

THE HOOT

THE SUTTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 - FRIDAY 22 OCTOBER 2021



Wise Words

Welcome to the new newsletter for parents of students at Sutton Grammar School. I hope that this message finds you in good health and good spirits.

It has been a long term with a lot going on in the school, as we returned to something like normality. One of the wonderful things we were able to return to was our staff and students' participation in our extra-curricular activities. In *The Hoot* we are able to celebrate a few of these opportunities with you.

As ever, it is the people at Sutton Grammar that make us what we are and I would like to take the chance to thank our students, our Prefect team, our staff, the PTA and our families for all the dedication and support they have shown over the past weeks. Floreat Suttona!

We aim to distribute *The Hoot* on a regular basis during term-time with a range of general information and news items about activities taking place and topics of general interest to the school community.

The Hoot is in addition to official letters from me or the school about important matters – it is partly in response to the parent survey earlier this year where there was a clear message requesting more details about things going on in or around school. We hope it helps parents and families be more informed and connected to school life.

We welcome further comments or feedback, and contributions. If a student has some news you would like to share, please let us know. *The Hoot* editorial can be contacted at: erc@suttongrammar.sutton.sch.uk

I don't know if these words are Wise Words, but I will look to sharing my thoughts with you each edition.

Keep Faith.
Ben Cloves
Headmaster

Lateral flow testing

Government advice is that school staff and students continue testing twice weekly. Students are given test kits regularly and should log their results on [TestRegister.co.uk](https://www.testregister.co.uk).

Please continue to test over the half-term break, and just before they return to school. Positive tests should be reported immediately and a PCR test taken as soon as possible.



Sutton United visit Summer School



Sutton Grammar School were delighted to run a Summer School for our incoming Year 7 students in August. We had over 100 students attend the week-long programme, which included a range of different sporting and academic activities and a surprise visited from the Sutton United football Team (above). Harry Kirk in 7G, who attended the Summer School, said:

"One of the frightening things about starting a new school is the people. Are the teachers going to be nice? Am I going to make any friends? ... The staff were extremely kind, compassionate, and helpful ... my fellow Year 7s were amazing.

"... unparalleled excellence ... football was the start ... we even met the first team of EFL League Two side Sutton United FC ...

"We had a terrific fun session ... orienteering ... maths ... creative writing ... computing ... art ..."

"... had a really good time ... developed friendships that will last the rest of our lives ... one of the best weeks of my life."

Individual school photos

Can students who had a school photo taken please place orders with Kittle by Monday 8th November to receive free delivery. After this date you will be charged for delivery.

Students should have a receipt with a unique QR code on it for you to place an order. If this has been misplaced or lost please email the school office.

Kittle
PHOTOGRAPHIC
Creating memories since 1994

Meet the tutor dates

| Year Group | Dates in November | Relevant Information |
|------------|-------------------|--|
| Y 12 | 11th 6- 7.30pm | During this evening current Year 12 parents/carers will receive an update on how this year group is settling in, as well as information on how best to support your Sixth Former in this important first year of Key Stage 5. You will also have the opportunity, along with other parents, to meet your child's tutor. Students should not attend this evening. |
| Y 8 | 23rd 6- 7.30pm | The aim for this evening is for the Head of Lower School to provide key information for parents/carers about this year, how the year has settled in, and share some tips for a successful Key Stage 3. You will also have the opportunity, along with other parents, to meet your child's tutor. Students should not attend this evening. |
| Y 10 | 24th 6- 7.30pm | During this evening parents/carers of Year 10 students will hear from the Head of Upper School about how this cohort has settled into this important first year of Key Stage 4. You will also have the opportunity, along with other parents, to meet your child's tutor. Students should not attend this evening. |
| Y 7 | 25th 6- 7.30pm | Parents/Carers of our new Year 7 students will hear from the Head of Year about they have settled into life at Sutton Grammar School. There will then be an opportunity to meet your child's tutor as well as other parents. Students should not attend this evening. |



The school has arranged for all of our sixth-formers to have a free, online subscription to the Financial Times. In previous years, this has proved very popular not only with students of Economics and Business but also those students taking a wide range of other courses.

Please encourage your son or daughter in the Sixth Form to make full use of this excellent resource for keeping up to date with current affairs. If a student has any problems registering their account, please contact Mr Bartlett, either in Room 40 or at nbartlett2@suttonmail.org.

