



SSSO NEWS

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a particularly busy term with competitions, visitors, and visits.

Students have been working really hard, and as we move into exam season after the break we think especially of our year 11 and year 13 students preparing for public exams.

They will of course be revising this holiday but must also make time to rest. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Our commemoration service this year was a beautiful experience full incredible art work and music and readings.

It was a very special event for me that I will treasure as my final commemoration service as Headteacher of this unique school.

I hope the enclosed pages give you an insight into all that happens in St Saviour's on a regular basis, both in and beyond day to day lessons.

Thank you for your engagement and support that add to our community.

We are all looking forward to a rest and spending time with friends and family, and returning to school refreshed and prepared for all that lies ahead next term.

With all good wishes for a restful and blessed Easter,

Catherine May



Happy Easter!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

SUMMER 1 START
13TH APRIL

YEAR 9 OPTION'S INTERVIEWS
16TH APRIL

CULTURAL EVENING
23RD APRIL

WHOLE SCHOOL EUCHARIST
28TH APRIL

YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING
30TH APRIL

YEAR 6 HEAD START
14TH MAY

TURN THE PAGE TO SEE LIFE
INSIDE THE WALLS OF
ST SAVIOUR'S AND ST OLAVE'S

INSTAGRAM



Stay connected with our school on Instagram!
Don't miss out on the latest updates, events, and student highlights.

Follow our school Instagram page to see what's happening on site!

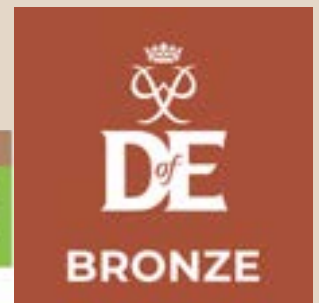
Scan the QR code below to follow us instantly and stay connected!



BRONZE DOFE 2026 LAUNCH

This term our Bronze DofE cohort began training for their expeditions. So far they've focussed on orienteering (reading maps and using compasses) and campcraft including putting up tents.

We are really proud of the cohort's enthusiasm and look forward to seeing them put their skills into action in the summer term.



RAKUTEN PARTNERSHIP LAUNCH ASSEMBLY

On Friday 13th March, we were able to launch our new Business Partnership with Rakuten.

Rakuten is a Japanese company in over 70+ countries, they have different areas of business which includes Rakuten TV, Rakuten Advertising, Rakuten sport where they were the main sponsors for FC Barcelona and NBA Golden State Warriors.



Our partnership is a long-term partnership which will include work insight visits, work experience opportunity and mentoring opportunities.

Each Year group will have their launch assembly, the next year group to have their assembly will be our 6th form students

ENGLISH TRIP TO THE GLOBE THEATRE

On Tues 17th March, the entire year group for year 11, went to see "Romeo and Juliet" at the Globe Theatre. It was a beautiful sunny spring afternoon. After a brisk 20 minute walk from school, we arrived feeling excited for what was to come. In short, the overall play was extraordinary. The little details of the set design really made a huge difference.

Each character had its own unique characteristic that stood out to me. There was a specific part in Act 4 Scene 3 in which we are shown the effects of the poison given by Friar Lawrence to Juliet. In this interpretation she hallucinated and vibrant visuals helped us to differentiate fantasy from "reality" before she fell into a deep sleep.



The play was modernised but the characters spoke in Shakespearean English which helped me to reference and remember quotes. The modern take with the story set in the twentieth century made it more entertaining.

Small additions of modernism included; a train station sign during Romeo's banishment, the servants fighting wearing tracksuits and riding bikes, and the police/healthcare workers were dressed in modern clothing too.

My personal favourite was the inclusion of the bike riders which represented the servants fighting, and they did a lot of cool stunts to really amplify the intensity of the fighting scenes. My favourite character was Mercutio, played by Keanu Adolphus Johnson, was perfectly represented by being unpredictable, changing rapidly from playful banter to aggressive outbursts.

In addition to that, more specifically in Act 3 Scene 1, we see Mercutio's impulsive behaviour which contributes to the play's violence as he quickly challenges Tybalt, leading to both their deaths.

