



SOUTH VIEW SCHOOL

SECONDARY

NEWSLETTER



WEEKLY ROUND -UP

A Wonderful Community Iftar Evening



Ms. Joanne Billington

Assistant Head of
Secondary - Academics

We enjoyed a truly wonderful evening with the South View School community at our Community Iftar on **Thursday 26th February**. It was heart warming to see so many families, pupils, and staff come together to share in this special occasion during the holy month of Ramadan.

The atmosphere was warm, welcoming, and reflective of the strong sense of community that makes South View School so special. Highlights of the evening included families breaking fast together and meaningful conversations that strengthened the partnership between home and school.

A very special thank you goes to our **Arabic and Islamic team**, whose dedication, organisation, and attention to detail made the evening so memorable. From the thoughtful preparation to the beautiful presentation, their efforts ensured the event was both educational and spiritually enriching.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the evening. We look forward to many more opportunities to come together as a community.



SPECIALIST UPDATES

PASTORAL UPDATE



Mr. Michael Macdonald
Assistant Head of
Secondary - Pastoral

Change is a natural part of school life. New routines, academic pressures, friendship changes, or events beyond school can leave young people feeling unsettled. While change can bring growth, it can also create uncertainty, and children do not always have the words to explain how they feel. This may show itself through frustration, withdrawal, or changes in behaviour.

One of the most important supports during times of change is connection. When students feel supported by trusted adults and friends, they are better able to manage uncertainty and build resilience. Encouraging them to speak to someone they trust such as a parent, teacher, Head of Year, counsellor, or friend can make a meaningful difference. Feeling heard and understood helps restore a sense of security.

At school, we work to provide consistent routines and safe spaces where students feel known and valued. Parents can support this by creating opportunities for calm conversation at home and listening without rushing to solutions.

Change is something we learn to navigate together. With the right support, young people develop confidence, resilience, and the reassurance that they are never alone.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

6th FORM and CAREERS UPDATE



Mr. Carl Burgess
Head of Sixth Form

A significant current focus in sixth form education is the purposeful integration of technology to enhance independent learning and academic performance. As we begin embedding the **VESPA Academy** into our current cohort, we are aligning digital learning tools with structured study habits, metacognition, and student accountability. Technology is no longer simply about access to resources; it is about using platforms that track engagement, personalise feedback, and develop the non-cognitive skills that underpin A-Level success. By combining digital tracking with the VESPA framework — Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice and Attitude — we are supporting students to take greater ownership of their learning, build resilience, and develop the habits required not only for examination success but also for university and future careers.



SPECIALIST UPDATES

DATA AND ASSESSMENT UPDATE



Mr. Ryan Bladen

Assistant Head of Secondary
Data and Assessment

A Focus on Progress

With our upcoming reports due at the end of this academic term, the focus of these reports is to provide a clear picture of the progress students have made so far this academic year, rather than simply a snapshot of attainment.

Monitoring progress is essential. It allows us to identify where students are thriving, where further challenge may be needed, and where timely support or intervention can make a meaningful difference. Regular review of progress ensures that learning remains on track and that no student falls behind.

We encourage parents to take time to review the report carefully with their child, celebrating strengths, discussing areas for development, and setting clear next steps for improvement.

Progress is most powerful when it is understood, discussed and acted upon.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

LITERACY UPDATE



Mr. David Archibald
Head of English &
Literacy Coordinator

As we move towards the summer examination period, it is vital that Year 11 and Year 12 students begin structured preparation now. Encourage your child to create a realistic revision timetable that includes regular reading of set texts, retrieval practice, timed essay planning, and practice responses under exam conditions.

Students should focus on developing clear argument writing, precise textual analysis, accurate use of subject terminology, and confident structuring of extended responses. Regular independent reading, revisiting class notes, and practising past paper questions will significantly strengthen literacy skills and examination performance. Consistent, focused revision in small, manageable sessions will build both confidence and competence ahead of the summer exams.

ENGLISH UPDATE



Last week, our Year 9 students gathered to showcase the documentaries they have been creating in English. The project allowed students to develop a range of key skills aligned with the British Curriculum, including research and information synthesis, script writing, crafting persuasive and informative non-fiction, analysing audience and purpose, structuring extended writing, speaking and listening skills, and collaborative planning. Students also strengthened their ability to use precise vocabulary, rhetorical devices, and accurate Standard English.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

Ministry Subjects UPDATE



Mr. Abdelhamed Kerba
Head of MOE Subjects.

Ramadan Iftar was a truly special occasion for our school community, bringing together students, staff, and families in a spirit of unity, gratitude, and reflection. It was wonderful to see our Ministry subjects — Social Studies, Islamic Studies, and Arabic — come alive beyond the classroom, as students experienced the values of cooperation, generosity, and cultural appreciation in a meaningful way. The evening reflected the essence of Ramadan, strengthening our sense of belonging and shared identity, while learning continues both inside and beyond the classroom walls.

