



SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

SECONDARY

NEWSLETTER



WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Dear Parents and Guardians,



Mr. Macpherson
Head of Secondary

As the *busiest* week of the school year so far draws to a close, I want to begin with a huge and heartfelt thank you to all our amazing staff. The way they continue to go above and beyond for our students, even in the middle of our most demanding period of marking and reporting, is extraordinary. I feel incredibly privileged to lead such an exceptional team.

A big thank you to all our Year 11 parents who attended the Options Evening this week. Your support, engagement, and willingness to work in partnership with us make such a difference as your children begin to finalise their subject selections and shape their future pathways.

A huge congratulations must also go to our phenomenal school band, who delivered a truly unforgettable performance at the AMP Awards last night. Their talent, composure, and stage presence were unbelievable. They will be playing at this evenings Winter Fayre, and I would encourage everyone to come along to hear them.

And finally, many of you will know from my recent correspondence that we are working hard to expand our industry connections. Today we took a big step forward in that journey, as we were incredibly fortunate to welcome Jacob & Co Managing Director, **Lawrence Brannigan**, to South View. He delivered an inspiring talk about his entrepreneurial journey and what it is like to collaborate with some of the biggest brands and sports teams in the world. Our senior students walked away with countless lessons and ideas, the type of real-world insight that can genuinely shape ambitions and ignite future careers.

Thank you again for all your support and I am looking forward to seeing everyone at this evening's Winter Fayre.

Mr Macpherson

SPECIALIST UPDATES

ACADEMIC UPDATE



Ms. Joanne McCue
Assistant Head of
Secondary - Academics

Here are some educational and enriching events and activities happening this winter in Dubai, perfect for students over the Winter Break.

Middlesex University Dubai Winter Camp

- Dates: Starting Monday 8 December 2025. [Middlesex University Dubai](#)

- Description: A school-student oriented camp where learners explore exciting subjects, develop skills, experience a university environment. [Middlesex University Dubai](#)

- Why it's useful: Great for students in Years 10-13 to get a flavour of university life, try new subjects, build confidence.

Etihad Museum Winter Camp – “Young Leaders: Shaping Tomorrow”



- Dates: Week 1: 16-20 Dec; Week 2: 23-27 Dec. [Home | Dubai Culture](#)

- Focus: Interactive activities around UAE history, leadership, values, culture. [Home | Dubai Culture](#)

- Why it's useful: For younger students (Primary/KS3) engaging with UAE identity, cross-curricular links (History, Citizenship, Culture)

SPECIALIST UPDATES

PASTORAL UPDATE



Mr. Michael Macdonald
Assistant Head of
Secondary - Pastoral

This is a final reminder that the deadline for confirming a place on the Madrid trip is **28th November**. If your child wishes to attend, please ensure that all forms and payments are completed by this date so we can finalise bookings and arrangements. Thank you to everyone who has already submitted everything on time; it is greatly appreciated.

We are very aware that this has been an extremely busy and often stressful part of the school year. Students have faced several changes and challenges, and many have had to adapt quickly to new routines and expectations. Your support during this period has been invaluable, and we want to express our sincere thanks for your continued partnership.

As we work with students to develop emotional control and regulation, we ask that you continue collaborating with us if you receive any communication regarding behaviour or concerns. We always take the time to understand the full circumstances, especially when a child has made a mistake.

Our restorative approach aims to help students learn from incidents, repair relationships when necessary, and feel supported as they make positive changes. Working together helps students navigate this demanding part of the year with resilience and confidence.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

PASTORAL UPDATE

We also wanted to offer some context that may be helpful when situations arise at school. Understandably, children may share their version of events based on how they felt in the moment, and sometimes this may not include every detail.

This is a natural part of how young people process their experiences. When we are able to look at the full picture together, it helps us support students more effectively and ensures they can learn constructively from what has happened. Working in this way strengthens the partnership between home and school, which is so important for students' overall wellbeing.

Teachers and school staff observe behaviour throughout the entire school day and reach out to families only when needed, often after multiple attempts to support the student internally. Our conversations about behaviour are focused on growth and helping students move forward, not on punishment. Approaching these discussions with curiosity rather than defence can open the door to clearer communication and shared understanding.