Ruth 11G

On the 17th of March, my year group went to the globe open air theatre to see a live performance of William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

It was a fantastic opportunity to see a play that we've been studying for weeks in English, come to life on the stage at.

The excitement began the moment we arrived. We were one of many other schools in London that arrived at Blackfriars by the Thames.

The theatre's atmosphere was very lively and it actually made me feel like I was in an actual Elizabethan theater. Some students like groundlings, stood to watch the play.

Unlike simply reading the play in class, the live setting, with the lights and the live music, dramatic fight scenes immediately pulled me into the performance and I was transported to 16th century Verona.

The trip was an amazing way to help me learn the plot of the play by heart without having to read the play again. It also gave me a deeper love for live theatrical performances.

Adebimpe, 11 Yellow



COMMEMORATION SERVICE



On Thursday 12th, our school community gathered for our annual Commemoration Service, a cherished occasion in the school calendar.

This year's service held particular significance as we came together to honour our Headteacher, Ms May, who will be leaving us at the end of the academic year.

The service began with an introductory reading from our Head Girl, setting a reflective and respectful tone for the occasion.

Students from each year group then led a series of thoughtful readings and reflections, inviting us to consider the values that have shaped our community over time, including perseverance, wisdom, encouragement, and faithfulness.

These moments were interwoven with hymns, which brought the school together in a shared spirit of remembrance and gratitude.

A central focus of the service was giving thanks for the outstanding leadership and dedication of Ms May.

Her vision, compassion, and unwavering commitment have had a profound impact on our school, shaping not only its direction but also the experiences of countless students.

Her legacy will undoubtedly continue to influence the life of the school for years to come.



Displayed at the front of the service was a collection of artwork created by our students for this occasion.

Each piece represented a different moment in the school's history, illustrating the subjects taught by past headteachers.

Together, these artworks formed a powerful visual timeline, celebrating the growth, creativity, and identity of our school, and reminding us that education is both a legacy we inherit and a responsibility we carry forward.



Also featured was the symbolic image of a single red rose, an important emblem from our school's founding.

In its earliest years, the school's annual rent to the Diocese was one red rose. Today, this tradition continues as a symbol of gratitude, unity, and continuity.

By wearing a red rose, we recognise our connection to those who came before us, our role in the present, and our responsibility to the future.

As we gathered to worship, reflect, and give thanks, we celebrated all that our school has been, all that it is today, and all that it will become.

Above all, we expressed our deep appreciation for Ms May, whose leadership has helped shape the school we are proud to be part of, and whose influence will remain an enduring part of its story.

DEBATE CLUB

This half-term saw SSSO students compete in two major competitions: the Harrow School Nehru Cup and the ESU Public Speaking Competition (East London Regional Final) – the semi-final stage of a national competition.

At the ESU Public Speaking Regional Final, three Year 10 students represented the school across the roles of chair, speaker and questioner. Following an unforeseen change, Kelly (10G) stepped in at short notice and delivered an impressive speech on the Oliver Wendell Holmes quote: "A mind that is stretched by a new idea or experience can never shrink back to its old dimensions." Drawing on ideas from psychology, neuroplasticity and dementia, she handled challenging questions with confidence and clarity.

Sofia (10Y) chaired the event with warmth and presence, while Chioma (10Y) asked thoughtful and probing questions, particularly on religion and political discourse.

Although another team progressed to the national final, reaching the regional semi-final marks the furthest SSSO has ever gone in this competition: a significant achievement.

Credit must also go to Sofia (10G) who was unable to attend this round but put in fantastic performances in the earlier rounds to help us progress so far.

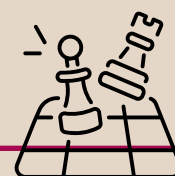
We also took a group of students to compete at the Nehru Cup at Harrow School, where they debated a range of challenging motions, including the role of the monarchy, border taxes and climate regulation, reforming the A-Level system, and banning social media for under-16s.

For many, this was their first formal competition, and they quickly adapted to the demands of timed preparation, structured argument, and rebuttal. Across four rounds, students showed clear progress, growing in confidence and developing their ability to build and extend arguments.



