



## Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



I can hardly believe that September is already coming to an end. I'm incredibly proud of how well both staff and pupils have settled into the new school year. A particular well done to all those pupils who are new to our school, you've made a fantastic start. Year 7, especially, have adapted brilliantly to their new routines and surroundings; it already feels like they've always been part of our community.

One of my key goals this year is to ensure we offer as many extra-curricular opportunities as possible, and it's been fantastic to see how many clubs and activities staff have already organised. Even more encouraging is how many pupils are getting involved and making the most of these opportunities. Our Year 7 Enrichment Programme got off to a brilliant start, with over 150 pupils taking part in after-school clubs on Monday alone – a fantastic achievement!

I've also been blown away by the support we've received from parents and the wider community. They say it takes a village, and that couldn't be more true when it comes to running a school. It was wonderful to see a hall full of Year 11 parents at last night's "Year 11 Final Push" evening. As Mme Quinton rightly said during the event, it takes the support of every single member of our community to help our pupils achieve their very best. Looking ahead, next week is one of the biggest events in our calendar – our Open Evening. I'm really looking forward to opening our doors and sharing all the incredible work happening across the academy. I hope to see many of you there!

## Year 10 Food Technology

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to their Catering course this term. Each Wednesday, they take part in a practical lesson, and the quality of their work so far has been incredibly impressive. Their skills and creativity are already shining through – I'm sure you'll all agree their pancakes looked particularly professional! We may need to give our school chef a heads-up... it looks like we have some budding chefs in the making!



## Exploring the River Tillingbourne with Y10 GCSE Geographers

Last Friday, 55 enthusiastic GCSE geography students embarked on a fieldwork expedition to the River Tillingbourne in Surrey, eager to put their classroom learning into practice. The trip was a fantastic opportunity to explore how a river's characteristics change as it flows downstream, and our students rose to the challenge with curiosity and teamwork. Armed with tape measures, meter rulers, corks, and timers, the students conducted a series of investigations at multiple sites along the river. Their aim was to measure three key variables: width, depth, and velocity. These data points would help them understand how the river's profile changes as it flows downstream. The students worked in small groups, carefully recording measurements and observing the surrounding environment, taking into account ideas around flood risk and why precautions had been taken by councils to protect important roads from flooding. They discovered that the river widened and deepened as it progressed, with noticeable increases in velocity at downstream locations. The use of corks to track water speed was a particular highlight—simple yet effective, and a great way to bring theory to life. Beyond the data collection, the trip offered a chance to appreciate the natural beauty of the Surrey countryside. The weather was stunning, and the riverbanks provided a peaceful setting for learning and reflection. Teachers were impressed by the students' engagement and precision throughout the day.

This fieldwork experience not only reinforced key geographical concepts but also developed practical skills and confidence. It was a memorable day of learning outside the classroom, and we look forward to seeing how students use their findings in mocks and GCSEs beyond.

A big thank you to all staff who helped organise the trip, and to our students for making it such a success. Here's to more adventures in the great outdoors!



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## Open Evening 2025

Wednesday 1st October, 4:30pm - 7.30pm.

Principal's talk at 6.15pm

## Open Mornings 2025

Time: 9:00am - 12:30pm

Monday 6th to Friday 10th October • Monday 13th to Friday 17th October

Monday 20th & Wednesday 22nd October

If you would like to know more, do come and see us for yourself.

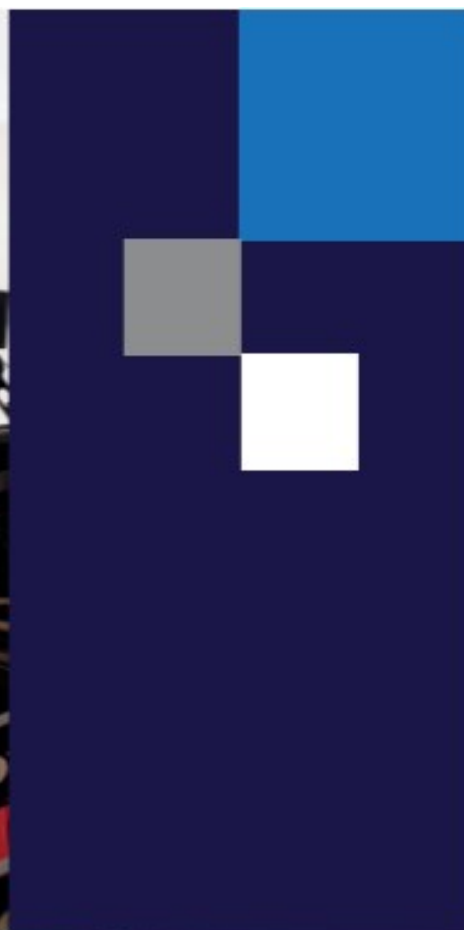
You do not need to make an appointment – just turn up!



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Pupils are proud to  
attend this school.  
Pupils are happy,  
safe and ambitious  
for their futures.  
The school fosters  
a harmonious and  
caring environment.

*Ofsted 2024*



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## Mr Wilson's Commendations

Congratulations this week go to the following pupils, who made it to the top of our Seneca and Sparx leaderboards.

Top pupils for Seneca are:

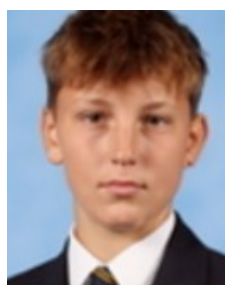
Year 7: Owen

Year 8: Alaa

Year 9: Sophia

Year 10: Ondrej

Year 11: Tallulah



Top pupils for Sparx maths are:

Year 7: Sumat

Year 8: Kieran

Year 9: Faith

Year 10: Omar

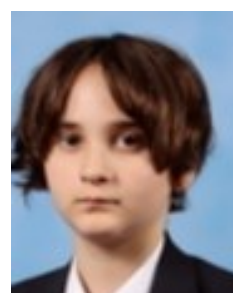
Year 11: Malika



Top pupils for Sparx reader are:

Year 8: Yazid and Jayen

Year 9: Ino and Layla





**PODCAST**

— The —  
**Wellbeing Hub**  
— from Teen Tips —



## This week's content

Week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> September

PODCAST: How to talk to your child about alcohol, drugs, relationships, pornography, and online influencers with Alicia Drummond, Therapist and Founder of The Wellbeing Hub

Listen now: [club.teentips.co.uk](http://club.teentips.co.uk)

## Key dates for weeks beginning 29th September and 6th October

Description	Date	Time
Whole school assembly	Monday 29th September	8:30-9:00
Year 7 Enrichment	Monday 29th September	15:30 - 16:30
Open evening– <b>school shuts for all pupils at 2:30pm</b>	Wednesday 1st October	16:30-19:30
Late start– <b>school starts for all pupils at 9:30am</b>	Thursday 3rd October	9:30 start
Year 7 PSHCE workshop	Friday 3rd October	13:45– 15:00
Year 7 PSHCE workshop	Friday 3rd October	13:45– 15:00
KS3 Essentials Evening	Monday 6th October	18:00-19:00
Year 11 Courtauld Trip	Thursday 9th October	13:00-17:00
Year 10 Welcome to GCSE Evening	Thursday 9th October	17:00-18:30
Year 8 Urban Fieldwork Trip	Friday 10th October	9:00-15:00

