



Our Vision:

To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

AUTUMN 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent / Carer

Firstly I would like to thank you all for making me feel so welcome. I remain so proud and excited by the challenge of leading this fantastic school in a community so personally close to me, as we work relentlessly to improve the outcomes and educational experiences of all within our community.

When you join a new school you appreciate the challenges and recognise the strengths. There are so many strengths at this proud and traditional school that we will improve even further in the future. Our greatest strength however is our students. Their commitment, their compassion and their desire to do well is second to none in all the schools I have worked in previously. This strength means that we have all the tools we need to be successful in any challenge we face. It is our duty to provide our students with consistent high quality teaching and learning and as many opportunities as possible for them to fulfil their potential.

So far this term we have made significant investments in the following:

Teaching and Learning:

- New touchscreen TVs in core department rooms;
- New online software to increase student productivity and independent learning;
- Significant investment in the majority of departments across the school;
- New direction for Teaching and Learning expectations;
- Higher expectations of staff and students with regard to outcomes and targets.

Rewards:

- Several entries into the School Book of Excellence;
- New rewards working party to introduce more modern rewards, and individual rewards that can be selected by the students themselves and not determined by the school.

Enrichment, Intervention and Extracurricular:

- Increased intervention offer;
- New online Parents' Evening booking system;
- Full Saturday school programme for Year 11 and 13. With other Years to follow next year;
- New tracking of attendance to clubs after school so committed students can be rewarded and recognised.

I am delighted to have seen so many talented students in my first term with some outstanding entries into the school Book of Excellence. A further special mention must go to two of our Year 13 students Asma Laali 13S and Hayley Power 13I who have made it to the final round of interviews for Cambridge university. We are so proud of them both and regardless of the outcome we know both will go on to do amazing things wherever they go.

As we look forward to January 2020 we will be launching a revised vision. A vision and a mission statement that encapsulates the expectations of both students and staff.

Continued overleaf



IN THIS ISSUE:

- Sixth Form News Page 3
- Book of Excellence Page 4
- Diversity Week Page 5
- Halloween Page 5
- Operation Christmas Child & Celebration of Success Page 6
- Anti-bullying Week Page 7

SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST:

Thursday 19 December 2019
Monday 6 January 2020
Wednesday 8 - 24 January 2020
Friday 10 January 2020
Thursday 30 January 2020
Monday 3 - 7 February 2020
Monday 3 February 2020
Friday 14 February 2020

School Closes for Christmas Holidays
School opens for Spring Term (normal times apply)
Post 16 PPE Exams
Year 7-13 Summative Data released on Sims Parent App
Year 11 Parents' Evening
Year 13 1:1 Meetings
Year 12/13 Parents' Evening
School closes for half term - one week

As a school our vision is:

To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally. Benefitting from a wide range of opportunities; led by inspirational educators.

As a school our mission is to:

Offer a high quality education to all learners within an inclusive and respectful environment. An environment where all are consistently challenged and supported to be successful well rounded global citizens.

As a school the values we expect from everyone is that they are:

- Resilient
- Respectful
- Compassionate
- Creative
- Aspirational
- Relentless

With these changes it is important to reinforce our high expectations in all areas of the school, which I know you are all already fully aware. From January 2020, Year 7 and 8 will no longer be leaving early and will be in school full time gaining back 156 hours of learning over Years' 7 and 8. Students must wear school shoes, no trainers (including Nike Air Force) will be allowed to be worn in the New Year, however, they can of course be worn in practical PE lessons as trainers. Attendance and punctuality remain a key priority for our school and consistent disruption to attendance and punctuality will result in Senior Leadership Team (SLT) sanctions as will actions that damage the school community, its resources or appearance.

As we approach the end of the term, I would like to publically thank all the staff at Shirley High School. Since my arrival I have been so impressed by their dedication and commitment to the students and their willingness to embrace new ideas and practices as we aim to develop and improve all areas of our school.

In closing I would like to wish students, families and staff a safe, enjoyable and relaxing Christmas break. At Christmas it is important that we switch off and enjoy time with family and friends. We already look forward to welcoming you all back in the new year, and we are eager to continue the hard work required to deliver a school of excellence at the heart of our community.

T Myton - Principal

Commendations

Please see below how many students in each year were awarded commendations up to 6 December 2019 for the following categories:

**Silver & Bronze
Certificates**

322 Students



100% Attendance

373 Students

**100% Punctuality
(no lates)**

405 Students

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL ON
THESE FANTASTIC
ACHIEVEMENTS!
Ms M Francis
Senior Vice Principal**

**100% Positive
Behaviour**

269 Students

SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL SIXTH FORM WHY GO ANYWHERE ELSE?

In 2019 Shirley High Sixth Form continued its track record of success. An award winning Sixth Form with strong results in both A level and BTEC level three courses.

The Sixth Form at Shirley High School provides high quality Post 16 education (Sixth Form teachers are experts in their fields) which enables students to reach the best possible standards of achievement in both academic and personal development.

High expectations, strong teaching, individual support and excellent relationships are key features of our Sixth Form. If you would like to be part of this growing success, please see our course guide and application form on the school website.

In 2019 Ofsted said:

'Progress in the Sixth Form has exceeded national rates of progress for several years and this continues. This means that students leave with good grades, which enable them to secure places at sought-after universities and employers'.

With this in mind many of our Year 13 have just completed their UCAS application forms and are aiming to attend Russell Group universities; two students recently passed the Oxbridge admissions test and are preparing for their Cambridge interviews! We wish them well.

With a purpose built Sixth Form block, provision at Post 16 offers an extensive range of A levels (including the Sciences and Humanities) alongside well established BTEC level three diplomas and we have now introduced a level 2 course in Health and Social Care. As a Centre for Excellence for the Arts we offer first rate Performing Arts facilities.

Our reputation as a first class Sixth Form has seen applications rise however our intention is always to keep the learning experience at Post 16 personalised and supportive. Here at Shirley Sixth Form you will not be a student lost in a huge organisation or a number on a data sheet but very much an individual who is recognised for your unique qualities and talents.

Ms B Doherty - Vice Principal – Sixth Form

ELEVATE

During November, we had an assembly with Elevate presented by Jess.

The session mainly consisted of how to focus and maintain knowledge for prolonged periods of time whilst revising for stressful exams.

It was extremely informative and interactive as she asked many questions and kept us engaged throughout.

