



SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

# SECONDARY

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# NEWSLETTER



## WEEKLY ROUND-UP



**Mr. Macpherson**  
Head of Secondary

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy New Year to you all, I hope you had a restful and enjoyable winter break. It has been wonderful to welcome our students back to school this week and to see the positivity, focus, and enthusiasm with which they have started the new year.

As we look forward to the year ahead, we are excited about the opportunities we have to support our students not only in achieving academic excellence, but also in continuing to grow as people who live out our core values of **kindness, integrity, and respect** each day.

A key focus for us moving forward is strengthening our links with parents and the wider community. Our relationships are what make South View such a special place, and I would strongly encourage you to engage with the range of parental events we offer, from coffee mornings to parents' evenings and wider community initiatives. These opportunities allow us to work in true partnership for the benefit of our students. Please do feel free to email me if there are any themes you would like us to explore, or if you have ideas for parent initiatives you would like us to consider.

Finally, I would like to wish the very best of luck to our Year 11 students sitting their mock examinations next week, and to our Year 12 and 13 students who are beginning their external exams. We are confident your dedication, discipline, and hard work are will be rewarded

I am really looking forward to all that we can achieve together in the year ahead.

**Mr Macpherson**



# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## ACADEMIC UPDATE



**Ms. Joanne McCue**  
Assistant Head of  
Secondary - Academics

### **Upcoming Examinations**

South View School is now entering an important and exciting phase of the academic year, the examination season for our secondary pupils. This is a time when months of learning, effort, and determination come together and pupils have the opportunity to show just how much they have grown.

External examinations for A Level qualifications have now begun, marking the start of this journey. Mock examinations for Years 11 and 12 will take place in our newly prepared Exam Marquee starting on Monday. These assessments are not simply tests; they are valuable stepping stones that help pupils build confidence, resilience, and readiness for the challenges ahead.

### **Exam Arrangements and Expectations**

Pupils will be seated according to a formal seating plan so that conditions are calm, structured, and equitable.

Only permitted equipment may be taken into the exam room, encouraging pupils to come prepared and organised.

Drinks must be water in a clear bottle with labels removed.

Clear pencil cases only are allowed.

All bags and personal belongings must be left securely in student lockers.

These expectations help us create an environment where pupils can focus fully on demonstrating their best.

### **Electronic Devices**

In line with JCQ guidance, pupils must not take any electronic devices into the exam hall. This includes mobile phones, smartwatches, earbuds, and all internet-enabled equipment. Possession of such a device, whether switched on or off is classified as malpractice and will lead to serious penalties issued by the exam board.

Thank you for supporting us by reinforcing this message at home. Your guidance helps pupils enter their mock exams with maturity, responsibility, and integrity, ready to focus fully on demonstrating their very best.

### **Mock Exam Results – Years 11 and 12**

Year 11 and 12 mock exam papers will be carefully marked by teachers and kept securely until the official Mock Exam Results Day on Friday 6th February. On this day, pupils will receive their grades, detailed feedback, and clear guidance on how to strengthen their performance ahead of the summer examinations.

Where pupils have not yet reached their potential, we will stand beside them. They will be supported through individual meetings with senior staff to plan the way forward, and targeted parent meetings will be arranged where appropriate. Together, school and home will help every pupil turn their mock results into future success.

Examinations are moments of challenge, but also moments of opportunity. Thank you for your continued encouragement and support as our pupils take these important next steps toward achieving their goals.

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## PASTORAL UPDATE



**Mr. Michael Macdonald**  
Assistant Head of  
Secondary - Pastoral

Happy New Year and welcome back to school. Returning after a long break can be a significant adjustment for both students and families. While time away is important for rest and reflection, getting back into a clear routine as quickly as possible is key to helping students settle, feel secure, and succeed.

