilever help analyze job creation and ethical dilemmas. Debates build critical thinking and presentation skills.
- Year 11 Business Studies: Revision in Full Swing
- Students are practicing past exam papers, focusing on key concepts, question patterns, and time management to excel in their exams.
- Year 11 Economics: Wrapping Up the Syllabus
- Year 11 Economics students completed topics on exchange rates and the balance of payments. They discussed currency valuation's role in trade and are now preparing for exams.





#### **Year 12: Event Management in Action**

Year 12 students are planning and executing events, focusing on budgeting, logistics, and teamwork. This hands-on unit develops organisational and creative skills.

#### **Year 13: Principles of Management**

Year 13 is studying management principles, analysing successful leaders, and reflecting on their leadership potential for future careers.

#### **Celebrating Success**

Across all year groups, students are showing enthusiasm and dedication. Thank you to parents and guardians for your continued support.



**REMINDER:** IGCSE Business Studies masterclass every Tuesday after school! **REMINDER:** IGCSE Economics masterclass every Tuesday during second part of lunch break!



# MFL Update - Ms. O'Sullivan









Firstly, the MFL team are wishing our fantastic Year 11 linguists the best of luck in their upcoming mocks. They will be fantastic.

Our students have shown their competitive side with a game of vocabulary splat this week. Things got rather messy as you can see...

Meanwhile, our French linguists have led their learning from the front with games to consolidate their learning on different adjectives and their

agreements.





## The Arts Update - Mrs Rock

It has been a great start to 2025! All students have returned full of energy and ready to work hard.

There is lots to look forward to this term.

Year 11 ICT and Computer Science students will complete their mock exams. Year 11 GCSE Drama students are busy working on their scripted plays while Year 11 Art students have already begun their final component of their iGCSE. We can't wait to see your fantastic work.

Our most exciting events of term 2 will be the Junk Kouture Finals in Dublin in March and the Secondary School Production of The Demon Headmaster in a couple of weeks' time.

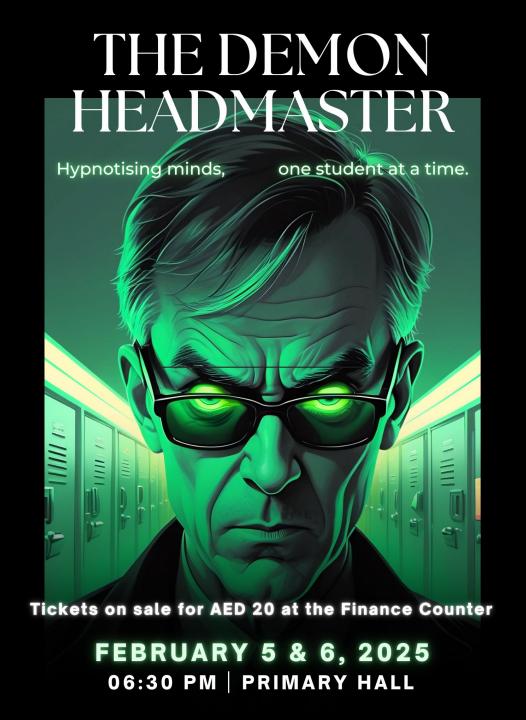
We are continuing with many of the same ECAs this term and hope to see as many students as possible participating.

# Arts Faculty ECAs Term 2 2024/2025

Day	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	School Show rehearsals (drama studio) Choir (music room)	
Tuesday	Band rehearsals (Music Room)  Yr 11 ICT and CS masterclass (ICT lab)  Year 7-9 Art Club (art room)	School Show rehearsals – mains only (From 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb this changes to GCSE Drama drop in)  GCSE Art masterclass
Wednesday	School show production team meeting. (From 19 <sup>th</sup> February these changes to GCSE Drama drop in)	
Thursday		School Show rehearsals for all (From 20 <sup>h</sup> February these changes to GCSE Drama Masterclass)

# Just over 2 weeks to go....

Get your tickets from the finance office in reception from Monday!