She taught us the substitute word method where you replace a term with a word that sounds like it and then link the new word with the meaning. We all tried this in the assembly and we came up out with some hilarious responses, but it enabled us to remember the word, so the method actually works.

All in all, it was a remarkably entertaining, exciting and educating assembly and we will look forward to the next presentation with Elevate.

By Shea Cheney 12H and Caitlin Neville 12H



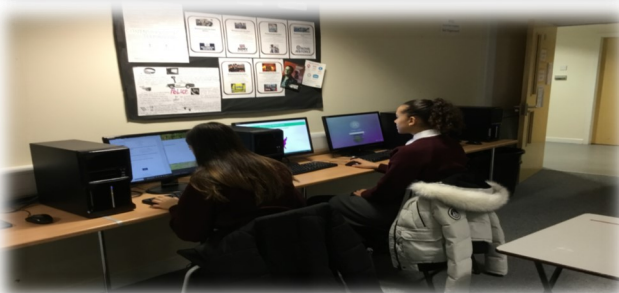
Shirley High Sixth Form

Award winning Sixth Form with
Outstanding Results
Why go anywhere else?

Online Application Process
now open



16-19 study programmes rated 'good'
Ofsted 2019



Year 11 students completing a survey on options for
Sixth Form curriculum

OXBRIDGE AND CAMBRIDGE

Having passed their admissions tests for Cambridge our two Oxbridge candidates Asma Laali 13S and Hayley Power 13I went off with their gift bags ready for their interviews on 10 December 2019.

We wish them well. They deserve success!

Ms B Doherty - Vice Principal Post 16



CHRISTMAS NETBALL

On the 11 December 2019 over 40 students braved the cold and wrapped up in their festive Christmas attire to take part in the Christmas Netball tournament. Students from all year groups were mixed together to play in teams in the tournament.

Prizes were given to the winning team and the best dressed went to Paris Davis 10R! It was a great event run by the PE staff and hopefully an enjoyable end to this half term of training in the cold! A special thank you also to Logan Walford 13R for helping officiate the event!

Netball Results

Remember to check 'CSNA.ORG.UK' for league results

Year 7	Date / Home or Away	Result
Coloma	11 November - Away	Won 7-5
Woodcote	5 November - Home	Lost 14-4
Orchard Park	19 November - Away	Won 9-0

Good luck to all the Year 11 Cambridge PE students who are taking their exam on 8 January 2020. Please remember to see Miss Hewlett (2nd in PE) for revision.

Mrs L Manning - PE Department



YEAR 12 & 13 ART TRIP

The Art department arranged a trip to the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery on Thursday 7 November 2019. This trip was for the Year 12 and 13 students who are undertaking GCE Fine Art, Graphics and Photography. Students spent the afternoon looking at the exhibitions, drawing and taking photographs to meet the assessment objective 1 of the GCE Art, Graphics and Photography courses.

M Bush - Art Teacher



The following students have been recognised for their outstanding work in particular subjects. Their names have been entered in the School's Book of Excellence.....

Sophie Keel 10I
Jasmine Wallinets 10R
Zephry Wallinets 7Y
Tae-Jaden Marius 10S
Ashai Cunningham-Reid 10S
Alfie Greenwood 10Y
Aimee Gaughan-Frampton 10R
Lily Brockhouse 10I.....



All for their ongoing contribution to the Wilderness Garden Project at Hall Grange Care Home. Please see an email from Alice Henry (Head Gardener):-
"Over the last few months we have had the pleasure of students from SHS attend The Wilderness project alongside Mrs Frost. A small group have visited after school on Wednesdays to help with the gardening work we are undertaking. The Wilderness garden is a 7 acre neglected garden that thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund we are able to transform into a community asset. The garden sits next door to the Shirley High so it was always our intention to involve the local students right from the start of the project, allowing them to really take ownership of the space. The work the students have been carrying out has been relatively hard. We have huge swathes of Rhododendron Pondicum to cut back and move to various wood piles around the site. The hard graft has not put them off! They have been trained to use various gardening tools safely and effectively. They have also constructed several wheelbarrows for the project. Last week the students learnt how to build a small campfire. I am delighted to say they have worked really well as a team and judging by the laughter and chatting have enjoyed themselves too We look forward to their continued commitment to The Wilderness."

Claire Wabara 8E.....Art Folders
Esther Valyi 8Y.....Art Folders
Caitlin Neville 12H.....Art Folders
Ethan Hughes 12.....Good Deed in the Community
Ella Elderfield 10I...Act of Kindness Outside School
Chelsey Scerri 11Y.....Media Project
Anna Lackova 11Y.....Media Project
Isabella Littler 11L.....Media Project
Claire Wabara 8E.....Runner Up in the Christmas Card Competition
Esther Valyi 8Y.....Runner Up in the Christmas Card Competition
Isaac Obafemi Wilcox 8Y...Winner of the Christmas Card Competition
Shakai Rose 10Y.....Dance Performance
Dujontae Williams 10S.....Dance Performance
Ebony Eastmond 11Y.....Dance Performance

Well done to all the above mentioned students! T Myton - Principal

SIXTH FORM PREFECT LUNCH

The Sixth Form Prefect Lunch which took place on Wednesday 11 December 2019 was a great affair. The food supplied by Mrs Frost (Catering Manager) and her fabulous catering team was much appreciated by the Year 13 Senior Prefects.



As students pulled crackers and laughed they relaxed after what has been a hard-working and hectic term. They have their Pre Public Exams in January and need to submit their UCAS applications. Let's hope the lunch and the Sixth Form Christmas Social brings some respite!

