



SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

SECONDARY

NEWSLETTER



WEEKLY ROUND -UP



Dear parents and guardians

It has been a truly fantastic week at South View School, highlighted by our incredible school production of *The Wiz*. The standard of performance across all year groups was simply outstanding. Students demonstrated remarkable confidence, stage presence and talent, delivering a show full of energy and creativity. It was wonderful to see them bring their characters to life while showcasing their singing, acting and dancing abilities at such a high level..

Mr. Macpherson

Head of Secondary

A huge thank you to all the parents who came to watch and supported the students throughout the rehearsal process and performances. Your encouragement and presence make these events even more special for our young performers. I would also like to extend a massive thank you to Miss Sweeney and Mrs Parker for their hard work and dedication in bringing the production together. A very special thank you must go to Mrs Rock for her unwavering commitment, countless hours of preparation, and passion for ensuring the production was such a tremendous success.

Personally, I was out of school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday attending the BSME conference in Abu Dhabi titled *The Human Algorithm*. I was fortunate to speak with some fascinating experts from the world of educational technology and artificial intelligence. These conversations have provided valuable insight into how schools can best prepare students for a rapidly evolving digital world. Over the coming weeks and months, I look forward to engaging with students, staff, and parents on this topic as we begin shaping and developing our digital strategy for the future. It is an incredibly exciting time, and I am enthusiastic about the opportunities this will bring to South View School.

Kind regards

Mr Macpherson



SPECIALIST UPDATES

ACADEMIC UPDATE

Summer Exams



Ms. Joanne McCue
Assistant Head of
Secondary - Academics

As we approach the modular examinations for Year 10 Mathematics, selected examinations for Year 12, and the main examination period for Years 11 and 13, our focus is on supporting pupils with their exam preparation.

Please find below some guidance on how you can best support your child during this important time.

Advice for Parents & Pupils: Preparing for Exams

Create a Revision Plan

- Break revision into weekly goals — subject by subject.
- Include time for past-paper practice, review of feedback, and targeted revision on weaker areas.
- Short, regular revision sessions are more effective than last-minute cramming.

Establish Good Routines

- Ensure your children get enough sleep, especially in the evenings before exams.
- Maintain balanced meals and hydration.
- Build in short breaks during revision to support concentration.

Pastoral & Academic Support

- Encourage pupils to attend masterclasses offered by school.
- Ask subject teachers for clarification on areas of difficulty.
- Use feedback from mock exams to focus revision where it matters most.

Emotional Wellbeing

- A positive mindset enhances performance — praise effort and progress.
- Recognise stress and support healthy coping strategies (exercise, routines, downtime).
- Reach out to pastoral staff if your child feels overwhelmed.

What to Expect Throughout the Exam Season

- Students will complete exams over **many weeks** — exams are not all at once.
- Some subjects may have **practical or speaking components scheduled early** in the exam cycle.
- Schools will communicate any last-minute changes or rooming

arrangements.



SPECIALIST UPDATES

PASTORAL UPDATE



Mr. Michael Macdonald
Assistant Head of
Secondary - Pastoral

Next week we will be celebrating Wellbeing Week, a dedicated time for students to focus on looking after both their physical and emotional health. Across the week, we will be encouraging pupils to slow things down, reflect, and build positive habits that support their wellbeing.

We will be talking to students about the importance of taking time away from screens, establishing healthy sleep routines, and making positive choices around nutrition and hydration. Small changes in these areas can have a big impact on mood, focus, and overall wellbeing, and we are encouraging students to think about how they can apply this both in and out of school.

The week will culminate in our much-anticipated Colour Run, a fun and inclusive event that celebrates movement, community, and positive energy. We are really looking forward to ending the week on such a high note.

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our community safe, we would also like to ask parents and carers to check their child's equipment at home. Please ensure that pencil cases, bags, and stationery sets do not contain any sharp or cutting implements, including craft tools or box cutters. We are aware that some stationery sets sold in shops may include these items. These must not be brought onto the school site, and any such items found will be treated as a serious behavioural breach, in line with our behaviour policy.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping us promote wellbeing and safety for all students.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

6th FORM and CAREERS UPDATE



Mr. Carl Burgess
Head of Sixth Form



University Fair: Broadening Horizons

We were delighted to recently host our own University Fair featuring over 20 international universities from Europe, North America and Canada. This event was an outstanding opportunity for both **KS4 and KS5 students**, exposing them to a wide range of global pathways and post-18 options.

