

September 2, 2022

Secondary update

Dear Parents,

Week 1 is over, and it has passed in double quick time. Our secondary students have been fantastic, and it has been great to have them all back in the building. This morning I was able to speak to all students in the secondary sports hall, sharing some reflections from last year and asking them to think about what they hope to achieve this year. The slides from the assembly are available [here](#) and it may be nice for you to ask your sons and daughters what they have set as their targets for this year.



The secondary update is designed to keep parents abreast of important events in school and to provide an opportunity to share the great things that happen every day inside the building. Please do keep an eye on our social media accounts for regular updates of images and stories from across the school community.

Next week, some of our students will be completing their CAT4 assessment (for which they cannot prepare) so that we have up to date information to be able to track and monitor the progress of all students within the secondary school. Information will be shared directly with students who will be expected to complete the assessments to the best of their ability.

Should you have any queries about the secondary school then please do reach out to us via email. The list of contacts is shared at the end of the update. Please note that the list has had one update as I neglected to include our new Head of Science Mrs McCullough which has now been rectified.

I wish you all a peaceful weekend.

Kind regards



Jon Pennock

Message from Mr Macpherson – Assistant Headteacher (Pastoral care)

It has been fantastic to see all our students return to SVS after the summer break. I could not be more excited for the year ahead. The focus of the pastoral team will continue to be the wellbeing of all our students. We are passionate about creating a culture where students feel, safe, supported, challenged and inspired to learn. We have worked tirelessly to put systems and procedures to help achieve this.

Demanding high standards and expectations from our students, is something that we have asked of all teachers this year. We want our students to strive for excellence every day and understand the behaviours they need to achieve this. We believe that building habits centred around organisation, student presentation and timekeeping are vitally important for success. We will be relentless with encouraging these throughout the year, and we would really appreciate your support.

It is a real privilege for me to lead such a fantastic group of Head of Years and Form Teachers. We pride ourselves on being a community school and by extending our form time this year, we have given our teachers more time to get to really get to know our students and build those vitally important relationships. Fostering these relationships allow us to support our student by adopting a solution focussed and empathetic approach when working towards the best outcomes for each student.

Our first Pastoral Event will be out “Meet the Tutor Evening” on Wednesday 14th of September. The main aim of the evening will be to meet your child’s form tutor and develop an understanding of the important role they play in the day to day running of the school. More specific information in relation to timings will be sent out soon, please keep an eye on your emails. We would love to meet as many parents as possible.

Mrs Gordon – Assistant Headteacher (Learning and Teaching)

This year we have introduced our new set of secondary learning skills. Each week the students will focus on one skill and get to know what it can mean in general as well as in different subjects. Walking around the school during form time this week, it was wonderful to see each form group producing their own definitions for our learning skill this week ‘collaboration’ and discussing what it means to them. Many of them included working as a team to achieve a common goal!



Reading competition from the English team

Please remember to submit your photos for the 'exotic photo reading a book' competition. The deadline is set for next Friday (closing date), at noon.

Also, we would like to note that this is part of our reading drive at SVS and that all students should have a reading book from the library by the end of next week. All students will have had the opportunity to get a library book by now so please check in with your son or daughter to find out what they are reading.

Click the link below to find out why we value reading so highlight at SVS.

[How to regain the habit of deep reading Financial Times.pdf](#)

Drama notice – Lion King production

We have the opportunity to take a group of students to watch the stage production of 'The Lion King' at the Etihad Arena in Abu Dhabi on Thursday 1st December. We would like to gauge interest in this trip before booking due to the date.

The trip would be on Thursday 1st December. This could be a normal school day or a holiday, in either case, the trip would still go ahead.

Details:

- leaving school around 11am approx
- back to school between 6-7pm approx
- the cost of the trip would be around 300-350aed approx

Please indicate your interest via the following form which has also been sent to your email address.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2DZwIBR7DkaGj-HlmRa0mr_1pWZ3sBMhdd2XF8fO5xUNzNVRU9GRUNQWkszWFFJVTk2Njk0S1Y2Ni4u

Finalised information will be sent out to you if there is enough interest.

PE department – Squad trials

The PE department is pleased to announce that we will be holding competitive squad trials next week.

The purpose of the competitive squads is to develop and improve our students' skills across different sports, improve their physical condition, specific sport skills and game skills but also resilience, leadership, accountability, respect and patience. They will proudly represent SVS in competitions against other schools.

We understand that a trial process can be a stressful period for any budding sportsperson and as squad spaces are limited, taking part in these trials does not guarantee your child will be successful. Our professional judgement will be used throughout the process and if, on this occasion, your child does not make a team please be aware that we will be continuously monitoring each and every child's development within our PE and swimming curriculum lessons.

All students, from Year 7, can attend the session allocated to their year group, including previous year's squad members to ensure the process is an open and fair one given the number of new students this year.