Ms Doherty – Vice Principal Post 16

KS3 DIVERSITY COMPETITION HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Year 7

1st Olivia Villanueva 7Y

2nd Millie Fahey 7L

Runner Up

Mollie Power-Gibbs 7L

Exceptional Effort

Tanya Kuppan 7L

Millie Elvin 7S

Andrea Savva 7S

Ayomide Abina 7S

Marvin Rosario Valdez 7S

Millie Pierce 7H

Lily Adams 7Y

Year 8

1st Mehrin Choudhury 8I

2nd Danita Walcott-Nicholls 8R

Exceptional Effort

Jael-Carys Caiquo 8Y

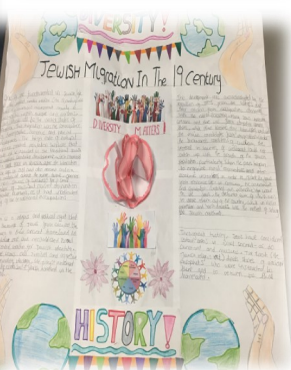
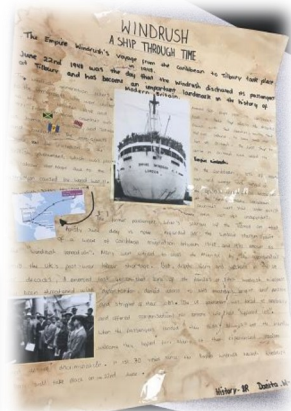
Suryan Kurup 8L

Aidan Brown 8S

Sari-Sola Riberio 8Y

Lacie Alessandro 8R

Ms K O'Mahoney - Head of History



THEATRE TRIP

On Wednesday 13 November 2019, 39 students and 8 staff set out to London's West End Apollo Theatre to see the smash hit musical "Everybody's Talking About Jamie".

The night was a huge success with many students deciding the show was their new favourite musical. It really is a modern musical with amazing lyrics set to music and a very talented cast. The only negative was the cold weather but what do you expect in November!



Mrs C Pepperrell - Alternative Education Provision

RISING STAR

Congratulations to Libby Berry 7Y and the Allstarz Junior team who travelled to Liverpool to compete in the British Ministrada.

After two fantastic routines, the team were awarded the Winners of the Junior Category and are now British Display Champions!

Well done! **T Myton - Principal**



HOUSES OF COMMONS TRIP

On 2 December 2019, Year 13 Business Studies students had the chance to visit the Houses of Commons. As there were no MPs present due to campaigning, they were able to enter both Houses.



They explored democratic representation in the UK and considered whether different voting systems accurately reflect the views of the people. They practiced their analysis and speaking skills through an interactive discussion and role-play they competed as two political parties. They designed a two-pledge manifesto, which they put to the test at the imaginary polls.

Finally, they considered how Parliament could further increase democratic participation now and in the future.

Mr A Percival

HALLOWEEN

On Thursday 31 October 2019, the Catering team got into the Halloween spirit!

They produced jelly spiders and other ghoulish treats with the help from the Pastoral Support Assistants.



Mrs S Frost
Catering Manager



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

On Monday 11 November 2019, Shirley High School staff, students, governors and special guests fell silent for our Remembrance Day Service ***Lest We Forget*** T Myton - Principal

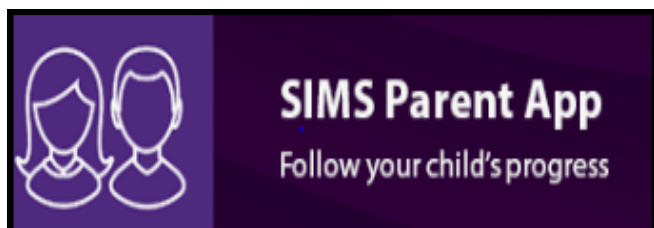


DON'T MISS OUT ON IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

If you haven't already, please download the Sims Parent App now as we will be communicating messages such as snow closures, important reminders, news, events etc.

You will also be able to view or download your child's report.

Please ensure we have your up-to-date email address to send you a registration invitation for this App. You can send this to office@shirley.croydon.sch.uk



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This was a huge success this year. Sixth Form students helped Year 7s to pack and wrap shoe boxes filled with Christmas presents for children living in poverty around the world. All students involved were enthusiastic and contributed in a giving and kind hearted nature.

There were a large number of shoe boxes collected which have now been taken to the local Samaritans drop off point and will be making their way around the world. Many thanks for all the contributions and support at home for this project.

T Lewis - Head of Year 12 / Geography



CELEBRATION OF SUCCESS EVENING WAS HELD ON

Thursday 17 October 2019

What a wonderful evening with so many successes and achievements to celebrate throughout the school.

Well done to all!

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES BY OUR SPECIAL GUEST

Mr Nathaniel Chalobah



Nathaniel Chalobah is an English professional footballer who plays as a midfielder or defender for Premier League club Watford and the England national team. Nathaniel started his career initially in the academy system at Fulham. He then moved to Chelsea academy at the age of 10. He went on to play for Chelsea reserves, regularly captained youth teams and even led the 2012 FA Youth Cup winning team. Nathaniel signed a professional contract with Chelsea in January 2012 at the age of just 17. On 30 August 2013, Nathaniel signed a new five-year contract with Chelsea, stating that he wished to stay at Chelsea for his entire career. Nathaniel is known for his versatility, work-rate, and fitness levels, both in defending and attacking sense. He is described as, "Tall, athletic and can operate in either midfield or defence, being notably quick in the tackle."



**Please see our website for full details of our prize winners
www.shirley.croydon.sch.uk**

SCHOOL FUND

Firstly thank you so much to all families that have contributed their £20 school fund donation for the year. As you know school funding has been a huge national issue over a number of years, with additional burdens placed on school budgets. Many schools are having to turn to the support of families to help ensure that all students have the materials and resources available that help, create and maintain a positive and motivational school environment.

As we aim to achieve this task we have highlighted a number of projects that will have significant impact on the experiences of our students. These projects include upgrading our catering provision by purchasing an outdoor food snack bar, developing an outdoor dining area to provide more space for our students and ease the volume of traffic in our canteen; and the purchase of a new school mini bus as part of a larger plan of increasing the footprint of Performing Arts and increase the number of sporting fixtures for boys and girls. In total these projects require approximately £100,000 investment!

This of course is a large amount of money, and we know that all families have their own financial commitments in an economically uncertain time but if all our families paid their school contribution of £20 per year, which is only £1.66 per month we could raise over £21,000. This would really go a long way to securing items that would really benefit our students.

What we have collected so far is below. We look forward to receiving more contributions in the New Year.

Year 7 = £900
Year 8 = £360
Year 9 = £460
Year 10 = £340
Year 11 = £580
Year 12 = £60
Year 13 = £100

In total we have raised £2,800 towards our projects and we sincerely thank all families that have already made their annual contribution. We appreciate at this time of the year families have other commitments so we hope before the end of the academic year we are closer to our overall target. This message is in no way meant to add pressure to any family and we will continue to invest in our school and the learning of all our students. We have already invested an additional £178,000 in improving the school, its resources and the teaching and learning environment. All we hope is that the school fund contributions will lead to greater outcomes for our students.