For **KS4 students**, early exposure to universities helps build aspiration and provides important context for why GCSE choices, effort, and study habits matter. It encourages students to think beyond traditional routes and recognise that there are multiple pathways to success.

For **KS5 students**, the fair offered direct access to admissions teams, enabling meaningful conversations about entry requirements, courses, scholarships, and student life. Many students left with clearer goals and increased confidence in their future planning. Opportunities like this are central to strong careers guidance and ensure students are informed, ambitious, and globally minded.

Bridging Gaps in Learning After Mock Examinations.

Mocks are not a final judgement; they are a **diagnostic tool** that allows us to identify gaps early and respond effectively.

As **Head of Sixth Form**, a key focus moving forward is supporting students to close these gaps through:

- Targeted revision based on mock feedback
- Purposeful use of study periods
- Subject-specific intervention and support
- Strong routines around attendance, organisation, and independent study

We encourage students to view this stage positively. With reflection, consistency, and commitment, there is significant opportunity for progress between now and the final examinations. Our aim is to ensure every student is supported, challenged, and equipped to achieve their full potential.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

DATA AND ASSESSMENT UPDATE



Mr. Ryan Bladen

Assistant Head of Secondary
Data and Assessment

NGRT Assessments: Years 7–10

Next week, students in Years 7–10 will complete the NGRT B (New Group Reading Test). This is a standardised, online assessment that measures students' reading skills, including comprehension, vocabulary, and sentence-level understanding.

The NGRT cannot be revised for, as it is designed to assess students' natural reading ability rather than learned content. Students simply need to arrive rested and ready to try their best. This will occur in their English lessons.

We use NGRT data to gain an accurate picture of each student's reading age and progress over time. This helps teachers plan lessons effectively, identify students who may need additional support or challenge, and ensure teaching is well matched to students' needs across the curriculum.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

LITERACY UPDATE



Mr. David Archibald
Head of English &
Literacy Coordinator

NGRT (New Group Reading Test) is an online reading assessment that measures students' reading comprehension and vocabulary. It helps us understand each student's reading age and identify strengths and areas for development, allowing teachers to better support learning across subjects.

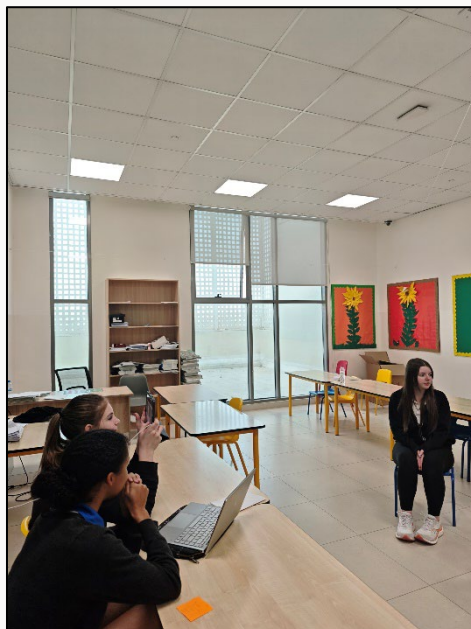
The test is adaptive, meaning questions adjust to each student's responses, and it is completed independently under exam-style conditions

Testing schedule:

- Monday: Period 1 – 9D, 9E | Periods 2 – All Year 10 | Period 7 – 8D, 8E
- Wednesday: Period 7 – 8A, 8B, 8C
- Thursday: Period 2 – 7A, 7B | Periods 4 – 7C, 7D, 7E | Period 7 – 9A, 9B, 9C

Students will need a fully charged device and headphones to complete the test. Please ensure these are brought to school on the day of testing to avoid any disruption.

ENGLISH UPDATE



Year 9 students have been developing their own documentaries as part of their English curriculum.

Through this project, students have learned how to structure information effectively, communicate ideas clearly, and think critically about audience and purpose.

The strongest examples of student work will be showcased on 16 February, celebrating creativity, effort and achievement across the year group.