Research consistently shows that strong daily routines have a positive impact on focus, behaviour, and academic progress. Children and young people who return to regular sleep patterns demonstrate improved concentration, memory, and emotional regulation. Teenagers typically need between 8–10 hours of sleep each night, and even small improvements in sleep consistency can make a noticeable difference in classroom engagement.

Nutrition and hydration also play an essential role in supporting learning. Regular meals, particularly breakfast, are linked to better attention and sustained energy levels throughout the school day. Studies show that even mild dehydration can negatively affect cognitive performance, making regular water intake an important daily habit.

Equally important are study routines. Establishing a consistent time and space for homework and revision helps students re-engage with learning after a break. Evidence suggests that students with structured study habits feel more confident, organised, and less anxious about managing their workload.

By re-establishing routines around sleep, nutrition, hydration, and study early in the term, students are far better placed to make a positive start back at school. These small, everyday habits create strong foundations for wellbeing, learning, and long-term success.

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## DATA AND ASSESSMENT UPDATE



**Mr. Ryan Bladen**

Assistant Head of Secondary  
Data and Assessment

### **Mock Exams: The Strategic Stepping Stone to Summer Success**

Next week, our Year 11 and Year 12 students will embark on their mock examinations. This is a significant moment in the academic calendar, far more than just a 'practice run'.

These exams serve as a crucial diagnostic tool, providing invaluable insights for both students and staff. They are the clearest indicator we have of current attainment levels and the tangible progress made since September. For students, the results will illuminate strengths to consolidate and precise areas for development, allowing for a highly targeted and effective revision strategy in the crucial months ahead.

Most importantly, the mocks are about shaping the next steps. The feedback and detailed analysis from these papers will directly inform personalised learning plans, helping every student to focus their efforts where it matters most before the final summer examinations.

We encourage all students to approach these mocks with focus and determination, treating them as an opportunity to refine exam technique, build stamina, and gain confidence. Please join us in supporting them through this important period.

Good luck to all Year 11 and Year 12 students, we know you will give it your best!

## ENTERPRISE AND TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



**Miss Elizabeth Charlton**  
Head of Enterprise and  
Technology

Welcome back to all our pupils.

This week our A Level Economics students will sit their first external exam, we wish you all the best.

Next week, our Year 11 and Year 12 students will begin mock exams. This is your opportunity to demonstrate all the hard work you have put it on these courses. Good luck!

### **Revision top tips:**

Use Brainscape/flashcards to practice key words.  
Use the Edexcel website/save my exams to access past papers and mark schemes.

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## LITERACY UPDATE



**Mr. David Archibald**  
Head of English &  
Literacy Coordinator

During Thursday literacy form time this term, we are encouraging all students to dive into engaging whole-class reading to foster a love of reading and to enjoy texts together.

Year 7 are venturing down the rabbit hole with *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, exploring a world full of imagination and surprises. Year 8 are meeting the mischievous characters of *Children and It* by E. Nesbit, discovering the fun and adventure of classic storytelling. Year 9 are on the trail of mystery with *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, putting their detective skills to the test.

The goal? To spark a love of reading, enjoy the story together as a class, and get everyone talking about what they discover along the way.

All year groups will be discussing themes, vocabulary, and their responses to the texts during form time, helping to build confidence and a lifelong enjoyment of reading.

We are also delighted to celebrate our students' participation in the winter reading programme. Participants received prizes during form time on today congratulations to everyone who took part!

## ENGLISH UPDATE

Term 2 is here, and there's lots to get excited about in English! From podcasts and documentaries to fairy tales with a modern twist, our students are busy developing their skills in creative and exciting ways.

- Year 7 are rewriting classic fairy tales. Selected students will even read their stories to primary pupils on World Book Day – a fantastic chance to share their creativity.
- Year 8 are producing podcasts, experimenting with different text types, connecting ideas to media, and honing their speaking skills.
- Year 9 are making documentaries, building on last year's skills and learning to present information in an engaging way.
- Year 10 continue to focus on their International GCSE courses, consolidating knowledge and preparing for assessments.
- Year 11 exams are approaching fast. It's vital they focus and make every lesson count.