To be a great school it is about working in partnership and we hope that with your contribution we can continue to invest in the future of our students, giving them the chance to fulfil their potential and the belief they can be the best in the world at whatever they decide to do.

On another note, to enable your child to pay for their lunch, it is important to keep your Parentpay account in credit at all times. You can check your account balance at any time by logging onto your ParentPay account.

Mrs M Garcia - School Business Manager



Anti – Bullying week has now passed BUT its important for us all to carry on the good work started

Remember Change Starts With Us

- Small change. Big difference.
- Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well in to adulthood.
- Schools, children and young people, parents and carers must understand that it takes a collective responsibility to stop bullying. It's only by working together, we can challenge and put a stop to bullying.
- By making small, simple changes, we can break this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone. Change starts with a conversation. It starts with checking in. It starts with working together.

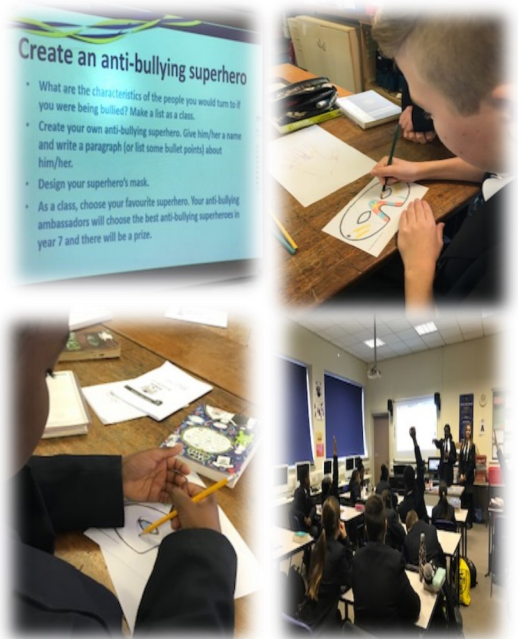
Change starts here.
Change starts now.
Change starts with us.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

We are so proud of our amazing Anti-bullying Ambassadors! On Tuesday 19 November 2019 they taught Year 7 PSHE lessons promoting the 2019 Anti-bullying Week theme 'Change Starts With Us'.

Students explored how to become anti-bullying superheroes by supporting others who are experiencing bullying. Watch this space for the winners of their anti-bullying superhero competition!

Ms G Fair - Vice Principal



PSHEE

On Tuesday 26 November 2019, during their PSHE lesson, Year 9 students were spoken to about the pitfalls of gambling.

Scott Davies, an ex professional footballer who now works for EPIC Risk Management told students about his own experiences with gambling and the impact it has had on his life.

Students were spoken to about making the right choices and that gambling is an addiction, which can be a slippery slope that damages lives.

Mrs V Murawski - Modern Languages / Head of PSHEE



PE NEWS

The Kingswood Netball Trip 2019

On the weekend of 4 October 2019, the Year 9, 10 and 11 Netball Teams were lucky enough to go on a weekend away with the school to Kingswood Grosvenor Hall. Over the weekend we played many different teams from other schools competing in the Netball Tournament. All our games were challenging but at the same time great fun as we were all participating in a sport we love!

We also took part in a range of activities such as Jacob's Ladder, Leap of Faith and Archery. We all enjoyed these afternoon activities greatly as it was a nice stress reliever from our matches and gave us time to all relax as a team. On our second day, our winnings from the previous matches were tallied and our Year 9 team won their event and received individual medals each and a gold trophy.

We were all very happy with the weekends' results and would like to thank the P.E Staff (Miss Hewlett, Miss Wallace and Ms Francis) for a fantastic weekend filled with fun, laughter, fire drills and oranges!

By Lucy Smith 9Y

YEAR 13 WORKING HARD FOR THOSE A LEVEL EXAMS

Even at Christmas the Year 13 Psychology students are putting in some extra work at their Intervention session with Mrs Emmott. Well done to them and to Mrs Emmott!



YEAR 12 & YEAR 13 CHRISTMAS QUIZ

The annual Sixth Form Christmas Quiz featuring the Year 13 and Year 12 tutor groups took place today. There was quite intense competition but the ultimate winners were 12S. Mrs Hewlett (2nd in PE) will be proud! Thank you to Mrs Harris (Deputy Head of Sixth Form) and Mr Lewis (Head of Year 12) for organising proceedings. Here's to 2020!



Ms Doherty – Vice Principal Post 16

THE JACK PETCHEY ACHIEVEMENT EVENING

The winners of the Jack Petchey Achievement Awards for 2019 had the chance to celebrate with all the other award winners from Croydon on Thursday 5 December 2019 at the Ashcroft Theatre, Fairfield's Hall.

2019 Jack Petchey Winners:

Skiye Edmonds 11Y, Lucy Clinton 10L, Eve Elderfield 13R, Lucy Smith 9Y, Claire Wabara 8E, Cameron Grant (Leaver) Hayley Power 13I, Mauriah Combey 12R, Bushra Choudhury 11R.

It was a pleasure to be with them for the evening and share in their success.

Ms B Doherty – Vice Principal Post 16

Student Account of the Jack Petchey Celebration:

The Jack Petchey award ceremony was an experience I shall never forget. It was a once in a life time experience where my peers and I were rewarded and appreciated for the work that we try to do to better the school and society. The award ceremony also inspired me and gave me ideas as to how I could improve our school community, ideas such as the Women's Feminist Club and the LGBT Society showed me that students do have the power to do amazing things in their school environment. It really encouraged me to broaden my knowledge of the world, so one day I might be able to join in the interesting discussions of these clubs or even make a club of my own. Lastly the award ceremony was great fun, the music played and the support the audience members showed each person who came on that stage from all the other schools in Croydon was something to remember. My peers and I danced, we sang and we laughed so much and I couldn't say enough thank you to the Jack Petchey foundation for giving me this amazing night to remember!

By Mauriah Combey 12R



REACHING HIGHER

I had the opportunity to meet the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan and local MP Sarah Jones, through an invite from Reaching Higher, to discuss youth work in Croydon and had written the issues young people face in their communities. We also had an opportunity to showcase our talent and I performed a spoken word I wrote about social issues.