We look forward to sharing the impressive work our students have produced.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

MATHS UPDATE



Ms Jo Griffin
Head of Maths

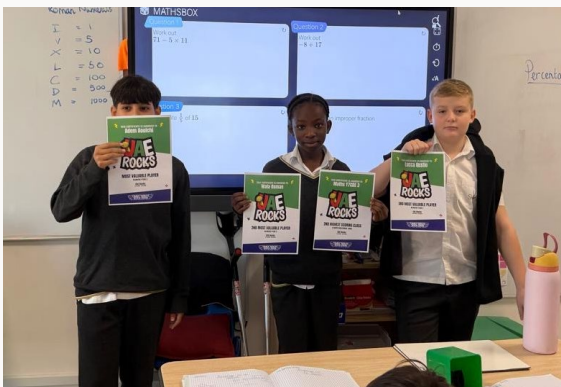
South View Mathematicians Shine at Jumeirah College

This week, our ambitious Year 9 mathematicians traveled to Jumeirah College to represent South View School in the Dubai Maths Super League. Competing against some of the most talented students in the city, our team demonstrated resilience and intellectual agility as they tackled a series of tasks designed to test logical reasoning and complex problem-solving. Beyond the formulas and equations, the event was a brilliant display of collaboration and sportsmanship, with our students working together to solve unfamiliar challenges. We are incredibly proud of how our Year 9s conducted themselves. Well done to all involved!

The "Super League" Challenge Corner

Think you have what it takes to match our Year 9 competitors? Try these three challenges inspired by the types of problems seen in the competition:

- 1) The Logic Leap: A clock strikes once at 1 o'clock, twice at 2 o'clock, and so on. How many times does it strike in total over a full 24-hour period?
- 2) The Geometry Grind: If a square has a diagonal length of $\sqrt{50}$ units, what is the area of the square?
- 3) The Sequence Sprint: What is the next number in the sequence: 2, 5, 11, 23, 47, ...?



Huge congratulations to our **Year 7 and Year 8** students who channeled their inner musicians this week to compete in the high-energy **UAE Rocks Times Tables Rock Stars** competition!

Our pupils went head-to-head with schools across the country, showcasing incredible **multiplication fluency** and lightning-fast mental recall as they climbed the national leaderboard.

The atmosphere was electric as students raced to boost their "Rock Status," proving that dedication to daily practice truly pays off.

We are very proud of the focus and competitive spirit shown by our young mathematicians—well done to everyone who helped South View School climb the ranks in this nationwide battle!



SPECIALIST UPDATES

MFL UPDATE



Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick
Head of MFL

It has been a busy and productive period in the MFL department, with our GCSE students recently receiving their mock examination results. It was fantastic to see so many smiley faces as students opened their results and recognised the progress they have made.

The mocks provide an important opportunity for students to reflect on their strengths and identify areas for further development as they continue preparing for their final examinations. We are very proud of the effort, resilience and commitment shown by our students and encourage them to continue building on this positive momentum.

Our Year 9 Spanish students have also been busy developing their creativity and language skills by building model homes as part of their current topic. This hands-on project has allowed students to apply their vocabulary in a practical and engaging way, and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and imagination throughout the task.

PERFORMING ARTS UPDATE



Ms. Charlene Rock
Head of Performing Arts

Well done and Congratulations to the Cast and Crew of The Wiz Jr. We are blown away by your performances... more to follow in next week's newsletter...



Performing Arts UPDATES



don't forget to
FOLLOW US ON
INSTAGRAM!
@artsatsvs

SPECIALIST UPDATES

INCLUSION UPDATE



Ms. Nicola Quick

Head of Year 12 & Special
Education Needs
Coordinator- Secondary



Mrs Abigale Dunn

Head of Inclusion

Please join us
for our coffee
morning next
Thursday!



This week in our English Interventions, we wrote sentences without any support or resources. We then had a lesson on adverbs, adjectives, conjunctions and verbs where we had to match words to the correct label.



SVS Inclusion Partnership

Join Us for the First SVS Inclusion Partnership Coffee Morning

We are delighted to invite you to the first SVS Inclusion Partnership coffee morning on **Thursday, 12th February**, from **8:00 am to 9:00 am** in the Secondary Library.