U12 Girls Football - Tuesday @ 6.45am Astro
U13 Girls Football - Tuesday @ 6.45am Astro
U14 Girls Football - Tuesday @ 6.45am Astro
U12 Boys Football - Tuesday @ 6.45am Astro
U14 Boys Football - Thursday @ 6.45am Astro
U16 Boys Football - Thursday @ 6.45am Astro
U16 Boys Basketball - Monday @ 6.45am SMPH
U13 & U15 X-Country – Wednesday @ 6.45am Astro
U12, U14 & U16 Swimming - Friday @ 6.45am Swimming pool

Students must:

- report to Gate 3 security and meet the member of the PE team at the location to register their attendance.
- Wear proper PE and/or swimming kit.
- Change to their formal uniform at the end of the training session.
- Bring a full water bottle.

We shall be announcing the results of the trials by the end of the day on Friday, 9th of September, 2022 via Teams and will be displayed at the Sports Board.

Any questions or queries please contact Mrs. Sonia at sonia.teodoro@southview.ae.

Key contact details

Please find below the list of contacts for our secondary leadership, teaching and support teams. Each one of us will be pleased to communicate with you, however, please take note of the specific roles within the school for each staff member so that your query can be best directed and answered as accurately and quickly as possible. As parents, your first port of call should be your child's form tutor.

Role	Name	Email
Head of Secondary	Jonathan Pennock	secondaryhead@southview.ae
Assistant Head – Learning and Teaching	Alexandra Gordon	alexandra.gordon@southview.ae
Assistant Head – Pastoral care	Stuart Macpherson	stuart.macpherson@southview.ae
Head of whole school inclusion (SLT)	Laura Stokes	laura.stokes@southview.ae

Head of Year 7 and Teacher of Geography	Catherine Rahilly	catherine.rahilly@southview.ae
7A Form Tutor and Teacher of History	Jonathan Cook	jonathan.cook@southview.ae
7B Form Tutor and Teacher of Mathematics	Joanna Griffin	joanna.griffin@southview.ae
7C Form Tutor and Teacher of Science	Ryan Stredny	ryan.stredny@southview.ae
7D Form Tutor and Teacher of English	Gemma Lynch	gemma.lynch@southview.ae

Head of Year 8 and teacher of PE	Ryan Bladen	ryan.bladen@southview.ae
8A Form Tutor and Head of Computing	Izak Marais	izak.marais@southview.ae
8B Form Tutor and Teacher of Music	Noelle McMahon	noelle.mcmahon@southview.ae
8C Form Tutor and Teacher of Art	Jennifer Butcher	Jennifer.butcher@southview.ae
8D Form Tutor and Teacher of English	Eesha Matharu	eesha.matharu@southview.ae

Head of Year 9 and teacher of PE	Nicola Quick	nicola.quick@southview.ae
9A Form Tutor and Teacher of Business	Hannah Dugan	hannah.dugan@southview.ae
9B Form Tutor and Teacher of Mathematics	Gareth Breeze	william.breeze@southview.ae
9C Form Tutor and Teacher of Spanish	Louise O'Sullivan	louise.osullivan@southview.ae

Head of Year 10 and teacher of English	Thomas Gavin	thomas.gavin@southview.ae
10A Form Tutor and Teacher of PE	James Sanderson	james.sanderson@southview.ae
10B Form Tutor and Teacher of Mathematics	Wendy Richardson	wendy.richardson@southview.ae

Head of Year 11	Stuart Macpherson	stuart.macpherson@southview.ae
11A form tutor and Head of The Arts	Charlene Rock	charlene.rock@southview.ae

Secondary SENCO	Sean Fenton	sean.fenton@southview.ae
School counsellor	Sarah Benaud	Counsellor@southview.ae
Head of English	Fiona Pearson	fiona.pearson@southview.ae
Head of Mathematics	Francesca Di Meo-Smith	francesca.dimeosmith@southview.ae
Head of Science	Elizabeth McCullough	elizabeth.mccullough@southview.ae
Head of Humanities	Stacey Coy	stacey.coy@southview.ae
Head of Arabic	Ahmed Hassan	ahmed.hassan@southview.ae
Head of Islamic Studies	Abdelhamed Kerba	abdelhamed.kerba@southview.ae
Head of Modern Foreign Languages	Irene Pereira	irene.pereira@southview.ae
Head of PE	Sonia Teodoro	sonia.teodoro@southview.ae
Teacher of Science	Lucy Torrance	lucy.torrance@southview.ae
Teacher of Science	Mathias Mulumba	mulumba.mathias@southview.ae
Teacher of Arabic	Iman Moustafa	iman.moustafa@southview.ae
Teacher of Arabic	Mays Haimur	mays.haimur@southview.ae
Teacher of Arabic	Fatima Banafea	fatima.banafea@southview.ae
Teacher of Islamic Studies	Hossam Bekhit	hossam.bekhit@southview.ae
Teacher of Islamic Studies	Shaimaa Hassan	shaimaa.hassan@southview.ae
Teacher of Islamic Studies	Amal Kader	amal.abdelkader@southview.ae