

NEWSLETTER

🌸 7 MARCH 2025 🌸

WHAT'S HAPPENED THIS WEEK?

We've had another busy week, with lots of exciting things happening! It's been wonderful to see our Year 12s embracing opportunities, from listening attentively to visiting speakers, to engaging with potential future steps, and from educating one another about International Women's Day to brightening up the school on World Book Day!

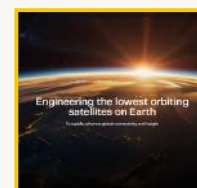
On Tuesday, Mr George and Mrs Bourne accompanied our students to the UK University Search event at Surrey Sports Park, a fantastic opportunity for our Year 12s to focus on their next steps after SuMS by meeting exhibiting universities and apprenticeship providers.



On Wednesday, Mrs Robinson and a number of our Computer Science students were invited to participate in the first meeting of an international project group meeting linked to the initiative **"Enhancing Science Education through International Collaboration"**. This is an innovation and impact centred STEM project funded by the British Council and linked to one of the United Nations Sustainable Development goals: in this case, Transformative Technologies (SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure). The goal is to build a Linux-based High Performance Computing cluster by upcycling old PCs, and is a collaboration between students at the University of Surrey, two Indonesian universities, Astana IT University in Kazakhstan and potentially Surrey Maths School. This is an exciting opportunity for our students to participate in an academic research project and gain experience in collaborating in an international, multicultural group context. We look forward to finding out more in the coming weeks.



On Thursday, our students had a talk from **New Orbit Space Ltd**, a company leading the way in creating the first Ultra Low Earth Orbit infrastructure. Alex Kiermeier gave a fascinating talk on the technology behind low earth satellites as well as the economics of companies that operate in the space technology sector. Our students asked questions for over half an hour and gained a great deal from his expertise.



Also on Thursday we celebrated **World Book Day** and our love of reading at SuMS. Some of our students (and staff!) went over and above in their creative costumes and we all enjoyed celebrating how much we love books!



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Progress Check results to students - 13 Mar
- Progress Check results to parents/carers - 14 Mar
- Parent/carers subject meetings - 28 Mar
- Gold DofE Practical training - 30 Mar
- Offer Holders social event - 22 Mar
- Hampton Court Half Marathon - 23 Mar

Please note that the term dates for next year (2025-26) are now published [on the website, here](#).

EVENTS COMING UP



We have arranged for some of our students and staff to join the Hampton Court Half Marathon on Sunday 23 March. The Palace Half is a flat and picturesque course that starts and finishes inside Hampton Court Palace. Running at this historic venue offers not only a perfect opportunity to run a personal best but to visit and run inside one of the UK's major tourist attractions. We look forward to celebrating our team's success!



We are also busy planning our first offer-holders' social event for our incoming cohort, and we are delighted that so many of our Year 12s are keen to volunteer to support this important event in our calendar. The event is booked for Saturday 22 March, 10.00-14.00 at the University of Surrey and it will be a great chance for our future students to hear what life at SuMS is really like from our Year 12s, as well as to start getting to know one another over board games and pizza.

REMINDERS

- Progress Check results will be shared with students on **Thursday 13 March**, and with parents and carers on **Friday 14 March**. You will be able to book in meetings with your young person's teachers (on **Friday 28 March**) from next week. We will be sending you individual information on who to book with early next week, so please keep an eye on your Inbox!
- If your young person is doing their DofE Award here at SuMS, you will have received an email from Mrs Stapledon about coach transport for some of their forthcoming Expedition sessions. We were keen to secure the best possible pricing for getting our students to and from Wales, and to eliminate the need for you to make your own arrangements for what is a fairly long and costly journey! We hope that this is helpful and as always, if you have any questions about DofE at SuMS, please don't hesitate to reach out to Mrs Stapledon.



PHOTO GALLERY

We've captured so many lovely photos of life at SuMS this week that we wanted to share them with you...enjoy!