This open event is a wonderful opportunity for parents of learners from FS1 through Year 13 who access any form of inclusion support—including SEND, AEN, ELL, EAL, or More Able and Exceptionally Able programs—to connect in a relaxed and supportive environment.

At South View School, we believe that progress is most secure when we work in true partnership with our families. Whether you would like to share your experiences, meet our Inclusion team, or simply enjoy a coffee with fellow parents, we would love to see you there. Together, we can continue to ensure that every learner at SVS is empowered to reach their full potential!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Thursday, 12th February | 8:00 am to 9:00 am | Secondary Library

✉ info@southview.ae 🌐 www.southview.ae ☎ +971 4 589 7904

PE UPDATES



Ms. Michelle Rowcliffe
Head of Department -
Secondary

It has been a busy and productive week in the PE department. Our KS3 students have been developing their relay changeovers in athletics and refining their swim strokes during pool sessions. KS4 students have enjoyed a varied programme, taking part in volleyball, netball, badminton and fitness training in the gym.

Our GCSE PE students have begun gathering video evidence for their practical assessments, demonstrating great focus and commitment. We are also looking forward to seeing those being assessed in netball during their after-school match on Tuesday.

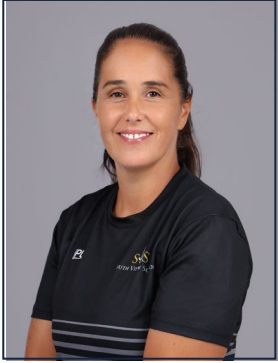
BTEC Sport students have been preparing for their client consultations next week. They have been practising taking their blood pressure, calculating BMI and preparing their lifestyle questionnaires.

If your child needs to be excused from PE, please contact their PE teacher directly or email michelle.rowcliffe@southview.ae



SQUADS UPDATES

U11 BSME Games at South View School – This Weekend



Mrs. Teodoro
Director of Sports

During this weekend, South View School will proudly host the U11 BSME Games, a three-day multisport event bringing together young athletes from across the region. From Friday to Sunday, students will compete in basketball, football, netball, swimming, and athletics.

A total of 11 schools, with almost 400 athletes from Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Saudi Arabia, will be taking part in what promises to be an exciting and vibrant celebration of sport.

South View School will be proudly represented by the following students:

Boys squad	Girls Squad
Hugo Benayas	Aara Ahmed
Oscar Newman	Autumn Wilson
Mourad Hassanin	Hawraa Kachwala
Maksim Shalagin	Candela Hermanni
Isaac Barlow	Aika Shimizu-Omoregie
Fadi Halaseh	Mona Dabdoub
William Rowcliffe	Salma Nammas
Adam Kharboush	Kelise Scott
Hamdi Al Khamash	Teah Mhawech
Jude Abdo	Egypt Ratumaitavuki
Eyad Haddad	Malak Ghazali
Blake Williams	Hailey Kunikina
Maxim Jaroudi	Salma Abdelaziz
Seraph Sachdeva	Evdokia Sciberras

Please find the links below for more information:

[Event Handbook](#) – including the detailed schedule

[Tournify App](#) – to follow team sports fixtures and results live

We warmly invite the entire SVS community to come along and witness the fantastic atmosphere this event is expected to bring. We kindly ask all SVS spectators to use the designated viewing areas throughout the weekend.

We are looking forward to a fantastic showcase of sportsmanship, teamwork, and competitive spirit. Let's go SVS.



don't forget to
FOLLOW US ON
INSTAGRAM!
@SportsatSVS

PE & SQUAD UPDATES



FIXTURES

RESULTS

Girls Volleyball

U14'S - LOST

Boys Volleyball

U14'S - WIN
U16'S - TBC

Netball

U19'S VS SCS - LOST
U16'S VS SCS - LOST
U12'S VS KAB - LOST
U14'S VS DBS JP - TBC



NEXT WEEK

Girls Volleyball

12.02 - U16'S VS SBS & VS RIS @SBS

Boys Volleyball

NO GAMES

Netball

NO GAMES

Athletics

DASSA ATHLETICS @ ISD SPORTS CITY



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