



SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

SECONDARY

NEWSLETTER



WEEKLY ROUND-UP



Mr. Macpherson
Head of Secondary

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been a fantastic start to the academic year, and I could not be prouder of the way our students have approached the first two weeks of term. Their behaviour and attitude to learning have been excellent, setting a very positive tone for the months ahead. With our vision being driven by *academic excellence*, it has been wonderful to see so many students adopting a disciplined and focused approach to their studies.

As many of you know, I am a huge lover of sport and a firm advocate for the importance of sport both inside and outside of school. This week's trials were a brilliant reminder of how vibrant our sporting culture is, and I look forward to seeing our teams perform over the coming months. With cooler weather on the horizon, we cannot wait to support and encourage our teams.

Finally, as we approach the celebration of Prophet Mohammad's (peace be upon him) birthday, Mawlid, I would like to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to all of our families marking this special occasion. May it be a time of reflection, peace, and joy for you and your loved ones.

PRINCIPAL UPDATE



Ms. Williams
Principal

Dear Parents,

We would very much like you to take the WhichSchoolAdvisor.com survey.

In case you are not aware [WhichSchoolAdvisor.com](https://whichschooladvisor.com) is an independent web site that helps parents find the right schools for their children. An essential component in the advice it offers is the feedback it presents from current parents to prospective new ones. This feedback comes from its survey.

As parents of South View we very much hope that you value us both as a school and community and will express how and why in this survey. This is your chance to have your say to an independent body as to why you chose South View, and how well you think we deliver. Exactly what you say, and how, is obviously completely up to you. We too greatly value your feedback.

Many thanks in advance for the time you spend on it. The survey may be found here.

<https://whichschooladvisor.com/uae/school-surveys>



SPECIALIST UPDATES

ACADEMIC UPDATE

Ms. Joanne McCue

Assistant Head of
Secondary - Academics

SVS Supporting Your Children Academically: A Parent Guide

High school can be a challenging time for students as they balance assessments, exams, and extracurricular activities. Parents play a crucial role in helping their children succeed academically. Here are some practical ways you can offer support:

1. Create a Positive Study Environment

- Provide a quiet, well-lit space for studying with minimal distractions.
- Ensure your child has access to necessary resources (textbooks, stationery, digital tools).
- Encourage a routine for homework and revision to build consistency.

2. Encourage Effective Study Habits

- Help your child break tasks into smaller, manageable chunks.
- Encourage active learning strategies such as summarising notes, self-testing, and using flashcards.
- Promote time management skills by helping them plan revision schedules, especially before exams.

3. Foster Organisation

- Support your child in keeping track of deadlines, assignments, and upcoming tests using planners or apps.
- Encourage them to prioritise tasks and tackle more challenging subjects when they are most alert.

4. Be Involved and Interested

- Discuss what they are learning in school—ask open-ended questions rather than only focusing on grades.
- Show interest in projects, essays, or presentations to encourage pride in their work.
- Attend parent evenings and communicate with teachers when needed.

5. Support Independent Learning

- Encourage reading beyond the curriculum to develop critical thinking and research skills.
- Guide them to reliable online resources and tools for extra practice.
- Encourage reflection on mistakes as learning opportunities rather than failures.

6. Promote Wellbeing

- Encourage regular breaks, physical activity, and adequate sleep.
- Support social connections—peer discussions and study groups can enhance learning.
- Help them manage stress and celebrate achievements to maintain motivation.

7. Model a Growth Mindset

- Praise effort, resilience, and improvement rather than only outcomes.
- Encourage perseverance when concepts are difficult and highlight the value of learning from challenges.

Tip: Small, consistent support from parents often makes a bigger difference than occasional intensive interventions. Showing interest, providing structure, and fostering independence can empower students to take ownership of their learning.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

PASTORAL UPDATE



Mr. Michael Macdonald
Assistant Head of
Secondary - Pastoral

The behaviour of our students continues to be a credit to you as parents. Your children have consistently shown our school values of kindness and respect on a daily basis, and we are very proud of the way they represent South View School.