Links:

<https://twitter.com/SadiqKhan/status/1202940136281038849?s=19>

<https://instagram.com/reachinghigheruk?igshid=1x36veuxbheql>



By Ashleigh Lee 11Y

DIVERSITY WEEK – MINI LANGUAGE LESSONS AUTUMN TERM 2019

At Shirley High School we value the diversity of languages spoken by our students and recognise the benefits of bilingualism. In our Young Interpreters Group, we want to share these wonderful linguistic skills that so many of our students have and the cultures that our students come from. With this in mind, during Diversity Week a group of Young Interpreters visited tutor groups to deliver a mini lesson about their language and culture.



Lacie Alessandrea 8R with support from Zahra Choudhury 8R – Italian

Hanano Cooper 8H with help from Mehrin Choudhury 8I – Japanese

Etienne Oshundiya 10S – French

Saiveer Singh 10R – Afrikaans

Ela Karadag 8H & Selina Karadag 10H – Turkish

"I learnt how to count to 10 in French in just one little presentation. We also got to taste French cheese. Yay! I enjoyed it because it's something new and was really fun." Shilah-Marie Chance-Downer 7I.

"I really enjoyed it because Hanano told us all about Japan. She also showed us the 4 different types of Japanese writing." Ejaz Rahman 7I.

"It was a really nice time to learn about Hanano's culture and what they do." Sinai Barnor 7I.

"We played a fun game where we had to match up the Italian words with the English ones. My team won. We also ate some Italian pastries that Lacie's grandmother had made." Ayomide Abina 7S.

"We taught students how to speak some Japanese for example, hello is konnichiwa. It seemed that the students were intrigued because of how unique the country of Japan is." Hanano & Mehrin.

"We loved sharing our language, Turkish, and helping others to learn it. Speaking another language is a blessing! Ela & Selina Karadag.

Mrs E O'Rourke - EAL Coordinator

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

We were pleased to participate in the National Christmas Jumper Appeal for Save the Children on Friday 13 December and raised over £500!



Also, students from Year 12 and Year 13 came together for a Christmas Meal for Sixth Form at JRC Global Buffet on 11 December 2019.



**Mrs C Kelly
Sixth Form Administrator**

YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHY GCSE TRIPS TO SEAFORD

On Thursday 5 and Monday 9 December 2019, 100 Geographers set out for Seaford on the South coast to collect data for their fieldwork component of Paper 3. We were aiming to investigate "How effective are the coastal management strategies at Seaford?"

We were lucky with the weather this year on both days, with the sea and wind being relatively calm and no rain! This meant that our recording sheets did not turn to paper mache and that we returned to Shirley with a full complement of clip boards (and students of course)!

All the students worked hard and collaboratively to collect accurate data including groyne profiles, field sketches and bipolar analysis of 3 different coastal management strategies.

Many thanks to all the students for being such great ambassadors for Shirley as they did themselves and us proud and it was a pleasure to spend the days in their company. Thanks also to the staff on the trip, Mr Lewis (Head of Year 12 / Geography), Mrs Tune (Head of Year 11 / Geography), Mrs Asabere (Geography), Ms Samuels (PSA) and Ms Williams (SSA).

Mrs G Chenery - Head of Geography





SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

PASTORAL

Our Vision:

To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

The standard of uniform has been very good this term and I would like to thank parents/carers for their support of the school and working with us to achieve the high standards required.

It is important however that our students understand that our uniform does not change when they leave through the gates at the end of the day! It is to be worn correctly and with pride for the school they represent until they get home and take it off. This includes jewellery, which is not permitted with our uniform – at any time!

As we approach the Christmas holidays I wish everyone a happy and fun-filled festive season, but to please remember that the party spirit, which may see extreme haircuts, extreme hair colours, piercings, excessive make-up (including false eyelashes) and coloured nail extensions, must finish in time for the students to be presented, according to our uniform rules on the first day of term – Monday 6 January 2020.

Please be advised, particularly in the case of 'Christmas present' piercings that, irrespective of the timing of the piercing, students will not be permitted to cover them, but will be asked to remove them at school. Notes from home asking for permission for the piercings to remain in or be covered will not be accepted. I would therefore suggest that this two week break is not an ideal time to get new piercings, unless the student is prepared to remove them for school. The same principle applies for false eyelashes and coloured nail extensions which are not permitted in school, and I ask that you support us with this request to avoid the need for sanctions.

School skirts should be purchased from Hewitts and have either one or two front pleats only – no other style is permitted. There have also been issues with the permitted lengths so to clarify: skirt length should be on or about the knee. School trousers must be grey and be standard fitting school trousers. We do not allow black trousers.

Students in Years 7 – 10 should be wearing clip on ties only. The tie colours are; Year 7 light blue, Year 8 silver, Year 9 red, Year 10 green and Year 11 gold and they should be worn with our uniform to and from school.

Hair accessories must be navy, black, grey or white in colour only.

There are no major changes to our school uniform and if any item of school uniform needs replacing please purchase it from Hewitts – our uniform supplier. You can then be sure that the uniform purchased is both suitable and of the correct style for our school. However, as you are already aware, trainers will not be permitted to be worn with our school uniform from the start of next term - January 2020. Students must wear school shoes that are wholly black, leather or leather equivalent and waterproof.

Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal



**SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

It's *your* uniform: wear it with *pride*!

YEAR 7 – 11

UNIFORM REMINDER FOR JANUARY 2020

School Shoes

From the start of the Spring Term January 2020 students will be expected to wear **school shoes** and not trainers / sports shoes, with their school uniform including to and from school.

Students and their families have now had a term's warning regarding this change to our uniform. **There will be no exceptions to this expectation** from the start of term January 2020. Any footwear with a sports logo or name will not be accepted and sanctions will be given for those who do not conform to the expectations.

