



Success @ Swavesey

Issue No.15 December 2024



England V Germany

In October some of our lucky students enjoyed a fantastic evening at Wembley Stadium watching the Lionesses play a friendly against Germany. Although the students didn't get to see England win they did witness 3 England goals!



Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of Success@Swavesey. I am so proud to showcase this selection of amazing achievements of our students.

Since September, we have seen Success at Swavesey in many forms across the wide range of the school curriculum. The Illuminate Christmas performances were certainly a personal highlight, but as you can see from this edition, we have a great deal to celebrate this term.

All the staff at the college, from teachers to the support staff have worked exceptionally hard this term and have played an integral part in maintaining the high expectations and standards we expect here at Swavesey Village College.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all families for their support during the last year, and I hope you all enjoy this edition of Success@Swavesey.

Very best wishes

Jim Stavrou
Headteacher



European Day of Languages, September 26th:

We invited students to take part in a national creative writing poetry competition organised by ALL (Association for Language Learning) "Together" to celebrate European Day of Languages in September. The response from students was fantastic with numerous entries in French, Malay, Russian, Chinese, Polish, Spanish, German, Arabic, Italian and even Toki Pona, a constructed language created by a Canadian Linguist.

We are very proud to say that 6 students received a commendation for their excellent work. Well done Sara, Aidan, Armelle, Carly, Michaela and Loretta. We are also pleased to announce that 3 of our school entries were a winning entry. Well done Viraat, Armelle and Sahili for splendid entries.



German Unity Day

The Languages Department were thrilled to welcome Dr Mary Boyle with postgraduate student Felix Lunn from the German Department at Cambridge University to celebrate German Unity Day.

Year 8 Germanists had fun learning from the visitors about the historical events and popular holidays in Germany. During this visit Swavesey students were also able to discuss future opportunities available to them to continue learning German, whether by studying it at university or by living and working in Germany.

Frohen Tag der deutschen Einheit!



VALUE OUR PEOPLE



PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE



ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

L'Oreal Cosmetic Chemistry

At the beginning of December Year 9 Health & Beauty students visited the Royal Institute for Science to take part in the L'Oreal Cosmetic Chemistry Workshop. They had the opportunity to take part in cosmetic experiments and then had the amazing experience of working in the lab to make bath bombs and lip glosses.



Year 9 Careers Carousel

A huge thank you to all the volunteers that came into school last week and made our year 9 Careers Carousel such a success!

Students got to learn about careers in Engineering, Copywriting, Software Development, Human Resources, Petcare, Analytical Science, Environmental Management and the Army, plus a whistle stop tour of the courses on offer at Cambridge Regional College.

If you could spare some time to share your career journey with our students please do get in touch: sraven@swaveseyvc.co.uk.



EXTENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF LEARNING



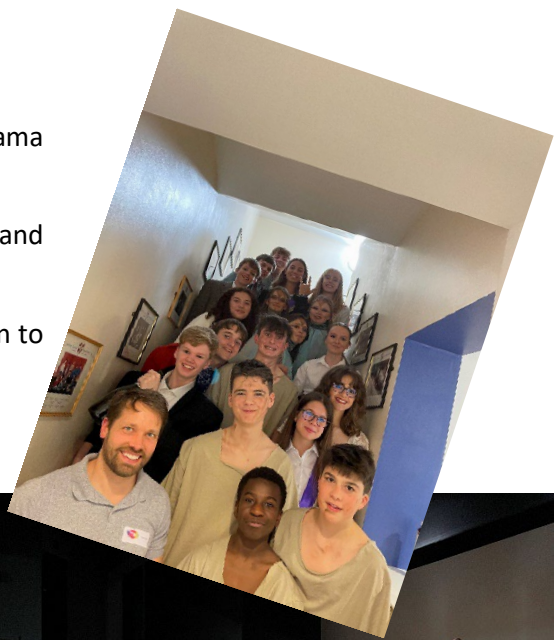
A HIGH-QUALITY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Cambridge Festival of Drama

Once again, we were proud to be part of the Cambridge Festival of Drama held at the ADC theatre in Cambridge.

Our cast threw themselves at an adaptation of *The Tempest* and thoroughly enjoyed performing on a professional stage!

Huge congratulations to all who took part and with a special mention to our Caliban performers who picked up the adjudicator's award.



Remembrance Day

This Year marked the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings. The whole school joined together at registration on the 11th November for an assembly focussing on the human achievement and loss on the Normandy beaches. There were stories and music from our orchestra and choirs.

Our brass players heralded 11am as the school fell silent together.