Students also took part in some competitive and high level debating at Dulwich College, and with more competitions ahead next term, debating at SSSO continues to go from strength to strength. and we look forward to seeing students build on these experiences next term.

CHESS CLUB



Chess Club has been ticking along nicely this half-term, with regular attendance and plenty of competitive matches each week. It's been great to see students developing their skills, thinking strategically, and enjoying the challenge of playing against one another.

I was particularly delighted (and slightly concerned!) to be beaten by one of the students: a clear sign that standards are rising and that I may need to sharpen up my own game!

OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME

Despite it being a shorter half-term, the Oxbridge Programme remained busy and enriching. We were particularly excited to welcome **Dr Fernanda Mee**, a professor at St Mary's University London, who delivered a talk on her PhD, "*Faith in the Family?*": a fascinating topic with relevance across multiple disciplines, including sociology, religious studies and philosophy.

Students also benefited from a session on **Research Biology**, continuing to expose them to university-level thinking and specialist subject insight.



We began the process of supporting Year 12 students with their UCAS preparation. In one session, students presented their supra-curricular research to one another, developing their ability to articulate their interests clearly and respond to questioning, which are vital skills for both applications and interviews. These sessions encouraged independence, curiosity, and confidence in discussing academic ideas.

Looking ahead, Year 12 students will begin to craft their personal statements next term, while Year 11 students will turn their focus fully toward their GCSEs. Despite the shorter term, it was another strong and productive period for the programme, and we look forward to building on this momentum.



LINGUISTICS CLUB

Last half-term's question asked: *What does the 'wiki' of 'Wikipedia' mean?* The answer is **A) Hawaiian wikipiki (very quick)**. A "wiki" is a webpage that users can edit, and the term was coined by developer Ward Cunningham, inspired by the Hawaiian word *wikiwiki*, meaning "quick."

It has been fantastic to see such strong cross-year interaction in the club, with students from Year 7 to Year 13 taking part each week.

In particular, it's been brilliant to see some of our Year 7s attending consistently and beginning to beat older students who attend less frequently.

A clear reminder that general knowledge builds over time!



This half-term's question is:

What is the origin of the word 'phoney' (fake)?

- A) Irish gold rings called "fawneys"
- B) An early scam perpetrated on telephone owners
- C) Corruption of Fonsa, son of the trickster God Olifat
- D) Afrikaans for "trap"



Have a think: the answer will be revealed in next term's newsletter!

1850-55
linguistics noun [uncountable]
the science of language, including phonology, syntax, semantics, and other aspects of language.
...al linguistics.
...ples

THE BACCHAE

The Year 13 Performing Arts class delivered an unforgettable final performance with their bold and electrifying production of Kneehigh's *The Bacchae*, directed by Ms Laurie. From start to finish, the show was loud, raucous, and unapologetically intense, capturing the audience's attention with its wild energy and striking theatricality.

Blending dark humour with moments of shocking brutality, the students embraced the play's gruesome elements with confidence and creativity. Their commitment to physical theatre, music, and ensemble storytelling brought a unique vibrancy to the stage, demonstrating just how much they have grown as performers. Every scene felt alive, unpredictable, and full of passion.

Yet beneath the chaos and spectacle lay a deeply meaningful message.

The final moments of the performance were haunting and thought-provoking, leaving the audience reflecting on themes of power, identity, and consequence long after the performance ended.

This cohort has truly excelled themselves. Their dedication, resilience, and willingness to take risks have made this production something very special.

As they take their next steps beyond school, they leave behind a legacy of creativity and courage.



We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved—and they will be greatly missed.

Congratulations on your wonderful final performance at SSSO: **Georgina, Havilah, Julia, Lottie and Tia!**



AUTHOR VISIT - BALI RAE

Year 7 students had a wonderful opportunity meeting the award-winning author Bali Rai on 24 February 2026.

Since establishing his career in 2001, Rai has published more than 50 books for children and young adults.

Bali spoke passionately about his journey as a writer. He explained the difference between empathy and sympathy, describing empathy as the ability to understand and share the feelings of others, involving a deep emotional connection.