As we head into the long weekend, I would be grateful for your support in a few key areas:

- **Jewellery** – Students should wear only one set of stud earrings. If ears have recently been pierced and earrings cannot be removed, they must be covered with a plaster. No bracelets are permitted and necklaces should not be visible. During PE there are no exceptions, all jewellery must be removed.
- **School shoes** – We are still seeing a number of students wearing trainer-style black shoes. Please refer to page 22 of the Parent Handbook for clear guidance on acceptable footwear.
- **Skirt length** – Girls' skirts should sit at the knee. Please support us in maintaining this standard, as cultural sensitivity is particularly important in our Muslim country.
- **Chewing gum** – This is not permitted in school.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

ACCEPTABLE FOOTWEAR - GIRLS



ACCEPTABLE FOOTWEAR - BOYS



SPECIALIST UPDATES

DATA AND ASSESSMENT UPDATE



Mr. Ryan Bladen

Assistant Head of Secondary
Data and Assessment

A reminder that our **Year 7 students** will be sitting their **CAT4 baseline assessments** on **Friday 12th September**. These tests provide valuable insight into each student's reasoning abilities across different areas and help teachers to better understand learning styles, support needs, and potential.

To ensure the smooth running of the tests, we kindly ask that all Year 7 students come prepared with their:

- **Laptop** (fully charged)
- **Charger**
- **Headphones**

The results of the CAT4 will not affect grades or reports; instead, they will provide teachers with important information to help support and challenge students effectively throughout their learning journey.

We thank you for your support in ensuring that all students are fully prepared for the assessments.

ENTERPRISE AND TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



Miss Elizabeth Charlton
Head of Enterprise and
Technology

It's been a fantastic start to the year, with new and returning students showing impressive focus and determination.

A reminder our ECA's start next week. These include:

- IGCSE Business masterclass (Wednesday lunch)
- IGCSE Economics masterclass (Thursday lunch)
- IGCSE Computer science masterclass (Wednesday & Thursday lunch)
- Marketing masterclass for KS3 (Wednesday lunch)

Wishing you all an enjoyable long weekend.



SPECIALIST UPDATES

LITERACY UPDATE



Mr. David Archibald
Head of English & Literacy
Coordinator

Literacy at Home Tip of the Week

One of the simplest yet most effective ways to strengthen literacy is to practise *summarising*. Encouraging your child to condense what they've read into just a few sentences helps them to focus on the most important information, improves their memory, and builds confidence in explaining ideas clearly.

This doesn't have to be limited to novels or English homework. It could be a news article, a chapter from their science textbook, or even an online blog or sports report. After reading, ask your child:

- *"Can you sum this up in three sentences?"*
- *"What's the key message or takeaway?"*
- *"Which detail really stood out to you?"*

Why not give it a try this week? Pick something short to read together, set a quick three-sentence challenge, and see what key ideas they take away.

ENGLISH UPDATE

A quick reminder that our **Breakfast Club** runs every **Thursday morning from 7:15am** for **Years 10 and 11**. This is a great chance for students to get extra support, revise key skills, and enjoy a calm start to the day.

For **Years 7–9**, weekly homework continues to focus on:

- **Quill** (online grammar and writing practice)
- **Spelling words** (to build accuracy and confidence)
- **KS3 Wide Reading Programme** (encouraging regular independent reading across different genres)

We appreciate your continued support in helping students stay on top of their literacy skills.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

MATHS UPDATE



Ms Jo Griffin
Head of Maths

Our ECA's start next week, and those offered by the Maths department include:

- ❖ Y11 Breakfast Club – Ms Griffin and Mr Gaby
- ❖ Y9/Y10 Maths Clinic – Ms Houston and Ms Hughes
- ❖ Y7/Y8 Maths Clinic – Mr King
- ❖ Maths Competitions Club – Mr Moodliar and Mr Afkhami

Please see below for details of days and times.