We were proud of all our students for their respect and reflection on the day.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Sponsored Walk

This year we had sunshine for our annual sponsored walk.

The theme this year was HEROES (and amazing to see real life heroes in the air ambulance at the start!)

The students took part and raised money for their House charities and for social time equipment at school. The total amount raised was just over £7000. Well done everyone!

The local community was very patient whilst 1200 students walked the 10 mile route (including a very long litter pick!)



Sports Personality Awards

For the second year, we hosted our Sports Personality of the Year Awards, where we celebrated the success of students and teams within school. We were joined by Olympian Beth Tweddle, where she gave students an inspiring speech encouraging them to continue with their sporting successes. The evening was a huge success with a number of students winning an array of awards.





Visual Arts

It has been a busy term in the Visual Arts Department. Year 7 students learnt about the elements of art via playful experimentation and year 8 students developed their water colour painting skills inspired by Vincent Van Gogh. Year 9 art students enjoyed visiting the Tate Modern in London. They loved walking to the museum from St Paul's cathedral across the Millenium bridge in glorious sunshine. Inside the former Bankside power station, they explored an array of art and began to analyse and discuss what they could see. In addition, photography students have been fascinated by fast and long shutter speed techniques resulting with their own awesome light painting and water drop photographs. To encourage KS3 students to connect with the arts world beyond the classroom Arts Award club has taken place once a week. Students have appreciated the calm space to focus on their bronze Arts Award portfolios whilst making new friends and listening to music.

Maths Enrichment

Well done to the four students who got through to the second round of the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge. Thomas, Ben, Charis and Jonty all competed in the Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo in November. A special congratulations to Jonty for achieving a Certificate of Merit for his high score. The Maths department continues to be impressed by the mathematical thinking and resilience our students demonstrate by competing in Maths challenges.

It has also been wonderful this term to see students developing and sharing their problem-solving skills in Mathletics club. Special thanks to our committed regular attendees Natty, Millie and Quentin.

We also want to commend our Year 9 Maths Ambassadors for their dedication to Maths mentoring and to the year 7 mentees for their hard work this term. It has been great to watch how the patient and informative mentoring of the year 9 students has improved the attainment and confidence of the year 7 students.



GCHQ Competition

24 of our most dedicated year 9 linguists spent a week solving a series of language-based problems to try to score (and find the ever-elusive Easter eggs!). As well as using their language skills, they used different research methods and think outside the box to solve 80 tricky puzzles. It was excellent to see them working in teams, coming in early and staying late, and using knowledge from all sorts of subjects to get as high as they could on the leaderboard.

Over 2000 teams took part across the UK and we were thrilled that all our teams finished in the top 10%, with 2 teams in the top 10 and 3 more in the top 25.

A huge well done to the Careful Blushing Spiders at 7th place (Ellen, Isla, Parina, and Beatrix), the Grinning Caring Dalmatians in 8th place (Zach, Natty, Leo, and George), the Friendly Witty Squids in 13th place (Szymon, Alex, Christopher, and Alex), the Smiling Brave Dragonflies in 14th place (Kimberely, Megan, Emilia, and Molly), the Soft Elegant Bees in 23rd place (Lottie, Nia , Isabelle , and Lily), and the Cheerful Grinning Malteasers at 191th place (George , George , Ali , and Denys).

Our participants will receive a special certificate from GCHQ in their celebration assemblies and we hope the year 8s are preparing their teams for next year...



Illuminate

The Performing Arts Department wrapped up a fabulous Autumn term with our annual showcase series, Illuminate.

The shows brought together music dance and drama from our ensembles, clubs and companies alongside curricular work and PLEDGES.

We were so proud of the approx 160 students who took part across the showcases and grateful to our parents and families for their support.

Alongside this, many of these students are looking forward to our Grease production next term (over 200 in our company!)

Wishing all our students and their families the very best for the Christmas holidays!





Fixtures

As a PE Department, we have kicked off the new Academic Year with a number of successful sporting fixtures. Football has been in full swing with success for both girls and boys in the first rounds of the Meridian Trust Cup, County Cup and English Schools. We have also had success from the first netball fixtures, with years 7, 8, 9 and 10 all winning their first games. A strong start from the Swavesey Teams and long may this continue!



Cross Country

The stormy weather decided to play nicely and give us a break, allowing us to take on the challenging Netherhall Cross Country route for another year. Students took to the course fantastically, with some highlights being:

- Alistair R 1st
- Gareth B 5th
- Hattie R 4th
- Tom R 4th
- Ed J 9th
- Immy R 8th