He also discussed how this helps authors create characters that readers can relate to and feel connected to.

Many students said this part of the talk made them see stories in a completely new way.

He also talked about growing up in a working-class, multicultural neighbourhood in Leicester, where people from different backgrounds supported each other.

This experience has influenced his writing and helped him fight stereotypes in his books.



After the talk, Year 7 then attended a creative writing workshop.

Bali helped students come up with ideas, learn how to make the reader curious, and use emotion to make their writing more compelling.

A lot of students asked questions and got feedback on their own story ideas. Students were full of ideas and buzzing with inspiration.

A big thank you to Bali for visiting our Year 7 students and sharing his inspirational stories and experiences.

The students had a wonderful time and were motivated to improve their writing and reading skills.



WINNIE'S WORLD

Winnie turned 5 on 10th March and we had a wonderful party at lunch time to celebrate. Students brought her home-made cards and we played Pass the Pawcel.

Winnie was happy to join in as she got a treat each time the parcel was unwrapped. Winnie also took part in another birthday which was our school's Commemoration Service on Thursday 12th March.

Winnie wore her school uniform coat with a rose on it and walked up to Southwark Cathedral with 7 Red.

Winnie loves going anywhere with the students and she is such an integral part of the school community that she simply has to be there.

The Cathedral does have its own cat and they make sure that Hodge is well out of the way to avoid any differences of opinion.



What Winnie means to me

"Winnie is very comforting and friendly to everyone. She is very playful and an amazing therapy dog.

I am very grateful that I get to see Winnie almost every day in the library. She loves it when you give her treats and spoil her.

What I find fascinating is that Winnie's owner (Ms Pagliero) named Winnie after her grandmother who used to attend this school.

It's nice to know that my school therapy dog also has some really interesting history behind her."

Hannah, 7 Red



What Winnie means to me

"Winnie is an adorable, cheeky and pic-posing pro! She's full of love, although she does have a few favourites.

As a therapy dog Winifred makes sure that all students visiting the library and / or MFL office are safe and welcomed.

As the school's mascot, Winnie is a piece of history.

Lucy, 7 Green



DIFFERENCE MATTERS CONFERENCE

This half term, some of our Difference Matters cohort – a London-wide project to increase neurodiversity inclusion in schools – took part in a conference in Bishopsgate.

The day involved over 100 students from London schools working together to identify key areas of the school experience which could be improved for neurodiverse students.

Well done to our attendees who are pictured here mapping out their journey from Yr7 to Yr11 and all the emotional challenges and support they experience along the way!



TECH FOR GOOD CHALLENGE



On Wednesday 25th February, six year nine students attended an electrical engineering event for women in STEM at Imperial College London.

The day included inspiring talks from both alumni and current students, who shared their experiences and showcased innovative projects, including a robotics competition representing the UK.

We also took part in a range of engaging activities that allowed us to apply our physics, computer science, and teamwork skills!



Following a lunch provided by the university, we participated in Apple's 'Tech for Good' competition. Working in teams of three, we were challenged to design a STEM-based solution to a global issue.

Our team focused on tackling ocean pollution, specifically microplastics. We designed a jellyfish-inspired robot coated in algae to absorb and break down microplastics through bioremediation, with tentacles utilising *Caulobacter crescentus* (a highly effective natural adhesive) to capture larger debris. We also developed a supporting app, incentive system, and a basic profit model.

We were proud to be awarded second place, especially considering the creativity of all the other teams! Overall, the experience was both inspiring and intellectually stimulating, reinforcing our interest in STEM and highlighting its potential to address real-world challenges."

Student Quote: Eisraa 90



CONSTRUCTION YOUTH

On Tuesday 10th March, students who are part of the Construction Youth Programme. Were given CV insight session; students were given expert advice from work employers from world of work.

Construction Youth are our school partners, the programme is to support young people in KS5 to achieve a post-18 outcome that is well-matched to their strengths, interest and career aspirations, with a particular emphasis on young people looking to pursue apprenticeships and enter the world of work.

The session was extra special because one of our ex students Shanai Taylor who works for Hill Group gave her expert advice to our students, Shanai was part of the Construction Youth Programme when she was a student at St Saviours and St Olaves.