Y11 Maths Breakfast Club

Every Tuesday morning during Term 1.

7:15am to 7:45am.

Ms Griffin's room.

Bring maths questions and tasty croissants!*



*you don't have to bring croissants, but you can eat your breakfast if you wish.



challenge ME

MATHS CHAMPIONSHIP '25 - '26

THURSDAY MORNING
EVERY WEEK
7.15AM – 7.40AM

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

MATHS CLINIC

BUILD CONFIDENCE IN MATHS!
HOMEWORK HELP AND PROBLEM SOLVING

YEARS 7&8

GET THE SUPPORT YOU NEED:

WHEN:
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
7:15-7:45

WHERE: TF 07

WITH: MR. KING

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE

Maths Clinic

Year 9 and 10

Homework Help & Maths Support

Every Monday Lunch Time at 13:20

Room TF08

With Ms Houston

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SPECIALIST UPDATES

SCIENCE UPDATE



Mr. Philip Mutton
Head of Science

As the second week of the new academic year gets underway, it has been wonderful to see our pupils settling in so quickly to life in the science department here at South View School. From day one, students have shown great enthusiasm and a real willingness to engage with their lessons.

Our classes have been busy exploring a wide range of scientific topics, and pupils are already demonstrating their growing confidence in science. They are not only working hard but also showing curiosity, asking thoughtful questions, and applying their knowledge in practical ways.

It has been particularly exciting to see pupils participating in teacher-led demonstrations and beginning their own experiments. One highlight so far has been the dramatic *whoosh bottle* demonstration, led by Mr. McCullough (pictured). This captivating experiment sparked plenty of discussion and left students eager to learn more about the science behind it.

We are incredibly proud of how quickly our pupils have embraced the challenges of science, and we look forward to a year full of discovery, experimentation, and achievement!



SPECIALIST UPDATES

ARABIC A UPDATE



Mr. Abdelhamed Kerba
Head of MOE Subjects.

أولياء الأمور الأعزاء،

تحية طيبة وبعد،

انطلاقاً من التزامنا الدائم بالارتقاء بالمستوى اللغوي والأدبي لأبنائنا الطلبة، نولي في هذه المرحلة اهتماماً خاصاً بتنمية مهاراتهم في تحليل النصوص الشعرية، بما يشمل التذوق الأدبي، وفهم الصور البلاغية، واستيعاب الرسائل الفكرية والوجدانية التي تحملها هذه النصوص. ويهدف ذلك إلى تعزيز قدراتهم على التفكير النقدي والإبداعي، وتعميق ارتباطهم بالثقافة العربية وهويتهم الوطنية.

تنويه مهم لطلاب الصف الحادي عشر وأولياء أمورهم:

نرجو من أبنائنا الطلاب الإسراع في تحديد اختيارهم بين مساري **Arabic GCSE & Arabic O-level** في مادة اللغة العربية، وإرسال تأكيد رسمي عبر البريد الإلكتروني، وذلك ليتسنى لنا تنظيم الخطة الدراسية بما يتناسب مع احتياجات كل طالب على النحو الأمثل.

نشكركم على تعاونكم ودعمكم المستمر، ونتطلع إلى شراكة مثمرة معكم تسهم في تحقيق أفضل النتائج لأبنائنا. مع خالص التقدير،

ARABIC B UPDATE

Dear Parents,

Warm greetings,

In Arabic B, our focus is to support students in developing their Arabic language skills gradually and confidently. We aim to create a positive and engaging learning environment where students feel encouraged to practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Arabic.

Our main objectives are:

- To build students' confidence in using Arabic in simple, meaningful situations.
- To expand their vocabulary and understanding of basic structures of the language.
- To nurture a love for Arabic as a language of communication and culture.