Supporting a child does not mean shielding them from consequences but walking beside them as they reflect, learn, and grow. When parents and school staff work in partnership, students benefit from consistent messages about kindness, respect and integrity. This united approach helps our young people develop the skills and mindset they need to thrive.

If you have any questions about the Madrid trip, our behaviour processes, or anything related to student wellbeing, please feel free to get in touch.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

DATA AND ASSESSMENT UPDATE



Mr. Ryan Bladen

Assistant Head of Secondary
Data and Assessment

Assessment Week 1 - Student Feedback & Next Steps

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all students for the kindness, respect and integrity they demonstrated throughout Assessment Week 1. As part of our reflective practice, we collected student feedback to better understand their experience and ensure that future assessment cycles continue to support both learning and wellbeing.

Overall, students reported that they felt prepared for their assessments, with many sharing that the week helped them identify strengths and areas for improvement. A large number of students noted that the assessments supported their understanding of how to revise effectively and gave them a clearer sense of their progress so far this year.

Importantly, many students expressed that they felt well supported by staff throughout the week. They appreciated how their teachers regularly checked in on them during assessments, offered reassurance, and created a calm and supportive environment.

As we begin planning for the next assessment window in May, we will review student suggestions carefully, including:

- Increasing opportunities for revision or preparation time
- Reducing the number of assessments scheduled on a single day
- Continuing to place student wellbeing at the centre of the process

Assessment Week exists to support learning, not create unnecessary pressure and the insights shared by students will help us refine and improve the structure moving forward.

Thank you once again to our students for their honesty, reflection and commitment to their learning.

ENTERPRISE AND TECHNOLOGY UPDATE



Miss Elizabeth Charlton
Head of Enterprise and
Technology

A special thanks to our Year 11 students and parents who attended the Sixth Form options evening this week. The enthusiasm shown towards our new A Level courses was very exciting, as well as our ongoing Level 3 BTEC Business course. Studying Business, Economics or Computer Science gives our students invaluable knowledge and skills that will drive their future careers forwards. All specifications for these courses can be found on the Edexcel or OCR website, or please contact myself with any further questions.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

LITERACY UPDATE



Mr. David Archibald
Head of English &
Literacy Coordinator

D . E . A . R

↓ Drop **Dog man** about a half dog half man
↓ Everything **Last Kids on Earth** about a monster apocalypse
↓ And **Harry Potter** about wizards
↓ Read **Captain Underpants**

Why is it important?

Well reading helps with not one not 2 but a whole lot of skills: like writing and it also improves your memory focus and your critical thinking cool right.

That's it? **Spy school** About spies in training

No in fact it also allows your brain to cool Down and relax and also it allows you to focus and think deeply which is very rare. At last it improves your vocab and your knowledge with your creativity and all without you noticing. Crazy right? **Wimpy Kid**

But how do I chose what to read? **Five nights at Freddy's** about a creepy place

Anything you want but not everyone has the same stuff. Some people prefer fiction while others prefer non-fiction and for science fans there is science fiction and even more.

Run with the wind

SPECIALIST UPDATES

ARABIC A & B UPDATE



Mr. Abdelhamed Kerba
Head of MOE Subjects.

Dear Secondary Parents

I hope you are well. And happy national day.

I would like to update you on our recent Year 7 trip to Etihad Museum, as well as share some important information about our upcoming UAE National Day celebrations, in which our Secondary students will be playing an active role this year.

Our Year 7 students recently visited Etihad Museum, where they explored the story of the formation of the United Arab Emirates and the signing of the Union in 1971. The trip was closely linked to their Social Studies and Arabic curriculum, giving them the opportunity to see original documents, photographs and artefacts connected to the Founding Fathers, the Union House, and the early years of the UAE. Academically, the visit helped students to develop important skills such as reading historical sources, interpreting timelines and maps, asking enquiry questions, and making links between past and present. We were very proud of their behaviour, curiosity and thoughtful reflections during and after the visit, and the learning from this trip will be used in their upcoming classwork and assessment tasks.

As we look ahead to UAE National Day, which we will celebrate in school on Thursday 27 November, our aim is to deepen students' understanding of what this occasion truly represents. UAE National Day is not only a day of celebration, but also a powerful reminder of the story of unity, vision and leadership that brought the seven emirates together as one nation in 1971. Through National Day, students learn about the values that lie at the heart of the UAE's identity such as unity, loyalty, respect, responsibility and tolerance and how these values continue to shape the country's development today. In lessons and activities, we encourage students to think about the achievements of the UAE, the role of the Founding Fathers, and their own responsibilities as young people growing up in this country, so that pride in the UAE is linked to a clear sense of contribution, service and positive citizenship.