Social Studies UPDATE

أولياء الأمور الأعزاء،
تحية طيبة وبعد،

في إطار سعينا المستمر للارتقاء بمستوى أبنائنا الطلبة وتحقيق التميز في نواتج التعلم، أنهى طلابنا هذا الأسبوع الاختبارات القصيرة بنجاح، والتي جاءت لقياس مدى تقدمهم وتعزيز مهاراتهم الدراسية بصورة مستمرة.

وخلال الأسبوع القادم سينتقل الطلبة إلى دراسة مجموعة من الموضوعات الثرية التي تعكس مكانة دولة الإمارات محلياً وعالمياً، حيث سيتعرّفون إلى **علاقات الإمارات بالعالم وبأوروبا على وجه الخصوص** وما تقوم عليه من أسس التعاون والتبادل الحضاري والاقتصادي، كما سيدرسون **قبة النور في أبوظبي** بوصفها شاهداً على النهضة العمرانية والثقافية التي تشهدها الدولة، إضافة إلى التعمق في موضوع **الإمارات عاصمةً للاقتصاد الإسلامي** ودورها الريادي في دعم الابتكار المالي وتعزيز التنمية المستدامة وفق رؤية مستقبلية طموحة.

وتسهم هذه المحاور مجتمعة في تنمية الوعي الوطني لدى الطلبة، وربط المعرفة بالواقع، نأمل منكم الاستمرار في متابعة منصة التميز. وتعزيز مهارات التفكير والتحليل لديهم والاطلاع على المواد التعليمية والواجبات أولاً بأول، ودعم أبنائنا في رحلتهم نحو التميز، لما لذلك من أثر بالغ في رفع مستوى تحصيلهم الدراسي وتنمية حسّ المسؤولية لديهم.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

ISLAMIC

Dear Parents,

Assalamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh,

We are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 7th Qur'an Competition – Hafez Al-Qur'an, organised by South View School.

This competition has been announced during the blessed month of Ramadan, encouraging students to use this special month for Qur'an memorisation, recitation, and revision, and to strengthen their connection with the Holy Qur'an.

Competition Dates

- First Round: 9 April 2026
- Second & Final Round: 10 April 2026
- Registration Deadline: 30 March 2026

Competition Levels

The competition includes different levels according to each year group (please refer to the attached details).

- Students must participate in the level assigned to their current school year.
- For example, Year 1 students must participate in Level 2 with the Surahs assigned for that level.

We strongly encourage all students to challenge themselves and strive to achieve their assigned level. We will also be pleased to support any student who wishes to participate in a higher level than their current year group.

Prizes

This year's prizes will include valuable Islamic gifts that support students in their Islamic Studies learning.

Prizes will vary across Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3.

Support During the Competition

- Islamic Studies teachers will provide guidance and support throughout the two competition days.
- Time will be allocated for students to revise before their assessment.

Important Notes

Assessment Panel:

Assessments will be conducted in the presence of the School Principal and an external assessor from the Islamic Affairs Department.

Certificates:

All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

Memorization Practice:

Students are expected to memorize their assigned Surahs and verses at home. They may submit their recitations to their Islamic teachers via Seesaw or Microsoft Teams for feedback and guidance.

To register your child, please complete the form below before the stated deadline:

<https://forms.office.com/r/SuJkGZ69r0?origin=lprLink>

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us.



SPECIALIST UPDATES

ARABIC UPDATE



Mrs. Fatima Banafea
Head of Arabic - Secondary.

مع اقتراب نهاية شهر فبراير واستمرار
نفحات شهر رمضان المبارك، نواصل التركيز
على التأمل والانضباط والتعلم الهادف.
وفيما يلي أبرز مستجدات قسم اللغة العربية
لهذا الأسبوع.

Exam Prep

- O-Level exam prep club
every Wednesday 7:30 am
- Exam Dates:
- May 4th – Paper 1
- May 14th – Paper 2



Teaching & Learning: Arabic A

أنهى طلابنا الاختبارات القصيرة لمهارتي القراءة والكتابة لقياس مستوى
ونواصل تركيزنا على تنمية. تقدمهم وتحديد جوانب القوة وفرص التحسين
مهارات التعامل مع مختلف أنواع النصوص؛ من التعليمية والمعلوماتية إلى
الشعرية، بهدف تعزيز الفهم، واستخلاص الأفكار الرئيسية، وتنمية التذوق
اللغوي والتفكير الناقد.
نأمل منكم متابعة الواجبات والمواد التعليمية المرفقة على منصة التيمز ودعم
أبنائنا في إنجازها أولاً بأول، لما لذلك من أثر مباشر في ترسيخ التعلم ورفع
مع خالص الشكر والتقدير. مستوى التحصيل.