The Year **10 & 11 Masterclass** runs **Thursday mornings at 07:15 and Thursday after school from 15:35–16:30**. Attendance is strongly recommended – especially for Year 11 to get extra support and boost confidence.

Here's to a term full of creativity, progress, and success!

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## MATHS UPDATE



Ms Jo Griffin  
Head of Maths

**Happy New Year to all, and welcome back to students for what promises to be a very busy term two!**

### **Year 11 Mock Exams**

Paper 1 in Maths begins mock exam period on Monday morning.

Please could all students ensure they have the correct equipment for the exam:

- Pen
- Ruler
- Calculator
- Protractor
- Compass



### **Challenge ME Maths Competition**

Since the start of this year, the most able mathematicians in Y7, Y8, and Y9 have taken part in an international Maths competition - Challenge ME.

We have had two stages so far, and we have just received the names of those who have qualified for the semi-finals taking place in mid February. 42,666 students across the Middle East region were entered in Stage 1 of the competition, and this is now down to 2000 students in the semi-finals, including 14 students from SVS!

**YEAR 9:** Roqia Shetiah, Altynai Bazarbaeva, Aamnah Hasan, Mirza Zafeeruddin Haider.

**YEAR 8:** Omar Abu Safieh, Martin Al Ashkar, Zaid Aldayyat, Riona Bondad, Abdullah Gamal, Lera Nikolaeva, Nikita Shibayev, Yinuo Wang.

**YEAR 7:** Caleb Goodman, Mohamed Shaheen.

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## ARABIC A UPDATE

أولياء الأمور الأفاضل،

تحية طيبة وبعد،



Mr. Abdelhamed Kerba  
Head of MOE Subjects.

نستقبل الفصل الدراسي الثاني من العام الجديد بتهنئة صادقة لأبنائنا الطلاب، متمنين لهم فصلًا دراسيًا حافلًا بالجد والاجتهاد، ومليئًا بالإنجازات التي تعكس قدراتهم وطموحاتهم. ونؤكد في هذه المرحلة على أهمية الانطلاقة الواعية، وحسن استثمار الوقت، والالتزام الجاد لتحقيق أفضل النتائج.

وخلال هذا الأسبوع، نركز في مادة اللغة العربية على دراسة الشعر؛ لما له من أثر بالغ في تنمية النوق الأدبي، وتعميق مهارات التحليل، وفهم الصور البلاغية، واستيعاب الأبعاد الفكرية والوجدانية للنصوص، بما يسهم في صقل شخصية الطالب، وتنمية التفكير النقدي والإبداعي، وتعزيز قدرته على التعبير الواعي المترن.

تنويه هام لطلاب الصف الحادي عشر – مسار: OL:

نؤكد على ضرورة الالتزام بأوراق المراجعة، والتعامل بجدية مع التغذية الراجعة المقدمة، باعتبارها أداة أساسية لتحسين الأداء وتجاوز مواطن الضعف. كما نلفت إلى أن الاختبارات التجريبية تمثل محطة مهمة في إعداد الطالب وتأهيله للاختبارات النهائية الأساسية، وتتطلب متابعة مستمرة ومراجعة منتظمة منذ بداية الفصل.

نتمن دعمكم المتواصل، ودعم مسيرة أبنائنا التعليمية، مع خالص تمنياتنا لهم بدوام التوفيق والنجاح.

## ARABIC B UPDATE

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to **Term 2**! We hope you and your family had a restful break. We are excited to begin the new term and support our students in building on their learning, strengthening key skills, and achieving their best.

We would like to share a brief update on what students have been learning this week and what to expect next week.

This week, students were introduced to new lessons, including key vocabulary, grammar rules, and sentence structures. Our focus was on helping them understand these new concepts and use them confidently through class activities and practice.