Examples as follows:



















SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

PASTORAL

Our Vision:

To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

As winter fast approaches please ensure that you are also aware of the following:

- Coats, hats, scarves and gloves can be worn to and from school in the winter months.
- Coats, scarves and gloves can be worn in school in the winter months, but during break and lunchtime only, when students are outside.
- Hats are not permitted to be worn in school at any time.
- Hoodies are not permitted to be worn in school at any time.
- Leggings are not permitted to be worn in school at any time.
- It is recommended that students have a warm coat rather than additional non uniform items such as extra jumpers, cardigans etc. These items are not acceptable as part of our school uniform.
- In adverse weather Mr Myton, Principal will inform students of any permitted changes to our uniform.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

I would like to thank parents/carers for their continued support with the attendance of their children. Please remember that:

**At Shirley High School we expect our students to achieve 96%+ attendance during each academic year.
(This is the equivalent of 8 days off in the whole year.)**

We do not authorise any absence during the academic year unless a Student Absence Request Form has been completed and is accompanied by the evidence required e.g. an Order of Service for attendance at a funeral, details of when the flight was booked for unforeseen emergencies requiring overseas travel etc. We do not allow time off for holidays during term time as they have a detrimental effect on learning. A student who takes a 10 day holiday during an academic year will only attain 95% attendance, providing that they attend every single other day. If, after having a 10 day holiday, a student is then genuinely ill, then each additional day they are absent from school will reduce their total attendance by 0.5%

Research suggests that 20 missed school days a year i.e. 10% non-attendance = 1 GCSE grade drop in achievement.

Attendance matters

100%	=	no days absence from school (September to July)
95%	=	10 days absence (2 weeks) from school (September to July)
90%	=	20 days absence (4 weeks) from school (September to July)
85%	=	30 days absence (6 weeks) from school (September to July)
80%	=	40 days absence (8 weeks) from school (September to July)

Students falling below 93% attendance will be subject to monitoring by the Attendance & Welfare Officer.

Students falling below 90% attendance fall into the Persistent Absence category and come to the attention of the Local Authority. They could then be subject to:

- Parenting contracts and orders
- Penalty notices
- Prosecution

Punctuality to school is equally important and we are striving for all students to regularly attend school on time.

**At Shirley High School we expect our students to have less than 3% lates in an academic year.
(This is the equivalent of 6 late arrivals to school in the whole year.)**

Arriving to school on time sets our students up well for the day ahead as well as ensuring they access tutor time with their form tutors, which is where a lot of our pastoral work is undertaken. Poor punctuality has a detrimental effect on achievement as well as general organisation so we have changed our punctuality procedures to improve this area and students are now receiving sanctions for their poor punctuality in a week as well as their cumulative poor punctuality over the year.

- 5 Minutes late everyday = 3.4 school days missed per year
- 10 Minutes late everyday = 6.9 school days missed a year
- 15 Minutes late everyday = 10.3 school days missed a year
- 20 Minutes late everyday = 13.8 school days missed a year
- 30 Minutes late everyday = 20.7 school days a year

Please continue to support us and your child by ensuring their attendance remains above 96% and their punctuality remains less than 3% late, thereby allowing them to achieve their potential.

Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal



SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

COMMUNICATIONS AT SHS – for Parents / Carers

Our Vision:

To develop aspirational learners who strive for excellence academically, creatively and culturally, benefitting from a wide range of opportunities led by inspirational educators.

Our overarching and common objective as parents / carers and teachers is to give the students the very best education that we can allowing them to make remarkable achievements. Part of successfully achieving that goal is to ensure that all parties have communication channels open and that expectations are realistic and, more importantly, work! The difficulty is that everyone is very busy – and we all want the information now! We will endeavour to respond to all communication within 48 hours.

At Shirley High School teachers, on average, teach 100 students on a weekly basis. In addition to that they will have marking, feedback, a daily tutor group, strategic planning and, almost certainly, at least one after school activity. They work extremely hard to deliver a full and stimulating education for their students. We know how important it is that we keep you informed on your child's progress. It is also important that we support our teachers to ensure that they have the time and energy to deliver their curriculums. Here are our top tips to communicating with the teachers:

Communicating with teachers

There are a number of key policies regarding communicating with teachers;

Your first conversation on a subject-specific issue should be with your child's subject teacher. Please cc your child's tutor.

Your first conversation regarding a more general academic or social issue should be your child's tutor.

If you wish to escalate an issue, you can do so to your child's Head of Department or Head of Year.

Contact emails can be found under the Contact Us tab on the SHS website.

Please do not expect a response at weekends. We completely understand that it may be convenient for you to email at the weekends. However, it is most likely that a response will come during the following week.

When emailing, please keep them as short as possible with a clear request. Teachers often do answer their emails outside of work hours and have little time for meetings due to their very tight time-tables. The clearer the request, the better chance this is of a swift, positive outcome!

Please, always say thank you!

Communicating with you

There is a whole range of channels that we use to share information with you:

Email – (Please provide an up-to-date email address to office@shirley.croydon.sch.uk as this is the primary form of communication).

Text

Letters from the Principal

Website posts

Website: school calendar – www.shirley.croydon.sch.uk

Facebook – www.facebook.com/shirleyhighschool

Twitter - @SchoolShirley

Instagram - shirleyhighschool

SIMS App - www.capita-sims.co.uk

Newsletter (termly)

Telephone calls home

We do not use every channel for every activity at school. It would simply not be possible to generate that level of information on a weekly basis. However, important communications are emailed home and posted on the SHS website. In order to keep abreast of ongoing activity in school, we strongly recommend following Shirley High School on Twitter. These will give on-going, digestible updates on general school activity.

It is also worth stating that while we do our utmost to keep the website completely up to date it is not possible on a daily basis as it reflects constantly evolving information. It currently has over one hundred live pages! It can be frustrating if the piece of information that you need at a particular time is not there. However, simply email us; we will give the information you need and you will have prompted us to update a particular page. That's great teamwork!

Both teaching and non-teaching staff can spend a lot of their time responding to queries when the answer is on the SHS website or has been communicated already. Please do read the communications that we send before contacting us. If you can't find something on the SHS website by using the drop-down tabs, please use the search button before contacting us. Thank you!

What do we do to build parent communities?

Friends of Shirley High School (FOSH)

Friends of Shirley High School plan and undertake events in the school and the local community. Ideally this association would include members from the following; parent/carers, staff and governors of Shirley High School, local residents, local community groups, local businesses and local organisations.

There will be a variety of ways to be involved such as, attending meetings, fundraising, helping at community events, offering work placements or offering particular services of benefit to our school and local community.

If you would like to be a member of this association, please complete the application form on the SHS website.

T Myton - Principal



SHIRLEY HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS COLLEGE

PASTORAL

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BEHAVIOUR

I would like to congratulate students on their behaviour, in general, this term. The majority of our students have maintained the high standards of behaviour expected at Shirley and have conducted themselves appropriately both in and out of school.