Intervention

Weekly practice at home is essential alongside the intervention sessions. We kindly encourage regular completion of the attached tasks and the use of **Immersive Reader** to support reading development.

[Level 2](#) [Level 1](#)

Teaching & Learning: Arabic B

This week in Arabic B, students completed Reading and Writing assessments to measure their progress.
We continued focusing on reading and comprehension skills, helping students identify key ideas and respond accurately to texts.
Next week, we will further develop reading skills and begin guided listening activities to strengthen understanding of spoken Arabic. Thank you for your continued support.

Enrichment

We are proud to share Year 12 student Diya's initiative – the Arabic Phrase of the Week is:

Ramadan Mubarak
[My Movie 6.mov](#)

We are participating in the **Arabic Reading Competition** and encourage students to keep reading regularly.

SPECIALIST UPDATES

MFL UPDATE



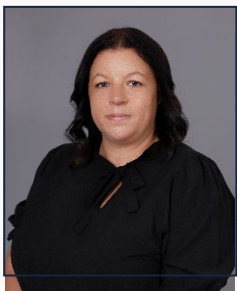
Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick
Head of MFL

This week, students have continued to show positive engagement in their MFL lessons, demonstrating great effort and enthusiasm when developing their language skills. It has been wonderful to see students participating actively in class activities and building confidence across listening, speaking, reading, and writing tasks.

Our Year 10 students have also received feedback on their recent mock assessments. They are now focusing on this feedback to strengthen their understanding and improve their performance in preparation for their next set of assessments. We are proud of the hard work and commitment shown and look forward to seeing even further progress.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students achieve their best in MFL.

PERFORMING ARTS UPDATE



Ms. Charlene Rock
Head of Performing Arts

This week students in the Performing Arts faculty have been completing assessments and getting feedback on their work. We are really pleased with their progress.

As we head towards the end of the term, we want to wish our Year 11 GCSE Music and Drama students the best of luck in their upcoming performance exams and component compositions.

don't forget to

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INSTAGRAM!

@ artsatsvs

Today our Junk Kouture students presented their fantastic final designs. Next week we will have the results of the KS3 student vote as well as photos. Good luck to all those involved!

SPECIALIST UPDATES

INCLUSION UPDATE

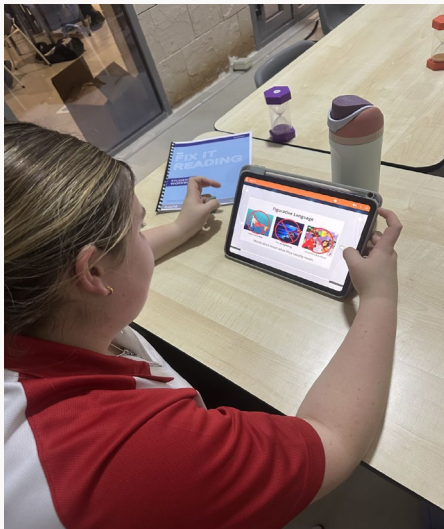


Ms. Nicola Quick
Head of Year 12 & Special
Education Needs
Coordinator- Secondary



Mrs Abigale Dunn
Head of Inclusion

This week we have had a strong focus on key literacy and maths skills with our KS3 students. The students have been showing both independent learning skills and also teamwork in solving problems together. Our Y11 students have also been finalising their ASDAN coursework folders and demonstrating skills they have learnt throughout the course.



SQUADS UPDATES



Mrs. Teodoro
Director of Sports

Term 3 Sports Update – Basketball Trials & New sports opportunities

We would like to inform you that all squad training sessions have now stopped due to the upcoming Ramadan period. Training will resume from 30th March.

This week we have hold Basketball trials and we are also extending trials during the first week back in Term 3 to give more students the opportunity to take part, as per the following:

- **U12 & U14 Boys – Thursday, 2nd of April**
- **U12 & U14 Girls – Wednesday, 1st of April**

Both trials will take place at 7:00am in the Secondary Sports Hall.

We are also excited to share that we are looking for students who are interested in being part of the first **SVS Water Polo Team**. While we are not planning to enter the DASSA league this academic year, we aim to organise friendly fixtures with other schools. If your child is a confident swimmer — as water polo is played in deep water — they are more than welcome to attend and give it a try.

Registration for these sessions can be completed directly with the PE Department by speaking to Mr. Evans.

We are pleased to inform you that the Dubai School Games is planning to organise a **Wall Climbing Competition**. If your child is interested in representing the school at this exciting event, please contact Mrs. Rowcliffe or Mrs. Sonia in the PE Department for further information.

We encourage students to take on this new challenge and showcase their skills while representing our school with pride.



Basketball trials

U12 & U14's boys:
Thursday, 2nd of April - 7am - SMPH

U12 & U14's girls:
Wednesday, 1st of April - 7am - SMPH

don't forget to
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