Reminder for Parents:

- Encourage your child to revise new vocabulary regularly and practice simple conversations at home.
- Please check **Microsoft Teams** weekly for updates, resources, and assignments.

Together, we work hand in hand to help our students progress step by step, gaining both skills and confidence in their Arabic learning journey.

With best regards,

SPECIALIST UPDATES

ISLAMIC



Mr. Abdelhamed Kerba
Head of MOE Subjects.

Dear Parents,

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh,

In Islamic Education, our primary goal is to nurture in our students a strong connection to their faith and values, while guiding them to embody good character and positive behavior in their daily lives. We strive to instill in them the principles of respect, kindness, responsibility, and pride in their Islamic identity.

This week, our students engaged in a variety of meaningful activities designed to deepen their understanding of Islam, strengthen their spiritual practices, and inspire them to apply what they learn in their everyday lives.

Reminder for Parents:

Kindly encourage your children to revise their lessons regularly and put their learning into practice at home and in the community.

Please check **Microsoft Teams** frequently for updates, class materials, and assignments.

Together, we aim to raise a generation of students who are confident in their faith, proud of their identity, and ready to contribute positively to the wider society.

With warm regards,

SOCIAL STUDY

أولياء الأمور الأفاضل،

تحية طيبة وبعد،

انطلاقاً من حرصنا على غرس قيم الهوية والانتماء في نفوس أبنائنا، نواصل في مادة الدراسات الاجتماعية تقديم موضوعات هادفة تسهم في تعزيز فهم الطلاب لوطنهم وثقافتهم، تحت شعار:

"من المهارة إلى الصدارة".

خلال هذا الأسبوع، شارك أبنائنا في أنشطة تعليمية وتفاعلية هدفت إلى تنمية مهارات التفكير والتحليل، حيث:

- ◆ تعرفوا إلى مفتاح الخريطة، وتدرّبوا على قراءة الرموز وتفسير المعالم وربطها بالمواقع الجغرافية الواقعية.
- ◆ ناقشوا الموقع الجغرافي لشبه الجزيرة العربية، ودوره المحوري في ازدهار التجارة، ونشأة الحضارات، وتعزيز الهوية الثقافية لشعوب المنطقة.
- ◆ تعمّقوا في دراسة خصائص السكان في شبه الجزيرة العربية، بما يشمل التنوع وأساليب العيش وعلاقة السكان ببيئتهم الطبيعية.
- ◆ استعرضوا أهمية الدستور في دولة الإمارات، باعتباره مرجعاً يحفظ الحقوق، وينظم شؤون الدولة، ويؤكد مبادئ العدالة والمواطنة، ويشكّل أحد أعمدة الهوية الوطنية.

نود التذكير بضرورة متابعة منصة **Teams** بانتظام، للاطلاع على الدروس، والواجبات، والأنشطة الصفية المقررة.

وبالتعاون معكم، نغرس في أبنائنا مفهوم الهوية، ليكونوا قادة واثقين بجذورهم، ومؤهلين لمستقبل مشرق.

مع خالص الشكر والتقدير،

SPECIALIST UPDATES

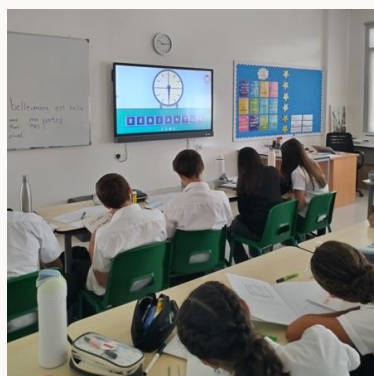
MFL UPDATE



Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick
Head of MFL

Our MFL students have made a fantastic start to the year! It has been wonderful to see how quickly they have settled into their lessons across all year groups. Their confidence is already shining through, whether they are speaking in a new language, tackling grammar, or taking part in class discussions.

