



26th June 2026

Dear SNHS Families

A very warm welcome to this week's newsletter.

It has been an extraordinary week weather-wise, with sustained high temperatures and both red and amber weather warnings in place locally. These conditions resulted in our early closures on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Closing the school is never an easy decision. It requires us to carefully consider a range of mitigation strategies, alongside guidance from both our Trust and the Department for Education. We fully recognise the impact that such decisions have on families, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and understanding. I am also very grateful to those parents who have been in touch individually to share their appreciation of the decisions made this week—it is hugely valued.

Following any extreme event, we take time to reflect and review our provision. We recognise that periods of extreme heat are likely to become more frequent, and therefore we must continue to adapt aspects of our infrastructure and practice - rather than relying on closing the school. This work is already underway, and we will continue to draw on guidance from key stakeholders to inform our decision-making moving forward.

With cooler weather (thankfully!) forecast for next week, we will return to full summer uniform expectations. Students should not be wearing PE shorts to school. As always, all usual summer uniform expectations remain in place, including those relating to jewellery, sock colour, shoes etc

What has happened at SNHS this week

While the weather has understandably dominated much of the week (and sadly ensured some events have had to be postponed), we have still found time to celebrate and provide some fantastic opportunities for our students.

We were absolutely delighted to celebrate our Year 13 students at their annual Prom, held at the beautiful Langton Arms. Students looked fantastic, arriving in an array of vehicles, and enjoyed a wonderful evening together alongside many staff who came to support them. The evening included a lovely meal, dancing, time spent in the grounds and an opportunity to reminisce about their time at SNHS. We are incredibly proud of this group of young people and wish them every success in their next steps.

Our Silver and Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expeditions are taking place this weekend. We are pleased that the cooler weather will allow these to go ahead safely, enabling students to fully engage in the walking and camping elements of the award. We are very grateful to our outdoor education partners and the staff who have generously given their time to support this, and we wish all students the very best for their expedition, we are very proud of them.

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Our Sixth Form students have also taken part in a Geography field trip this week, further enriching their learning beyond the classroom and gathering important information to support their NEA and progress in the course.

We also said a fond farewell to our trainee Art teacher, Mr Morris. He has made a fantastic contribution to our school, supporting students in Art lessons and within his Year 8 tutor group. His creativity was clear in the brilliant caricature he produced of his tutor group, which will be a lasting reminder of his time with us. We wish him every success as he moves into his first teaching post - he will always be warmly remembered at SNHS.

What's coming up at SNHS next week

With cooler temperatures returning, we look forward to getting back to business as usual.

On Monday, our Year 7 students will be visiting St Peter's Church in Hinton St Mary as part of their RE curriculum. This is a fantastic opportunity to bring their learning to life in a meaningful local context.

We also have House Sport events taking place; Year 8 on Monday and Year 7 on Tuesday. This promises to be enjoyable and competitive occasions that build on our sense of community and belonging. May the best House win, and this leads into our competitive spirit ahead of Sports Day in the last week of term.

On Tuesday evening, we will host our Year 12 Parents' Evening. This is an important opportunity to reflect on recent mock results and to begin preparing students for the significant year ahead in Year 13. We look forward to welcoming parents both virtually and in person and having these important discussions.

On Wednesday, our Geography students will travel to Swanage to collect key data for their NEA coursework.

We will also welcome Year 6 families to our rescheduled 'Meet the SLT' event on Wednesday, which we look forward to hosting following its postponement this week.

Thursday will be a particularly busy and exciting day. We will welcome Year 5 pupils into school for their 'Step Up' Day, giving them a flavour of life at SNHS. Our Year 12 students will visit Solent University to explore higher education opportunities, and in the evening, we will celebrate our Year 11 Prom - another important milestone and a fantastic way to recognise the end of their GCSE journey.

Attendance Matters

Attendance remains a key priority for us, as every lesson truly does count.

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Last week's attendance figures were:

- **Year 7:** 96% (unchanged but still the highest in the school - well done Year 7!)
- **Year 8:** 92.1% (a small decrease)
- **Year 9:** 91.1% (an increase - well done Year 9!)
- **Year 10:** 89.1% (unchanged)

With 18 full school days remaining this academic year, it is vital that we maintain strong attendance to ensure students maximise their learning and finish the year positively. Every day in school makes a difference in supporting progress, building routine and strengthening outcomes.

Thank you once again for the continued support you have shown to the school this week. It is a real testament to the strength of our partnership and the shared commitment we all have to our young people.

As always, please take care, go steady in the warmer conditions, and stay safe and healthy. I wish you all a lovely weekend.

With very best wishes

Mr M Motteram
Headteacher