Next week, we will focus more on **reading skills**. Students will practise reading aloud to improve fluency and pronunciation. They will also work on understanding texts by identifying the main ideas and finding supporting details to develop stronger comprehension and thinking skills.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Kind regards,

# SPECIALIST UPDATES



## ISLAMIC & Social Study

**Mr. Abdelhamed Kerba**

Head of MOE Subjects.

SVS Ramadan Iftar Invitation – Open Buffet | 26th February 2026

Dear Parents,

Assalamu alaykum,

We are delighted to invite you and your family to our special **Ramadan Iftar at South View School on Thursday, 26th February 2026**. This blessed evening will bring our community together in the spirit of faith, reflection, and togetherness.

### Event Details

Date: Thursday, 26th February 2026

Venue: South View School

Doors Open: 5:15 PM

Principal's Speech: 5:30 PM

Islamic Lecture: 5:45 PM – 6:20 PM (delivered by an Imam from Islamic Affairs)

Iftar & Maghrib: 6:20 PM until Maghrib

### Open Buffet Iftar (Provided by Al Bait Al Shami Restaurant)

Kindly note that Iftar will be served as an **open buffet** provided by **Al Bait Al Shami Restaurant**, featuring a wide selection of:

**Cold appetisers:** Fattoush, Tabouleh, Pasta Salad, Hommous, Moutabbal, Baba Ganouj, Mohamarah

**Hot appetisers:** Musakhan Chicken Fingers, Chicken Nuggets, Cheese Samosa, Mini Pizza, Mini Cheese Fatayer, Mini Thyme Fatayer

**Main dishes:** Mix Grill, Chicken Biryani, Ozi with Meat, Bechamel Pasta, Chicken Escalope, Fish with Lemon Sauce, Indian Kebab with Red Sauce, White Rice

**Desserts:** Um Ali, Mohalabiyah, Mini Éclair, Jelly, Moushabak, Ramadan sweets

**Drinks & others:** Mineral Water, Ramadan drinks, dates, and an **Arabic Ice-Cream Live Station**

### Programme Highlights

- Live Islamic nasheed (Inshad team)
- Traditional Tanourah performance
- A warm, family-friendly Ramadan atmosphere

This evening will be a wonderful opportunity for our children to experience the true spirit of Ramadan through food, culture, and faith in a joyful family setting.

### To confirm attendance:

Please register using the link provided in the email sent by the school earlier this week, as soon as possible, to help us finalise arrangements.

We look forward to welcoming you and your children to this special evening, insha'Allah. Your presence will greatly enrich this blessed gathering.

Thanks & Regards,

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## MFL UPDATE



**Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick**  
Head of MFL

It has been wonderful to welcome students back to MFL lessons after the winter break. Students have returned with a very positive attitude, showing enthusiasm, resilience, and a strong focus towards their language studies. Across French and Spanish, students are engaging confidently with new topics and developing their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

As the term continues, Year 11 students will be completing their GCSE mock examinations. We wish them the very best of luck and encourage them to approach their exams with confidence, reflecting the hard work they have put in so far.

**Language Tip of the Week:** Practice makes perfect! Try to use a new word or phrase in a sentence every day—whether in speaking or writing. Even small daily steps, like describing your day in French or Spanish, will quickly build your confidence and fluency.

## PERFORMING ARTS UPDATE



**Ms. Charlene Rock**  
Head of Performing Arts

Happy New Year to all our SVS parents.

We are back with a bang! ECA's began again on Monday with great progress seen in our students Junk Kouture designs and new scenes completed and costumes created for our upcoming production of The Wiz Jr. Here are some of the things we will be looking forward to in term 2:

- The Wiz Jr Production – 2nd and 3rd February
- Junk Kouture Fashion Show – TBC
- Centre for Musical Arts – music lessons
- Choir and Band performances at the Colour run
- GCSE Drama C2 performance exams

# Performing Arts UPDATES



Miss. Nicole Sweeney

**Junk Kouture Club is on EVERY Lunch Mon-Thurs until submission.**

## Junk Kouture Update:

- Students have **1 month** to complete their outfits for the upcoming Fashion Show. **(Date TBC)**
- Final Submission for JK including videos/photoshoots to be completed by FEB 27th.