We are committed to promoting a positive attitude towards our Golden Rule; 'Students are expected to show consideration and respect to all members of the school and local community at all times'. We will not tolerate any behaviour that disrupts the teaching and learning of our students or brings the good name of the school into disrepute.

It is also really important that students use the zebra crossing rather than crossing in front of oncoming vehicles. Please can parents who drop their children off in the morning please park safely on the main road and not obstruct the zebra crossing or our neighbours' driveways. No parents / carers should drive into the school to drop students off unless a special arrangement has been made.

We expect our students leaving school at the end of the day to make their way straight home, always respecting the public – pedestrian, motorists, neighbours and local businesses. Students are not to hang around the school gates or in front of our neighbours' houses. They are welcome, of course to wait for friends inside the school, safely and responsibly in our school playground.

Student behaviour and our school uniform should not and must not change outside of school. We hold the same high expectations of our students in school and out. The reputation of our school is important and affects all of us. Students' behaviour on the way to and from school reflects on all of us. We do not want our students to behave in a way that will embarrass the school and bring the name of our school into disrepute.

Parents / carers' role in this cannot be underestimated and your support in helping us educate our children in regards to their behaviour is really appreciated.

RULES RELATING TO MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones are not permitted at Shirley High School – there have been no changes to this rule.

They are not permitted on our site and this was made clear to all parents/carers on the admission of their children to the school. With this in mind, we are not responsible for the loss or theft of mobile phones on our premises should students break our rules and bring them into school. Any student found in possession or using a mobile phone on our premises will receive a detention and have the phone confiscated.

SECURITY

Please can I ask that all parents / carers and other visitors to the school report directly to Reception during school opening hours, so they can be signed in as appropriate. Out of hours, visitors must use the entry system either at the school front gate or in Reception so that a member of the site team can meet them and monitor who is on site. Students will challenge or alert school staff; and staff will challenge any unauthorised visitors or non-Shirley students on site and direct them as appropriate to Reception to be signed in.

TO REITERATE KEY CHANGES FOR JANUARY 2020

Saturday School Key Stage 3: For students that have been identified as needing additional help to fulfill their potential. Primary focus will be in English and Math; and will be for all levels of ability.

No black trainers with clear sporting logos: As stated at the start of the year, from January 2020, no black trainers (including Nike) will be allowed to be worn as school uniform. Please see on page 10 of this Newsletter an illustration of the shoes suitable to be worn with our school uniform.

Year 7 and 8 will be staying until the end of school every day: Currently across Years 7 and 8 our students lose approximately 156 hours of learning by leaving early on Monday and Friday every week. Having reviewed the current curriculum and staffing we are able to put these teaching hours back into the curriculum from January. Both year groups will now stay in school for 5 periods every day and will be offered additional sessions in life skills, financial management and enrichment opportunities that will enhance their cultural capital.

Thank you all for your continued support of Shirley High School.

I would like to wish all our students and their families a lovely Christmas break and a Happy New Year.

Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal



FAMILY LIVES

Family Lives is a charity that supports parents / carers and families in England with all aspects of family life. They can be contacted via the helpline, as well as through email, Skype and live chat.

Languages Available: English

Referral Process: Any family member

Age Range: No age range

Waiting List: No waiting list

It is a free service funded by the Local Authority and offers the following:

- Confidential Freephone helpline available Monday – Sunday 7.00 am – Midnight staffed by trained staff / volunteers
- Live chat service
- Email support service
- Information leaflets
- Useful website
- Befriending service
- Parenting groups



Please visit <http://www.familyspacecroydon.co.uk> for even more information on what is available to support families.

Telephone: 02086552402
Confidential Freephone: 0808 800 2222
Email: parentsupport@familylives.org.uk
Address: Tunstall Nursery & Children's Centre
Tunstall Road
Croydon
CR0 6TY
Website: <http://www.familylives.org.uk>

PARENTING PROGRAMMES AND INFORMATION

A positive parent-child relationship is important for children's social, emotional and mental development. Therefore Croydon Council are pleased to offer a number of parenting courses, covering the different stages of childhood and the unique challenges they can bring. You can choose what courses will suit you and your family best.

Parents or carers who wish to register to attend these courses, or find out more should either;

- speak to their local children centre staff
- speak to their Best Start Worker or Social Worker

Read more about what programmes are available and who they are for in the parenting booklet:

http://croydonlcsb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Parenting_Booklet-Nov-2017.pdf

Parents can be referred via Croydon's Early help Hub: earlyhelp@croydon.gov.uk

Email Croydon's Parenting and Relationship Hub : PRH@croydon.gov.uk



OFF THE RECORD

Off The Record are a young person centred organisation offering counselling and emotional support. They have recently added a new online counselling service to Off The Record's other support services (all detailed on the Off The Record website).



Whilst some young people may prefer face to face counselling, there also a number of young people who find it difficult to engage with this type of support for a variety of reasons, including school refusers. Off the Record are looking for ways to get information about their free online counselling service to young people, so any suggestions you may have for them would be welcome. Currently they have the capacity to take on new clients and their commitment to the local CCG who fund them is that those who register, will have contact within 48 hours and will start to work with a counsellor within 5 working days.

The service is text based, via their secure website, so may not be suitable for those who find reading and writing too challenging or do not have access to a laptop or tablet. They believe passionately that the relationship between counsellor and client is central to the counselling that they offer and this is no different in their online service where young people work online with a counsellor in weekly sessions.

All of their counsellors are qualified face-to-face counsellors who have undergone additional training to work effectively in the online environment. Young people can register independently, please use the link on our website.

FESTIVE HOLIDAYS

Family Justice Centre provides help and support for Croydon families suffering from Domestic Advice and Sexual Violence.

The festive period can be a particularly difficult time for victims of domestic abuse.

Financial worries, excessive alcohol drinking and spending increased time together can increase the pressures within a relationship, however they are not excuses for domestic abuse.