Cross Country Champions

On Thursday 21st October we hosted the Primary and Secondary School Borough Cross Country Competition. Sutton Grammar Boys were the overall winners and our Sixth Form Girls team won second place. Congratulations to everyone who took part.



Open Evening



We would like to extend our thanks to all staff and students who participated in our Open Evening, which was a huge success. The school was buzzing with visitors and excited primary school students, keen to find out about Sutton Grammar School.

Visitors commented particularly on how much they had enjoyed all of the activities on offer on the evening. In particular, we would like to thank all of the students who conducted guided tours and assisted with running activities in departments. You are a credit to the school and we are very proud of you all.

Young Artists' Summer Show - Royal Academy

Huge congratulations to our students Patrick Smith and Eddie Blunt, who were chosen from 33,000 art submissions from across the UK and beyond, to appear at the Royal Academy's Young Artists' Live Summer Show.



Demolishes by Patrick Smith (Y13)



Eddie Blunt (Y7)
Aluminium Foil Sculpture

Bebras Computational Thinking Competition



From 8th - 19th November 2021, all Computer Science students in the school will be taking part in the Bebras Computational Thinking Competition.

It is organised in over 50 countries and designed to get students all over the world excited about computing. Each participant answers questions that focus on computational and logical thinking.

Year 13 theatre trip

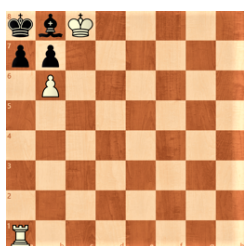
Year 13 enjoyed a night out at the theatre on Wednesday 13th October. Connected to their A Level English Lit study of Agatha Christie, students witnessed the oldest running play on the West End, *The Mousetrap*. Students loved the latest cast – especially the enigmatic unexpected guest, Mr Paravicini, played by Tony Timberlake. At the end of the play, after a rapturous ovation, SGS students were encouraged to keep the secret identity of this classic “whodunit”.



Chess Club

This term has seen the relaunch of Chess Club. Over 80 students took part in the A, B and C team selection, competing to solve puzzles and play against each other to grab a coveted place on the school team. Led by Joel Averbukh, A team members had to solve one of the puzzles (pictured below) and then play against him. Can you solve them?

Meanwhile, Jen Sen Wong has been leading our Chess Team online, co-ordinating the fortnightly national battles against other schools before we can meet in person next half term. Our team has done admirably, sitting in the top 8 during their last match on 8th October.



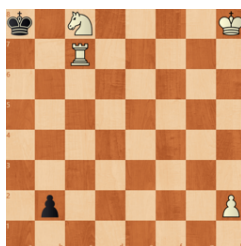
1. Mate in 2 - White to move.



2. Mate in 6 - White to move.



3. Mate in 6 - White to move.



4. White is winning material, however there is no way for white to prevent black's passed pawn from promoting. Find the only set of winning moves for white in order to capture black's promoted pawn and consequently win the game. (Assume black has promoted to queen)

Out-of-school support

We recognise that half term can be difficult for some. If you are feeling low or unsafe, it is important you talk to someone and let them know how you feel.

Sometimes it can be difficult to talk to friends and family so here are some other contacts and the link to our school signposting page.

<https://sites.google.com/suttongrammar.london/sgs-signposting/home>

School Nurse Duty Line - 020 8770 5409

Childline – 0800 1111

Samaritans – 116 123

Hopeline – 0800 068 4141

NSPCC – 0808 800 5000

CAMHS – 0203 513 3800

www.talkofftherecordonline.org

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.selfharmuk.org

www.youngminds.org.uk

www.kooth.com

www.papyrus.org



Geography field trip

At the start of the term, the Year 13s studying Geography travelled down to Weymouth to learn how to conduct fieldwork skills that would be necessary for their independent projects for the coursework element of the A-Level. The first day was spent at Weymouth. Here, they learnt the skills for human geography, which deals with how places function and how people interact with them. The second day was spent in the West Bay area for the physical geography, which deals with how natural systems function.



Half-term office hours

W/C Monday 25th October the office will be closed.

W/C Monday 1st November the office will be open on:

W/C Monday 1st November

Monday

8am - 12pm

Wednesday

8am - 12pm

Thursday

8am - 12pm