**Students have done amazing work so far!! We can't wait to see their completed designs.**



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We

# Performing Arts UPDATES

While many of you were enjoying your first weekend of the holidays. Some very special students were busy rehearsing, performing- singing, dancing and acting their hearts out in Collab Company's immersive, community production of Elf in the Gulf.

They performed six performances over two days and really did themselves and SVS proud while working alongside a group of talented singers, actors and dancers.

Well done and congratulations to you all:


**Tessa- Year 12**

**Tia – Year 9**

**Cleagh- Year 9**

**Eden – Year 7**

We are so very proud of you all. **don't forget**

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# Performing Arts UPDATES

## SCHOOL TRIP ALERT!!!!



Date: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

Time: 5pm- 11pm

Cost: 357aed

Open to all students in Year 7-13- Limited tickets available- First come, first served!

See Ms. Rock or your Drama teams for more information on how to book your ticket.

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> of JANUARY (OR WHEN TICKETS RUN OUT!)**

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Secondary  
Production 2026

Tickets on sale  
soon...

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## INCLUSION UPDATE



**Ms. Nicola Quick**

Head of Year 12 & Special  
Education Needs  
Coordinator- Secondary



**Mrs Abigale Dunn**

Head of Inclusion

Happy New Year! We have got straight back into the swing of things this week with lots of preparation for our older students with Mock examination

# SPECIALIST UPDATES

## HUMANITIES UPDATE



**Ms. Kirstin Scouller**

Head of Humanities

Yesterday, our Year 10 Geography students took part in their IGCSE coastal fieldwork at Kite Beach. During the trip, students explored how material is transported along the coastline at Umm Suqeim Beach. They applied their learning in a real-world setting by collecting a range of data, including measuring the speed and direction of longshore drift, observing wave characteristics, and investigating sediment movement around groynes.

Students demonstrated excellent engagement, teamwork, and enthusiasm throughout the day, making the fieldtrip both a valuable and enjoyable learning experience.



# PE UPDATES



**Ms. Michelle Rowcliffe**  
Head of Department -  
Secondary

Welcome Back!

It's been fantastic to see our students return this week, full of energy and enthusiasm. We're also thrilled to welcome Mr. Powell to the PE department!

KS3 students have continued their athletics sessions and have now begun their swimming block, benefiting from expert coaching by the APEX team. It's been fantastic to watch them build stamina in athletics and challenge themselves in the pool.

KS4 students have chosen their sport for the term, selecting from Badminton, Netball, and Volleyball, while VI Form have enjoyed indoor football matches and fitness workouts in the gym. Our GCSE classes have been working hard on their netball and volleyball skills. Good luck to the Y11s in their mocks.

I would also like to say a big thank you to the Y10 GCSE and Y12 BTEC students that helped to run KS3 sports day at the end of last term. Their help was invaluable and they were an absolute asset to the school – thank you!

**Reminder:** Please ensure all Years 7–9 students bring their swimming kit, swimming hat, goggles, and flip-flops each week.



# PE & SQUAD UPDATES

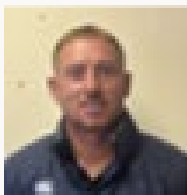
## Welcome 2026 with a Celebration of Sports at South View School!



**Mrs. Sonia Teodoro**  
Director of Sport

This week, we welcomed 2026 at South View School with a fantastic **Sports Week**, celebrating teamwork, resilience, and skill development. Following the steps of our secondary students at the end of term 1, students from FS1 to Year 6 took part in a wide range of activities, showing great enthusiasm and sportsmanship throughout. It was a proud moment for our Key Stage 2 students as we recognised the top **three performers** in each athletics event. Several **school records were broken**, marking an exciting milestone in the SVS sports journey. Congratulations to **AQUA House**, our overall winners for the 2025–2026 Sports Week. We also began **secondary squad training** this week in preparation for the upcoming netball and volleyball leagues. We are especially proud to announce that, for the first time in SVS history, we will be entering **U19 teams** in both netball and volleyball, further highlighting the importance of sport in our students' school life.