If you are worried about domestic abuse over the holidays:

- Family Justice Centre 020 8688 0100 (open every day with the exception of the bank holidays)
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247 (free phone line, 24hrs a day)
- In an emergency call the police 999



**STOP
VIOLENCE
AGAINST
WOMEN**





In response to reports of an increased threat of sexual offending via Live streaming apps, the following item posted on the CSCB site gives further information and guidance:

<http://croydonlscsb.org.uk/2017/12/live-streaming-of-sexual-offending-ceops-education-team-briefing/>

For professionals and parents finding out that images and videos of abuse are being circulated by young people and adults on social media, it can be a stressful time and difficult to know what course of action to take immediately. Here are some clear steps to take and important things to remember:



- Please never share a video or image depicting any kind of abuse involving children
 - Each time a video or image of abuse is shared it re-victimises the child and increases the likelihood of blackmail, feelings of self-blame and powerlessness
 - Report it to the platform it has been shared on e.g. YouTube, Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram etc
 - Report it to CEOP if it is an image or video of sexual abuse involving a child with a link to where the video or image is hosted e.g. YouTube, Facebook.
 - If it's not on a public platform and in only exists on a device i.e. Phone, tablet. Once reported, with authorisation of CEOP or the Police, delete it from the device it has been sent to (if offender usernames are visible make note of them)
 - Encourage other people to report if it is being shared publicly
- If you work in a school or college and are concerned about what to do with peer to peer sharing of sexual images or videos you can refer to the 'Sexting in schools and colleges guidance'

If a parent or carer is worried about a child seeing inappropriate things online Thinkuknow/parents has more information.

NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY

There will be more children handling digital devices than ever before this Christmas, and despite the happiness and entertainment they can bring, they can pose a number of dangers too. So, how can parents / carers protect their children after they unwrap their digital gifts? Here are our top tips for parents/carers:

Buying gifts

Take care when shopping online for your Christmas presents. Only use secure websites to avoid falling for scams. Before proceeding with an order, spend an extra two minutes to research the security of the product.

Security

Help your children to set up their accounts on their new devices and ensure their settings are set to private. Take the time before Christmas Day to read the manual and get to grips with security and privacy options. We advise that you set up a 'two-factor authentication' process when logging in to an online service. Some toys and devices are fitted with web cameras – you can turn the remote viewing option off in the device's settings. In addition to this, remove any default location tracking and GPS settings on new devices.

Passwords

Some toys and devices have been found to have unencrypted Wi-Fi connections or unsecured Bluetooth connections. If this is the case, add a secure password or a PIN. Ensuring that passwords are secure is fundamental when protecting your children. When creating a password, remember to:

- set up unique passwords for new accounts
- avoid using easy-to-guess phrases such as 'freddie1'
- change passwords and usernames on new devices from default
- check your router has a strong password and latest security updates



Setting up parental controls

We advise that you set up parental controls for young and vulnerable children to help prevent them from viewing content or engaging in activities that they should not be. Additionally, take interest in your child's online activities. Play with them on their devices and encourage open conversation to help build that trust and confidence that will mean your child can confide in you if they ever feel uncomfortable, troubled, worried or unsafe.

Check age restrictions

Games and apps have age restrictions. It is important that you make yourself aware of these age restrictions and WHY they have these restrictions and make the decision whether it is appropriate for your child.

Be a role model

It's often the case that children copy the actions of their parents, carers and even siblings, therefore it is important to set good examples and be a positive role model that they can look up to.

Set boundaries

If you feel like your child is either spending too much time on their devices or maybe taking part in inappropriate activities, it is not a bad thing to be strict and set boundaries.

Ms M Francis - Senior Vice Principal



ALTERNATIVE TIMETABLES IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER

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TIMETABLE 1 – STANDARD TIMETABLE

8.30 – 8.50 am	Registration, Assemblies and Tutorial
8.50 – 9.50 am	Period 1
9.50 – 10.50 am	Period 2
10.50 – 11.10 am	Break
11.10 – 12.10 pm	Period 3
12.10 – 1.10 pm	Period 4
1.10 – 1.55 pm	Lunchtime
1.55 – 2.55 pm	Period 5
2.55 pm	Dismissal

**TIMETABLE 2 – SCHOOL CLOSES EARLY
FOR USE WHEN OUTSIDE AREAS ARE INACCESSIBLE**

8.45 - 8:55 am	Staff Briefing
9.00 – 9.10 am	Registration, Assemblies and Tutorial
9.10 – 10.00 am	Period 1
10.00 – 10.50 am	Period 2
10.50 – 11.10 am	Break
11.10 – 12.00 pm	Period 3
12.00 – 12.50 pm	Period 4
12.50 – 1.15 pm	Lunchtime
1.15 – 2.05 pm	Period 5
2.05 pm	Dismissal

TIMETABLE 3 – CONDENSED DAY – SCHOOL STARTS LATER AND CLOSES EARLY TO ALLOW STAFF AND STUDENTS TIME TO GET TO AND FROM SCHOOL

10.00 – 10:10 am	Staff Briefing
10.15 – 10.25 am	Registration, Assemblies and Tutorial
10.25 – 11.15 am	Period 1
11.15 – 12.05 pm	Period 2
12.05 – 12.55 pm	Period 3
12.55 – 1.30 pm	Lunchtime
1.30 – 1.40 pm	Registration
1.40 pm	Dismissal

The school website will indicate which timetable will be used in the event of adverse weather.

SCHOOL TRIPS



Shirley High School is proud to offer our students the opportunity to participate in residential trips abroad. Trips like these are character building, promote independence and offer fun, adventure and friendships as well as giving the students a learning experience that they can only obtain from being on such a trip.

Proposed residential trips abroad for 2021 – 2026 (5 year cycle):

February half term 2021	–	Ski Europe
Summer holidays 2021	–	Watersports trip to France
Easter holidays 2022	–	Ski America
October half term 2022	–	Disneyland Paris
February half term 2023	–	Ski Europe
Summer holidays 2023	–	Watersports trip to France
Easter holidays 2024	–	Ski America
October half term 2024	–	Disneyland Paris
February half term 2025	–	Ski Europe
Summer holidays 2025	–	Watersports trip to France
Easter holidays 2026	–	Ski America
October half term 2026	–	Disneyland Paris

If you are interested in any of these trips or require any further details about these Shirley High School trips, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Francis (Senior Vice Principal) via email on francis@shirley.croydon.sch.uk



*On behalf of all the staff here at Shirley High School we would
like to wish you and your families a very*

Merry Christmas

&

Happy New Year

T Myton - Principal

Christmas Card Artwork by:

Isaac Obafemi Wilcox 8Y-Winner of the Christmas Card Competition (Top Left)

Esther Valyi 8Y-Runner Up in the Christmas Card Competition (Top Right)

Claire Wabara 8E-Runner Up in the Christmas Card Competition (Bottom Right)