Students have taken part in a wide range of engaging activities, including interactive games designed to reinforce vocabulary, strengthen grammar knowledge, and encourage teamwork. We are so proud of the enthusiasm they bring to each lesson and can't wait to see their progress and achievements continue to grow throughout the year.



PERFORMING ARTS UPDATE



Ms. Charlene Rock
Head of Performing Arts

This week students have settled back into their classes very well. Year 7's have performed in Drama as part of a baseline assessment and The Secondary School Band has begun!

Next week sees the start of the Secondary School choir and Junk Kouture Clubs. It really is an exciting time for us.

We really value Music and what this teaches to students. Please see the letter and advert on our next page about our new collaboration with The Centre for Musical Arts. We are very lucky to have secured this partnership.



Performing Arts UPDATES



مركز الفنون الموسيقية
CENTRE FOR MUSICAL ARTS

Learn To Play an Instrument at

Southview School



For more details and information please visit our website at the link below or to register, scan the QR code with your smartphone:

www.cmadubai.com/en/southviewschool

* Trial Lessons available upon request at time of registration.

Registration does not guarantee a place on the instrumental program. You will be contacted when a space becomes available for your child. Lessons take place during the school day and are subject to terms and conditions agreed upon at registration.



Call: 056 766 6527 | Email: southview@cmadubai.com | Visit: www.cmadubai.com



For registration - [Centre for Musical Arts - South View School](http://www.cmadubai.com/en/southviewschool)

For enquiries – southview@cmadubai.com

Performing Arts UPDATES

Dear Parents,

Centre for Musical Arts is proud to provide instrumental music lessons to students at **Southview School**. We would like to take this opportunity to invite students to register for a place on our instrumental programmes in school for the **2025-26** academic year. As our places are limited and slots fill up quickly, we would encourage you to register your child as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Group and Individual Lessons

Our lessons take place during the school day and run on a rotational basis. Students will come out of their classroom lessons to attend their instrumental tuition. This rotation format ensures that students do not miss the same lesson week after week. Classroom teachers have access to our timetable and are aware of students attending instrumental lessons and will structure any classroom work accordingly.

CMA offers both Individual and group lessons, dependent upon instrument and student level. Group lessons can be offered on most instruments (with the exception of piano, voice and drum kit, which need to be taught on an individual basis). In a group there will be a maximum of 4 students per lesson. Group lessons are subject to availability and demand, as students need to be grouped with other students of the same ability and age group. **Group lessons are only available to beginners** and after one year of learning, students will be encouraged to move on to individual lessons.

Fees

Lessons are 30 minutes in length. Fees are Dhs 185 per individual lesson and Dhs 110 per student per group lesson (maximum 2-4 students). All fees are chargeable by the term.

Registration

To register your child for instrumental lessons, please complete all of the details on the form which can be found on the following link; <https://forms.gle/4cYfnhMnQMnmcxH7>

Please read all of the information carefully, as well as our Terms and Conditions document at the end of the registration form. Further details can be found on our website at www.cmadubai.com.

Once registered, parents will receive a confirmation email and an invoice from the CMA team to proceed with payment. Fees must be paid before lessons can commence. Please note that your booking is not confirmed until fees have been settled and slots cannot be reserved without the settlement of fees. All lessons are subject to availability and demand. If for any reason the chosen instrument is not available, we will contact you as soon as possible to discuss other options.

We look forward to welcoming you to our instrumental programme.

Kind regards

The CMA Team - Schools Music Service
Centre For Musical Arts



مركز الفنون الموسيقية
CENTRE FOR MUSICAL ARTS

For more information call: 056 766 6527
Email: southview@cmadubai.com
or visit our website www.cmadubai.com

For registration - [Centre for Musical Arts - South View School](#)

For enquiries – southview@cmadubai.com

Performing Arts UPDATES

- Choir and Junk Kouture will begin the week of **Monday 8th September**
- School Musical details will come out soon- please look out for more information next week.