## Welcome to Mr. Powell!



We are pleased to introduce Mr. Powell to the full South View School community. Joining the PE department this term, Mr. Powell comes to us from the UK and will primarily be teaching the secondary school, including BTEC. With a strong background in football, rugby, and swimming, he is a fantastic addition to our department. Mr. Powell has been very impressed with our students' attitude and commitment to sports, and he is excited to be a part of the SVS community. Please join us in giving him a warm welcome!

### SQUADS TRAINING & FIXTURES DAYS 25/26

	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	Primary squads	Secondary squads	Primary squads	Secondary squads	Primary squads	Secondary squads	Primary squads	Secondary squads	Primary squads	Secondary squads
Term 2	U8 Girls Football Jemma Astro 1	U16 Netball fixture	Y3&Y4 Swim squad (afternoon session) Apex, Courtney & Pedro	U12 Netball fixture	U10 Girls football Sonia Astro 1	U12 Netball training (morning session) PMPH Sarah	Primary Swim squad (morning session) Courtney & Pedro	U16 Netball training (morning session) SMPH Michelle	U11 BSME girls football (morning session) Astro 3 Pedro	Sec Swim Squad Karl
	U9 Girls Football Eman Astro 1	U19 Volleyball fixture	Primary Gymnastics squad - Group 1 Eman & Dugym SMPH	U14 & U19 Girls Volleyball (morning session) Carl SMPH	U11 Girls football Pedro Astro 1	U14 Netball training (morning session) SMPH Michelle	Primary Gymnastics squad - Group 2 SMPH Sonia, Eman & Dugym	U14 Netball fixture		
	U8 Tag Rugby Rob Astro 2		Running team Sonia & Aisha PMPH & Astro	U16 Girls Volleyball (morning session) Charlie SMPH	U10 Tag Rugby Charlie Astro 2	U16 Boys Volleyball training (lunch break) Ryan SMPH	U11 BSME boys football (morning session) Astro 3 Karl	U19 Netball training (morning session) SMPH Sarah		
	U9 Tag Rugby Karl Astro 2			U14 Boys Volleyball training (lunch break) Michael SMPH	U11 Tag Rugby Karl Astro 2	U19 Netball fixture		U16 Girls Volleyball Fixture		
	Y5&Y6 Swim squad (afternoon session) Courtney & Pedro				U11 BSME Netball (morning session) PMPH Courtney	U14 Girls Volleyball Fixture		U16 Boys Volleyball Fixture		
					U14 Boys Volleyball Fixture					

## Football Noon Kit Return

don't forget to **we would like to request to all students that in Term 1 were part of the football squads to return their football kit to the PE department during next week.**



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**@SportsatSVS**

# PE & SQUAD UPDATES



## FIXTURES *NEXT WEEK*

### Girls Volleyball

12.01 - U19'S VS GIS (AWAY)  
14.01 - U14'S VS BWA (HOME)  
15.01 - U16'S VS HIS (AWAY)

### Boys Volleyball

12.01 - U14'S VS DIS (HOME)  
12.01 - U16'S VS DIS (HOME)

### Netball

12.01 - U16'S VS DC (AWAY)  
14.01 - U19'S VS SCS (HOME)  
15.01 - U14'S VS KAB (HOME)

### Athletics

### U13 BSME Games

We are excited to share that SVS will be taking part in the U13 BSME Games hosted at Royal Grammar School on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of January. The boys will be competing in football, volleyball, and athletics, while the girls will represent SVS in football, netball, and athletics.

We would like to wish the very best of luck to all our students—you are already making us proud with your hard work, dedication, and team spirit.

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# SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

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