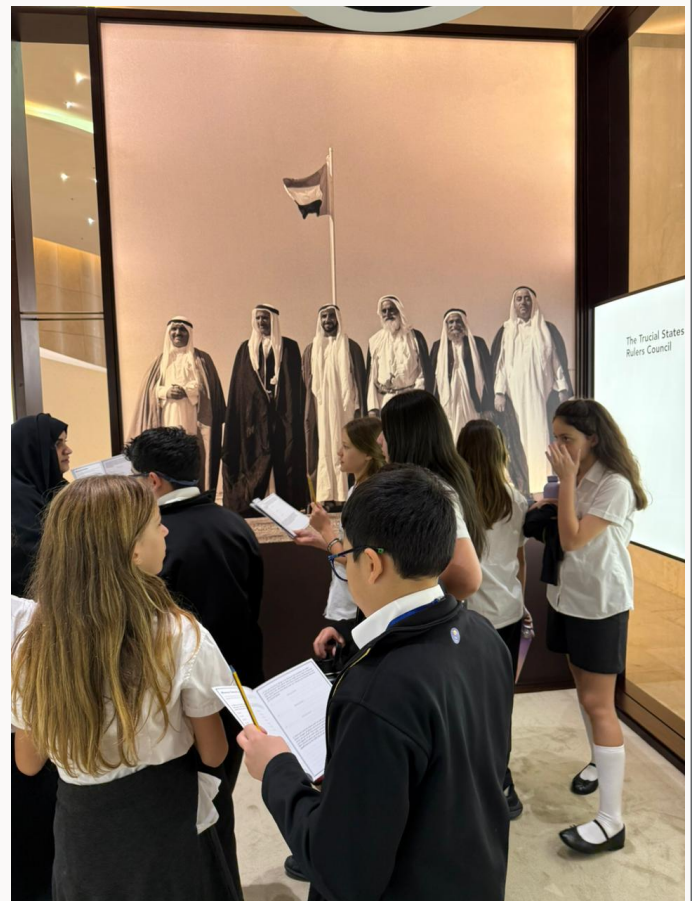
This year, we are very pleased that Secondary students will be actively involved in the whole-school National Day programme. Students will take part in a special assembly, heritage and cultural stations (including activities such as Arabic calligraphy, heritage tents and more), as well as an Islamic Affairs lecture that connects National Day to values of unity and gratitude. Older Secondary students will also contribute through leadership, storytelling and supporting activities across the school. These experiences are designed not only to be enjoyable, but also to support the academic curriculum in Arabic, Islamic Studies and Social Studies, by bringing key concepts to life in a meaningful, real-world context.

Students are welcomed to wear UAE National dress or any of the flag colour dress, and also they can still wear their school uniform and PE Uniform if they have PE Lesson.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership in your children's education.
Kind regards,

SPECIALIST UPDATES

Etihad Museum Tribe



SPECIALIST UPDATES

Etihad Museum Tribe



SPECIALIST UPDATES

ISLAMIC

Peace be upon you (Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh),

Dear Parents,

I hope you are well. I would like to share a short update with you about the learning taking place in Islamic Education. This week, students have been focusing on Qur'an recitation and Hadith recitation. In Qur'an, they have been working on improving their pronunciation and fluency, reading with greater confidence and respect, and beginning to reflect on the meanings of the verses they recite. In Hadith, students have been memorising selected sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and discussing how these teachings should guide their behaviour in school, at home, and in the wider community. Teachers have been very pleased with the effort, focus and respect that many students have shown towards these important aspects of their faith.



Mr. Abdelhamed Kerba
Head of MOE Subjects.

Next week, we will be linking our Islamic Education lessons to the upcoming UAE National Day by focusing on one central Islamic theme: gratitude. Students will be encouraged to think about how we show thankfulness to God for His many blessings – including the blessing of living in a safe, stable and caring country – through our words, our prayers, and our good actions. In class discussions, we will talk about respecting the laws of the land, honouring our leaders, and contributing positively to society as practical ways of showing gratitude. In this way, our National Day celebrations will not only be a time of joy and pride, but also an opportunity for students to connect Islamic values with real life and to strengthen their sense of responsibility and belonging. Thank you, as always, for your continued support in encouraging your children to revise their Qur'an, practise their Hadith, and live the values of Islam in their daily lives. Your partnership has a direct impact on their progress, character and confidence.

