



24th April 2026

Dear SNHS Community

It has been quite a week! It has been lovely to welcome the return of the warmer weather and sunshine, which has meant many of our students have been able to enjoy sport, use the field at break and lunchtime, and make the most of our fantastic outdoor spaces. We also welcomed a group of four OFSTED inspectors who spent two days visiting us on Tuesday and Wednesday and completing a comprehensive review of our school provision. As always, I am writing to share what we have been doing this week and what lies ahead.

This Week at SNHS

OFSTED Visit

We began the week with the call from OFSTED, informing us that a full inspection would take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. I have written separately to families with full detail about the process, what took place, and the next steps. Thank you to everyone — students, staff and families — for your support and positivity throughout.

Year 10 Mock Exams

Year 10 have continued with their mock exams, which are now nearly complete. We are incredibly proud of the way they have approached these assessments: with focus, care and respect. Their conduct has been exemplary — lining up calmly, entering the exam hall correctly, and showing real determination to revise and give their best. Well done, Year 10 — you have been a credit to yourselves and the school.

Summer Uniform

It has been great to see students in their summer polo shirts this week, and we hope this provides comfort and practicality as the weather warms up. Last week we wrote to families about uniform expectations, particularly around jewellery. We have seen a very strong and positive response — thank you for reinforcing these standards at home.

A reminder that from Monday 27th April, any jewellery that does not meet our uniform expectations will be confiscated until the end of the day.

Morning Entrance Change

Also from Monday 27th April, the bottom Sports Centre entrance will no longer be open in the mornings. All students will enter via the top student gate. This was included in last week's letter, and we appreciate your support in ensuring students arrive via the correct entrance.

Year 9 Cricket Match

Our Year 9 cricket team played against a strong and experienced Gillingham School side this week. They represented SNHS brilliantly — taking some excellent wickets, scoring plenty of runs, and showing great teamwork. The sunshine certainly helped, and the students had a fantastic time, which is always the most important thing.

Summer Sports Clubs

We were delighted to see such high participation in our summer sports clubs this week — including 26 students at rounders club alone. We strongly encourage students to get involved, enjoy our expansive fields and facilities, and make the most of the warmer weather. Summer Sports Clubs have started so please speak to a member of the PE Team for more details.

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Current Vacancies

We are currently advertising for two new posts of Teacher of Maths and a Teacher of French. We are excited to welcome applicants and continue to strengthen our already brilliant staff team. Please do encourage any interested applicants to contact the school for further information.

Attendance Matters

This week's attendance figures are:

- Year 7 – 96.1%
- Year 8 – 91.6%
- Year 9 – 90.7%
- Year 10 – 89.3%
- Year 11 – 87.2%

Compared with last week, we have seen some positive improvements — particularly in Year 7, who continue to lead the way with excellent attendance. A huge well done to all students who attend consistently and show resilience and responsibility every day.

We continue to reinforce the message that every day in school matters, especially as we move into the summer term and, for older students, the exam season. Thank you to families who support strong routines at home.

Next Week at SNHS

- **Wednesday & Thursday – French Speaking Exams**
Best of luck to all students involved and thank you to Madame Woods for her hard work and support in preparing them.
- **Wednesday after school – Academic Mentoring for Year 11 & Year 13**
Senior Leaders will be meeting with selected students to provide additional academic mentoring ahead of their crucial upcoming exams. Families involved have already received a letter regarding this.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been a significant week for the school, and I remain incredibly proud of our students, staff and families.

I would like to finish by sharing that OFSTED repeatedly emphasised the incredibly strong sense of community at SNHS - and I remain fiercely proud to lead our school as we go from strength to strength.

Your trust, support and involvement in our school is something we are all very grateful for and I look forward to growing and developing further as we move through the summer term and beyond.

Enjoy the weekend

Warm regards

Mr M Motteram
Head of School