WORK EXPERIENCE

Day 3/3 of my work experience with Construction Youth Trust

The past 3 days were an incredibly valuable experience as my team and I presented our project design pitch to a panel of industry professionals as part of the 'Building Future Skills' programme.

Although our team didn't take the win, the process itself was extremely rewarding and taught me a lot about collaboration, communication, and presenting ideas under pressure.

Working alongside such a motivated group of people showed me how much can be achieved when everyone brings their ideas and strengths to the table.

From developing our concept to delivering the final pitch, it was a great opportunity to experience how teamwork and problem solving operate in a real professional environment.

I'm grateful to our mentors for their unconditional support and the industry professionals who took the time to listen to our ideas and give feedback.



Experiences like this are incredibly important for young people looking to understand the construction industry and build confidence in professional settings.

I'm really proud of my team and the effort we all put in, and I would absolutely look forward to the opportunity to work with them again in the future. It was truly an amazing experience and one I will take a lot from moving forward!

SOUTHWARK SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGE

On Thursday 12th February, we had 2 teams completing in the Sustainable Southwark Semi Finale. The Sustainable Southwark is a programme to prepare our students for employment in STEM.

The programme is to equip young people to be problem solvers and green leaders to tackle climate change. Students worked in groups to come up with an idea to address the challenges of climate change at a local level and an empowered green leader who champions sustainability.

The teams representing our school were our winners and runners up in our school heats, they now had to complete against other Southwark schools winners and runners ups.

Conserve 2 Preserve Team : Gbemi 10B, Choima 10Y, Kaia 10B, Amal 10B, Patrycja 10Y, Nana 10B

Circulus Plenus Team: Esther 10B, Nevaeh 10B, Zeruiah 10B, Maisha 10Y, Temilola 10Y, Aisha 10B

Both teams had to give their pitch into front of some high-profile judges from the STEM industry. The standards were very high from all schools and everyone gave their best effort on the night.

The moment the judges gave their verdicts we all had our fingers crossed; I am happy to say that one of our teams finished in the top 3.

The Conserve 2 Preserve Team came runners up in the Sustainable Southwark Semi Finale 2026.



AVIVA CAREER INSIGHT DAY

Student quote :

On the 9th of March, I and a few other selected students went to Aviva Head Office which was surprisingly eye-opening.

I thought we were mostly going to be learning mostly about insurance and how it works as it is an insurance company but that wasn't the case.



We got to meet staff working there and we also got to ask the apprentices different questions about what choices and decisions they made towards their career which was very interesting.

We got to work with students with other schools and had lots of food which was one of my favourite part and I hope younger years get to go as well, to have a fun experience as we did.

Ayoka 100

NHS CAREERS FAIR

On Tuesday 24th February, we attended the NHS Careers fair at Guys and St Thomas Hospital.

This was the first we attended as a school. We invited students in Year 12 that were studying Health and Social Care and students in Year 10 that had previously attended our NHS talk on Midwifery and Nursing.

The Careers fair gave our student the opportunity to engage directly with NHS professional from clinical and non-clinical roles, learn about entry routes, apprenticeships and university pathways.

During the day our students were able to discover the variety of careers available across the trust, from medicine to healthcare scientists to Allied Health Professionals.

The feedback from all students who attended was excellent and we hope this will be a regular feature in our schools careers programme.

Student Quote:

I was given an amazing opportunity to go to St Thomas Hospital to learn about careers within the NHS.

This trip was very interesting as every part of the NHS is very different in their own ways.

This opportunity gave me a clearer understanding on why this NHS is important and be appreciated more as there is more than just doctors and nurses.

Lastly this has really boosted my thought of what I want to be in the future.

Jocelyn 100



I was given the opportunity to attend the NHS careers fair at St Thomas Hospital, and it was a really interesting experience.

I got to speak with a lot of professionals working in different roles across the NHS.

It was amazing to learn different careers and how each role is important in helping patients.

This opportunity gave me a better understanding of what working in the NHS is really like and helped me start thinking seriously about my future.

Bernice 100