On the occasion of UAE National Day, we wish you and your families a joyful and blessed celebration, and we pray that our children grow up as grateful, responsible and positive members of the UAE community.

Kind regards,

SOCIAL STUDY

أولياء الأمور الكرام،

تحية تقدير واحترام،

في إطار رؤيتنا التعليمية تحت شعار «من المهارة إلى الصدارة»، نواصل سعيينا لبناء جيل واع يمتلك مهارات التفكير والتحليل، ويعتز بهويته الوطنية وثقافته الإماراتية الأصيلة.

خلال هذا الأسبوع، بدأ طلابنا العمل على مشاريع صقيّة مرتبطة بالدروس المقررة، تهدف إلى تعميق فهمهم للمادة وتحويل التعلّم من مستوى المعرفة النظرية إلى مستوى التطبيق العملي. وقد أظهر أبنائنا حماساً كبيراً ومهارات مميزة في تنفيذ هذه المشاريع، مما يعكس قدرتهم على البحث، والتحليل، والابتكار، والعمل الجماعي بفاعلية وثقة.

وتسهم هذه المشاريع في دعم ما يتعلمه الطلاب داخل الصف، سواء في فهم المفاهيم الجغرافية والتاريخية، أو تفسير الخرائط والصور، أو تحليل المعلومات والبيانات بوعي نقدي يعكس تطوراً ملحوظاً في مستواهم الأكاديمي.

وبمناسبة اقتراب احتفالات اليوم الوطني لدولة الإمارات، والذي سنحتفل به في المدرسة يوم الخميس 27 نوفمبر، يشارك أبنائكم في عدد من الأنشطة الصفية واللامنهجية التي تسلط الضوء على تاريخ الاتحاد وقيمه، وتعزفهم بالموارث الإماراتي الأصيل، وتعشق في نفوسهم مشاعر الفخر والالتقاء لهذا الوطن المعطاء. ونسعى من خلال هذه الفعاليات إلى ربط ما يتعلمه الطلاب في مادة الدراسات الاجتماعية واللغة العربية بواقعهم اليومي، ليدركوا دورهم كجيل واع يسهم في استمرار مسيرة النهضة والإنجاز.

كما نثمن جهود طلابنا والتزامهم، ونعرب عن خالص شكرنا لكم، أولياء الأمور الكرام، على دعمكم المتواصل ومتابعتم الحثيثة، مما كان له أثر مباشر في تعزيز دافعية أبنائكم وثقتهم بأنفسهم ودفعهم نحو التميز.

مع خالص الشكر والتقدير لتعاونكم وثقتكم الدائمة في مسيرتنا المشتركة نحو الارتقاء الأكاديمي وترسيخ الهوية الوطنية.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

MFL UPDATE

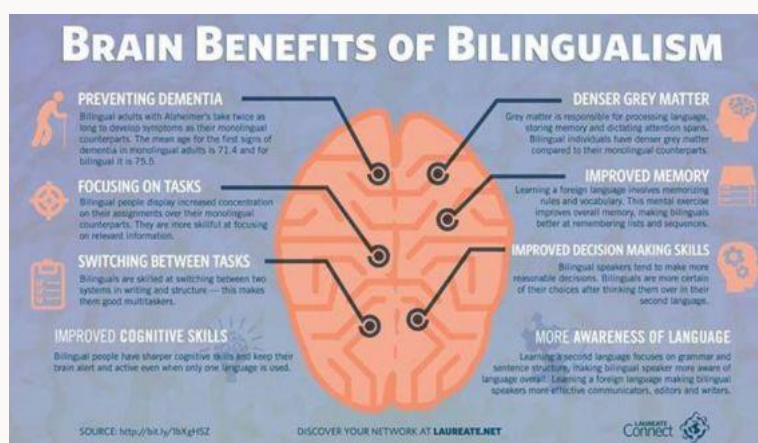


Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick
Head of MFL

Students across KS3 and KS4 have now completed their assessment feedback and are fully back to learning new Spanish and French content in lessons. It has been particularly pleasing to see the strong outcomes from our GCSE students, whose hard work and determination were clearly reflected in their recent results.