Arts Faculty ECAs

Term 1

2025/2026

Day	Lunchtime	After school
Monday	(NS) – Prop/Set - show – invite only Show rehearsals – invite only (JP)	Show rehearsals- invite only (JP and CRO)
Tuesday	Band (TGO) Junk Kouture (NS)	
Wednesday	Choir (CRO and Tessa)	Show rehearsals – invite only (CRO)
Thursday	Band (TGO)	



Performing Arts UPDATES



Join us @

SVS CHOIR

Come and join us and become a part of the SVS CHOIR! Every Wednesday Lunchtime in the Drama Studio 1:05-1:40 (Bring your lunch!)

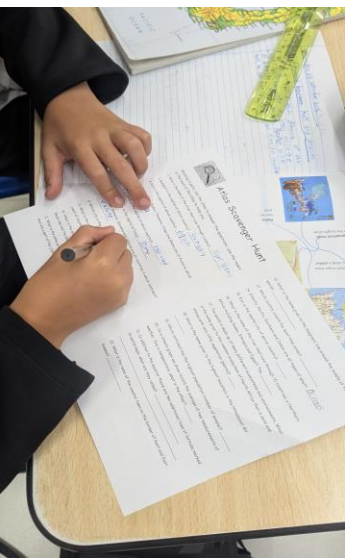


HUMANITIES UPDATE



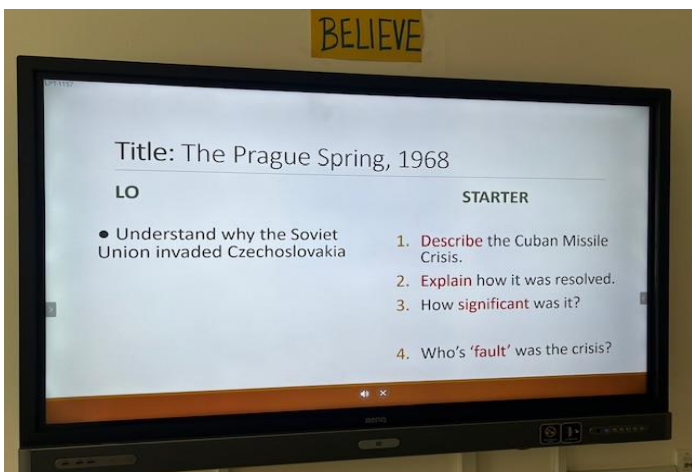
Ms. Kirstin Scouller
Head of Humanities

This week in Humanities, all our students impressed us with their positive attitude and enthusiastic effort as they tackled new and intriguing topics. Year 7 geographers took part in an exciting Atlas scavenger hunt, exploring the wonders of the world around them. From discovering hidden islands and locating capital cities to investigating time zones, they were curious, engaged, and eager to learn. Well done, Year 7!



In History our Year 11 pupils were answering some thought-provoking questions. This style was discussed at Miss Billington's staff professional development sessions on Tuesday.

Meanwhile in Year 10, pupils were analysing the key features of the of the World War One Naval Race. Identifying relevant knowledge from the textbook to add to their notes.



SPECIALIST UPDATES

INCLUSION UPDATE



Ms. Nicola Quick
Head of Year 12 & Special
Education Needs
Coordinator - Secondary



Mrs Abigail Dunn
Head of Inclusion

To celebrate the start of the new academic year please join us for a Secondary Inclusion Coffee Morning. Drop in to say hello and meet the team.