# PE Update | Mr. Bladen

#### Year 11 Mock Exams: Get Ready for PE!

Year 11 mock exams are just around the corner, starting with **Paper 1 on 20th January** and **Paper 2 on 27th January**. These exams are a great opportunity for students to showcase their understanding and identify areas for improvement as they prepare for their final GCSE PE assessments.

To support revision, we recommend the following resources:

- Revise Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Physical Education Revision Guide
- Revise Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Physical Education Revision Workbook
- Seneca Learning: <a href="https://app.senecalearning.com/">https://app.senecalearning.com/</a>
- BBC Bitesize:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxbg39q

We encourage all students to plan their revision carefully, use these resources effectively, and reach out to their teachers if they have any questions. Good luck to all Year 11s!





People throw stones at you and you convert them into milestones.

— Sachin Tendulkar —

AZ QUOTES







400 METRE 10 OBSTACLES
4 KILOMETRES 15 OBSTACLES
8 KILOMETRES 20 OBSTACLES
KIDS RACE 4 TO 14 YRS
SPINNING SESSION 1 HOUR



1 & 8 FEB 2025 SATURDAY



REGISTRATION 06:00 AM



KHORFAKKAN AMPHITHEATRE



# **Sports Update - Mrs Teodoro**

TERM 2 Squads details				
Team	Training days	Fixture Day	Teacher	
U13 Boys BSME Volleyball	Wednesday (lunchtime)	TBC	Mr. Bladen	
U14 Boys Volleyball	Wednesday (6.45am)	Wednesday	Mr. Bladen	
U14 Girls Volleyball	Thursday (6.45am)	Wednesday	Ms. Johnson	
U16 Boys Volleyball	Thursday (6.45am)	Thursday	Mr. Burgess	
U16 Girls Volleyball	Wednesday (6.45am)	Thursday	Mr. Bladen	
U19 Boys Volleyball	Thursday (6.45am)	Tuesday	Mr. Macpherson	
U12 Netball	Wednesday (6.45am)	Tuesday	Ms. Wallace	
U13 Netball	Tuesday (6.45am)	Thursday	Ms. Wallace	
U13 BSME Netball	Monday (6.45am)	TBC	Ms. Wallace	
U14 Netball	Tuesday (6.45am)	Thursday	Ms. Johnson	
U16 Netball	Tuesday (lunchtime)	Monday	Ms. Johnson	
Swim Squad	Friday (6.45am)	ТВС	Mr. Evans and Ms. Eman	



# **Sports Update - Mrs Teodoro**

THIS WEEK RESULTS	
U13 Girls DSG Football tournament @ Al Nasr Club	12th place
U16 Netball @ GEMS Al Barsha National School	won
U15 Girls DSG Football tournament @ Al Nasr Club	16th place
U12 Netball @ GEMS Metropole	Won
U19 Boys Volleyball @NAS	Postponed
U13 BSME Girls Football vs NLCS Dubai	Lost
U14 Boys Volleyball vs Raffles International School @SVS	Lost
U14 Girls Volleyball @ Collegiate International School	Lost
U13 Netball vs DESS College @ SVS	Won
U14 Netball @ NAS	Lost

	UPCOMING FIXTURES
20.01	DSG U12 Boys Football
20.01	U16 Netball @SVS vs DH
21.01	DSG U13 Boys Football
21.01	U12 Netball @SVS vs GEMS Founders
21.01	U14 Girls Volleyball @NIBRAS
22.02	U14 Boys Volleyball @ DIA EH
22.02	DSG U14 Boys Football
22.02	U14 Girls Volleyball @ SVS vs GEMS WSO
23.02	U16 Girls Volleyball @ SVS vs Dwight
23.02	DSG U15 Boys Football
23.02	U13 Netball @ SVS vs KSAB
23.02	U16 Boys Volleyball @ Uptown IS