Additionally, students had the opportunity to get a flavour of the French and Spanish A-Level courses during our recent Options Evening. This gave them valuable insight into what studying languages at a higher level involves and the exciting opportunities it offers.

Well done to all students for their continued effort and enthusiasm in MFL!



PERFORMING ARTS UPDATE



Ms. Charlene Rock
Head of Performing Arts



Performing Arts UPDATES

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)	



SPECIALIST UPDATES

INCLUSION UPDATE



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



Mrs Abigale Dunn
Head of Inclusion

This week our Y11 ASDAN students have been taking part in some exciting activities around school to complete tasks for their award. They complete the Evacuation Chair training with staff and also learnt how to check the oil levels in a car. It has been a very fun, hands-on week!

Meanwhile our Y8 students have been acting out the story 'The Lottery' and had a lot of fun explaining how the characters would feel throughout the story.





Ms. Kirstin Scouller
Head of Humanities

Assessment reflection:

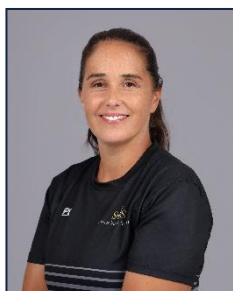
Students in Humanities have been reflecting on a busy assessment period. They have received whole class, and individual feedback which then they use to inform their work during their dedicated improvement and reflection time (DIRT). Here we have some Year 8 girls collaborating together to identify these areas for improvement.



Year 11 Options Evening

Studying Psychology and Sociology at A level offers students an exciting opportunity to better understand the world around them and the people in it. These subjects encourage curiosity, critical thinking and open-minded discussion about why individuals behave the way they do and how society shapes our lives. From exploring mental health and memory to examining culture, inequality and social change, both subjects help students develop valuable analytical skills that are useful in a wide range of future careers.

PE & SQUAD UPDATES



Mrs. Sonia Teodoro
Director of Sport



Dubai Fitness Challenge 30x30 2025

Upcoming events:

- Dubai Run – 23rd of November – [Register here](#)
- Dubai Yoga – 30th of November – [Register here](#)
- DP World 30x30 Fitness Village Kite Beach – [Class schedule](#)
- The Mercedes-Benz 30x30 Fitness Hub – [To learn more](#)
- Arabian Warrior – [More information here](#)



TERM 2 SQUAD TRIALS

DASSA Teams

U12 Netball - Monday, 24th Nov (7am) SMPH
U16 Netball - Tuesday, 25th Nov. (7am) SMPH
U14 Netball - Wednesday, 26th Nov. (7am) SMPH
U14 & U16 Boys Volleyball - Tuesday, 25th Nov. (lunchtime)
U14 & U16 Girls Volleyball - Wednesday, 26th Nov. (lunchtime)

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Contact the PE department if you need additional information.



don't forget to
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INSTAGRAM!**

@SportsatSVS

DUBAI 30x30

During lunchtimes (1.15-1.45pm) the WELLS COURT will be open to play volleyball. On arrival, students need to report in with the BTEC students to be placed on a team,

SQUAD UPDATES



FIXTURES

U13 BSME Netball

Great performance from our U13 netball team at the BSME Netball Tournament last weekend. The students began the day feeling nervous and under pressure, which led to a few simple mistakes that cost us some important points in the early matches. However, as the tournament progressed, we saw fantastic improvement, increased confidence, and much more composed gameplay. The team showed resilience and determination, ultimately securing **3rd place in the Bowl**—a result they should be very proud of.

We are now focused on continuing our training as we prepare for the upcoming **U13 BSME Games in January**.

RESULTS



Basketball

U16'S GIRLS PLAY-OFF - LOST

Football

U12'S BOYS VS RGS - DRAW

U12'S GIRLS - LOST

U14'S BOYS - TBC

U14'S GIRLS - TBC

NEXT WEEK

Football

U14'S GIRLS - 27TH NOV- VS AQUILA (HOME)

THIS WEEKEND

U15 BSME Games

We are excited to share that SVS will be taking part in the U15 BSME Games hosted at Brighton College this weekend. 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.



SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

www.southviewschool.com

admissions@southview.ae

+971 04 589 7904