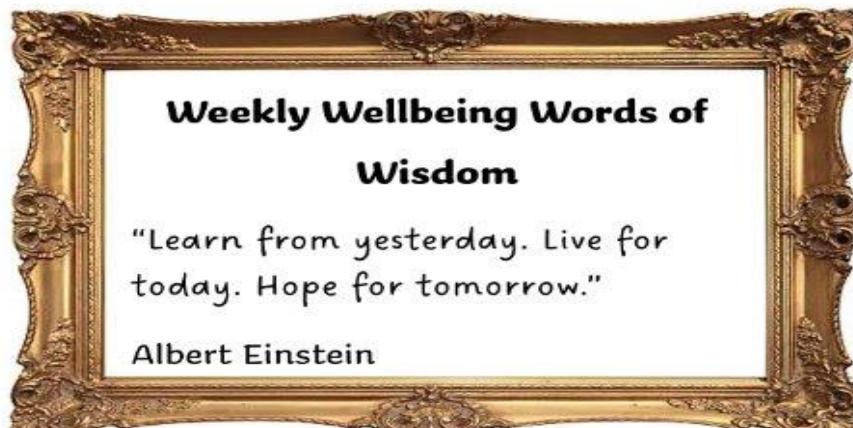


**Secondary Inclusion
Coffee Morning**

**Wednesday
10th September
8 - 8.30am**

Secondary Library

Dear Parents, families and carers, I am Abigail Dunn, and I'm delighted to be joining South View School as Head of Inclusion for the 2025–26 academic year. Originally from the UK, I hold a degree in English Literature and am a passionate and experienced educator with over 15 years of teaching in outstanding schools across the UK and the UAE. I believe strongly in life-long learning and continually seek out innovative practices that we can adapt to meet the needs of our diverse learners here at SVS. My educational philosophy is simple: Celebrate success. Focus on what learners can do - not what they can't. At SVS, I am proud to be joining a team committed to fostering a truly inclusive environment where every learner feels supported, valued, and empowered to thrive.



PE UPDATES



Ms. Michelle Rowcliffe
Head of Department -
Secondary

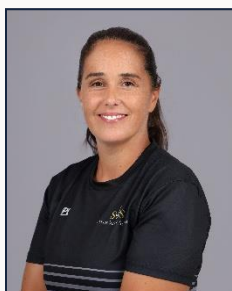
This week in PE we have started developing our volleyball and football skills in KS3. In KS4 pupils have participated in a choice of volleyball, football and fitness. Year 11 GCSE students have performed fitness tests in preparation for their coursework and Year 10 have focused on developing their performance in netball.

Please remember that **jewellery of any kind (including earrings, watches, and bracelets)** is not allowed to be worn in PE lessons. The taping and covering of earrings is also not permitted.



PE & SQUAD UPDATES

Secondary Squad Trials



Mrs. Sonia Teodoro
Director of Sport

This week we were delighted to see so many secondary students taking part in the sports trials for football, basketball, swimming, and gymnastics. It was fantastic to witness their commitment and determination to give their very best.

Following requests from a number of students, we are pleased to confirm that trials will be extended into next week. If your child is interested in representing the school in any of these sports, we strongly encourage them to attend the upcoming sessions.

All trial dates and times can be found in the poster below.

NEW DATES

SVS
SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

SQUAD TRIALS

- U12 & U14 Girls Football - 08/09/2025, 7am, Astro. (Y7 to Y9)
- U16 Boys Basketball - 08/09/2025, 7am, SMPH. (Y10 & Y11)
- U16 Boys Football - 09/09/2025, 7am, Astro. (Y10 & Y11)
- U16 Girls Basketball - 09/09/2025, 7am, SMPH. (Y10 & Y11)
- U12 & U14 Boys Football - 10/09/2025, 7am, Astro. (Y7 to Y9)
- Gymnastics (Y7 to Y12) - 11/09/2025, 3.40pm, SMPH
- U16 Girls Football - 11/09/2025, 7am, Astro. (Y10 & Y11)
- Swimming (Y7 to Y9) - 12/09/2025, 7am, Swimming pool.

For further information contact the PE department.





SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

www.southviewschool.com

admissions@southview.ae

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